

Since our last letter many things have transpired. I made an eventful trip to Southeast Asia that spanned 7 countries in 5 ½ weeks. The trip involved 29 flight segments. I assure you that if I was not already, I am now an experienced traveler! The Lord blessed me with traveling companions for most of the trip. Travis Jones, assistant pastor of our sponsoring Church, was with me for travel into Indonesia, East Timor and the Philippines. A young man from Indiana, Woody Robertson, was with me for most of the rest of the travel. The Lord blessed in so many ways.

If you were not already aware of the situations that transpired while we were away on this past trip, it is due to the fact that you are not signed up to our *Gaudet Family Updates* via e-mail. It simply is not possible to communicate things that develop rapidly via postal mail. We send a lot of news, etc., out between each of these printed Newsletters. If you wish to be on the list, please send me an e-mail, and we will gladly put you on it. TomGaudet@xc.org.

The enclosed 4 page paper about **Indochina** tells of a major focus of this last trip and also what we will be spending a great deal of time on in the future. Please consider it an extension of our Newsletter; read it carefully and **pray much** for the effort.

TRAINING WORKERS...

While I was away on this trip, work continued on foreign language projects. Krinny, and Myra Noel are training three



Myra Noel working with April and Rachel. (Sarah not pictured.)

young ladies from our sponsoring Church in the use of the computer for foreign language typesetting and video editing. These ladies are very helpful and will be more so in the future as the Lord keeps broadening our work. So much more can be done but it takes laborers to do it. We are intent on seeing those who wish to labor have a chance to make a difference. One of the ladies may be going to the field with us when we leave the USA. Please **pray** as these decisions are made.

Just this week I some spent time with a preacher in the DFW area. As I told him of the things we were involved in, he said *"You know, most people have no idea of all that goes into mission work. Many of them think it is just going to the field and starting a Church."* I have heard that often. We can't change the mind of everyone, but one by one, we want to see the Lord open eyes to the great work of the Harvest. Sowing before reaping; plowing before sowing. All is needed.

Thank you for standing with us in prayer and support over the years. You will never know the confidence it gives us knowing that so many are holding the ropes.

UPDATE: EAST TIMOR

In October, 1999, just after the destruction following the vote for East Timor's independence from Indonesia, there was a very heavy sentiment against anything Indonesian in the war-ravaged region. Many Timorese resorted to burning public records and school books in the Indonesian language to show their disgust with their former overlords.

However, as the UN worked to establish a government there, it

became evident that the Indonesian language would have to be used in the continuing education of the upper grade school, and university students. This was done at great expense, replacing all the materials which were destroyed in 1999, mostly by the East Timorese themselves. The local language, Tetum has not been developed enough to use in that manner.

The old Portuguese/Timorese aristocracy selected Portuguese and it became the national language. It is now being used in the early grades of school, but the people by and large do not want Portuguese. Everyone in the country younger than 50 who can read already does so in the Indonesian language.

While in East Timor on this trip, we met with Ferdie Flores, one of the Filipino missionaries who has established a church and is not only baptizing Timorese converts but is training a man for the ministry. **Marubi** is already preaching every Sunday in a second mission work. Bro. Flores asked if we could help him get Indonesian books to help train this young man for the ministry.



In fact, the only language that Marubi has ever been taught to read is Indonesian. That is the

case with most of the younger population in East Timor. Bibles are not yet available in Tetum, so the most logical choice is to use Indonesian for Bibles as well as other Christian literature.

We returned to Jakarta, Indonesia, visited the bookstores, and by faith placed an order for 1,000 Bibles at \$2.40 each.

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An e-mail was sent out to the **Gaudet Family Update** list and several responded immediately with prayer and finances to purchase the Bibles and pay for the shipping, as well as help me with the costs of another trip back into East Timor. The Lord burdened



Tom, Ferdie Flores, Marubi and Pastor Tambunan with some Indonesian books hand-carried into East Timor. 1,000 Bibles were sent later via ship.

many of you when you heard of it and the funds came in within a few days. What a Great God we serve! To our knowledge this is the largest shipment of Indonesian Bibles into East Timor since their independence

When it was necessary for Krinny and me to leave the area in 2001 to prepare for the Asian Games in Korea, no Timorese had yet made a profession of faith. We began to hear reports from the missionaries that there were now East Timorese being saved and baptized. This was the first opportunity that I have had to actually meet some of them. How we have longed for that day! What a thrill to see the joy on their faces and hear their testimonies of salvation. I assure you I wept many tears of joy in the few days there.

I made the trip back into East Timor with an Indonesian Pastor with whom I had first talked about the needs in East Timor around 2 1/2 years ago. He was interested, but due to the way that the East Timorese were treated during the Indonesian rule, he had been hesitant to travel there for fear of reprisal. However, within 30 minutes of our arrival he was witnessing to an East Timorese guard in the Indonesian language. Before we left the premises in our rented car, the Guard was weeping over his sin. He clearly understood the Gospel and made a profession of faith in Christ!

I also asked this Indonesian pastor to speak to a Timorese man that I met and became friends with on my very first trip into East Timor in 1999. The pastor gave

him a very thorough presentation of the Gospel. Unlike the many times of witness from me in the past, this time he understood it! Little wonder as I was using English, his fourth language, and this time he heard it in the language he was educated in; Indonesian. What a joy it was to sit in the room and listen to Francisco pray and trust Christ! I could not have been more thrilled if I had led him to Christ myself! It felt like a dream as we as well as many of you have been praying for him for over three years.

Thank you for your intercession for the people of East Timor. Please keep **praying** for the three missionary families there now. I was just informed that another Filipino family whom we know feels that the Lord has called them there. It has been **prayer that has made a difference there so far**, please continue to intercede.



Francisco Lela and Family

PHILIPPINES: CEBUANO NEW TESTAMENT

On my second trip into the Philippines in 1996, I met with a Pastor who was working with a group of other nationals in translating the Cebuano New Testament. He was told that I might know about some things to help them in the effort due to our work with literature over the years. This began a friendship with this dear Brother which endures to this day.

The project was initially started some years before by an American missionary. These men picked it up and in a desire

to see the pure Word of God in Cebuano, they have now poured nearly 14 years into it. Since that meeting in 1996, I have served in an

advisory role. We taught some principles of translation, made suggestions, encouraged them, trained them in the use of the computer for page layout, and provided training as they set up a print shop.

The first three editions of the New Testament have been printed in the Philippines. All previous printings have been very small numbers, however they have just finished the 4th edition and it is now ready for printing. I was able to meet with the men on this trip and now have a disk with the text of the 4th edition on it. We will be re-formatting it for publication on a press here in the USA. Bearing Precious Seed has expressed a desire to print it and upon completion, we will make arrangements to ship them to the Philippines.

It is such a challenge to see these men sacrifice to get the Word of God into their language. They do a fundraising effort in the Philippines which helps with the printing costs and only reimburses the translators' expenses in traveling (when available) to a central location every few months as they meet together. All of the translation work itself is on a volunteer basis; no pay.

Please **pray** for their ongoing efforts as they undertake the Old Testament and begin working with pastors from other language groups as well. **Pray** for a large printing of the New Testaments here in the USA. This will help them get started with keeping the New Testament in stock for use in the Churches.

Tom and Karin (Krinny) Gaudet
Missionaries since 1979

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Filipino Pastors in a translation meeting