

In His Hands

(Isaiah 49:16)



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Greetings from Bangui in the Central African Republic, about 480 miles East of Yaounde! I flew to Bangui yesterday for a week-long project with Wycliffe Associates to install solar and communication systems for 4 Bible translation teams scattered around CAR. Although we had planned to start moving teams to the villages today, several important bags with the solar panels didn't arrive. We re-worked the schedule trusting that the rest of the missing bags would arrive on the next scheduled flight Wednesday afternoon. Lord willing, I can start moving the teams to the villages on Thursday and will pick up the last team from the last village on Saturday. **Thank you for your prayers for this project!** Access to power and email will make a huge difference for these teams!

On a recent flight, I spent the night with several missionaries in a village in Cameroon. While one person spent the day in discipleship with new believers, another electrical technician and I helped troubleshoot a power problem for the local Christian radio station. At the end of the day, it was very rewarding to hear the radio station back on the air.



Surveying the power and generator supply system



Filing battery connectors for the Smith's solar system

www.petersonfamily.info/robert/gallery2

That night we spent a wonderful evening with Dr. Jim & Ina Smith, an American missionary doctor and his wife who also asked us to look at their solar system. They were concerned they were going to need to replace two batteries with low voltage. When we looked at the system, we realized that a lot of corrosion had built up on the connection preventing them from fully charging. Early the next morning we disassembled and cleaned all the connections. Once we re-assembled the system all the voltages were even and stable. We knew that the batteries did not have to be replaced - a savings of \$400!

This summer I took on the role of the Field Security Officer for the Cameroon branch. This primarily involves responding to personal or corporate security problems. Thankfully the last several months have been relatively quiet, though not without incident. One morning at 2 a.m. I received a call that a truck had swerved out of control and crashed through the gate into one of our compounds. Thankfully the truck missed the night guard by about 3 feet! After assessing the situation I realized everyone was okay. We called an extra security guard and began working on arrangements with the driver to remove the truck and repair the damage. We hope and trust we were able to share the love of Christ with the driver through this incident.



In late August, I organized an inspection of all our private airstrips by two CCAA (Cameroon Civil Aviation Authority) runway inspectors. This is an annual inspection requirement in Cameroon. In spite of a lot of rain and clouds, we were able to accomplish the inspection in two days. I also had the personal privilege to fly into Lus for the first time in the Helio with Ken as pilot. This is a runway that I worked on through 2008 - 2010 for two translation families (the McLeans and Michaels) in the northwest of Cameroon.



Ken & I with the CCAA Runway inspectors.



Ready for takeoff from Lus!

And last but not least, Bintou and I are happy to announce our engagement on August 21, 2012! Several days later, we spent the day taking pictures together for our wedding invitations. Bintou returned to Ngaoundere several days later and will only return to Yaoundé in early November. We will have three weddings: the dote (bride price ceremony), the civil ceremony (a separate event in the European system), and the final church wedding on December 1! **Thank you for praying for us as these are very busy days and we need a lot of wisdom as we prepare.**



37 more pictures at www.petersonfamily.info/robert/gallery2

Praises:

- 1) Thank God for the blessing of studying "Absolute Surrender" by Andrew Murray with Fiacre.
- 2) Thank God for much progress in preparing for Bintou and my wedding.
- 3) Thank God for safe flying and service to missionaries. I am enjoying the time together with the Wycliffe Associates team and seeing the ongoing innovations in Bible translation technology.

Prayer:

- 1) Pray that I can speak very personally and humbly to others out of my own life experience with the Lord for their encouragement and perseverance.
- 2) Pray for strength and safety in aviation. Pray for wisdom as aviation looks at some possible adjustments to meet changing needs.
- 3) Pray for Bintou and me as we continue preparation for our wedding and future life together.

In Him,

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