



PO Box 1765, Grass Valley, CA 95945
530-272-8170 , Fax 530-272-6832
www.piministries.org piministries@ncws.com

February 2016

Dear Co-worker:

As you may know, Doug left for PNG and he is now in Ambunti having flown via MAF from Wewak on the 4th. He has sent news items, and I will try to relate to you his various comments from my limited perspective.

Having arrived in Wewak and the PNG tropics and now writing this report, I notice two ants crawling in random pattern on the computer screen. The PIM Wewak house has several species that we're aware of and no doubt has more.

I arrived safely with all bags accounted for and nothing left on the plane. I almost lost a camera in the rental car in Los Angeles, but thankfully I remembered it and had enough time to go back after checking in to retrieve it.

As we approach PNG from the NW out of Manila we see PNG's central range brilliantly lit up with cumulous clouds. They blanket all the earth beneath as we fly through the tallest of them. Elsewhere verdant greens cover the mountains and along the shoreline to the west the azure sea is beautiful to see after six years of Reno and the dry western US. The professed earthly "paradise" of changing landscape we pass over gives cause for musing. The earthly life offers many good things, but we're not immune to its trials and have us able to dodge the problems. We can only imagine a true enduring Eden. God promises a glorious future prepared for us which we must keep in sight as He says in Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know what I have planned for you, plans to prosper you, not to harm you. I have plans to give you a future filled with hope."



The PNG flight to Wewak arrived earlier than scheduled, so the welcoming party at the airport comprises only Eric and Penny Schering. But at PIM's Wewak house the gate is covered in decorations and the grounds are all nicely trimmed and cleaned up. People have been working hard! There were a couple mission employees and some others including children from the neighborhood there to express their welcome. The men suppress their tears but one of Leah's lady friends hugs me for a long time and

sheds her tears on me. I managed to mumble a few words. Leah was deeply loved and sorely missed. Thursday, the plane takes us to the mission base at Ambunti 75 miles inland. I'm sure there will be many more heart-felt greetings on arrival.

Today is Tuesday and the word has just come that our flight will be delayed until Friday. But there's another option, or should we not think about it? If I can do some quick shopping in the busy town this afternoon, we can go tomorrow on a loaded truck with building supplies for PIM to Pagwi on the Sepik River. It's scheduled to leave after noon. Normally the cargo gets loaded onto mission canoes which then travel the three hours up the river to Ambunti. However, several weeks ago heavy rains washed out a culvert on the Wewak-Pagwi road. This means everything on the truck will have to be unloaded and taken across the water and then reloaded onto a hired truck on the other side (which may or may not be available) and taken the last eight miles to the river. I think waiting and taking the 35 minute flight would be a better use of time. In any case, I am sending a camera with our Wewak Manager Peter Makapang who will go on the truck and supervise the cargo transfer. The photos he gets could help us in the future. Now I'm using the dhpimusa@ncws.com email address, but I may not be able to get online while in Ambunti. The landline phones are no longer working in Wewak or Ambunti.

Wait! Word has just come in that MAF can fly us to Ambunti this afternoon, so I have to get some boxes ready.

Doug Heidema

You know that your prayers and support are greatly appreciated here and in PNG. May our gracious Lord accomplish great things through your love for Him.

In His grace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Orneal Kooyers".

Orneal Kooyers