



***Lowell & Claudia Wertz
P.O. Box 1344
Kigoma, Tanzania***

December, 1994

Dear Friends and Churches,

Merry Christmas everyone! On December 8, *Joy in the Harvest* is two years old. What a year it has been! Here are just a few of the highlights --

- A small seminar on “how to share your faith” taught in our yard grew into a series of large classes. Dozens attended and hundreds were won to the Lord -- including many Muslims.
- “Africa’s Bloodiest War” in Burundi (250,000 killed) was eclipsed by the Rwanda war (1,000,000 killed). *Joy in the Harvest* actively ministered to the physical and spiritual needs of Refugees from both conflicts.
- *Joy in the Harvest* helped establish two new United Methodist Churches in Tanzania. Other assistance to UMC Churches included roofing, radio licenses, Bibles, and assistance to teachers and pastors.
- We assisted the Kigoma French Speaking School, Kigoma destitute camp, *Aid to the Aged* in South Africa, and many individuals with medical & family problems.
- We sponsored two Women’s Retreats that blessed those in attendance and brought former UMC missionary ladies together for fellowship.
- God blessed *Joy in the Harvest* with a new darkroom, amateur radio station, *Jesus* Movie evangelism equipment, land to build on, and an airplane!
- Expenses running high, but income meeting expenses! Our second year is ending in the black!

Rejoice with us! This Christmas season many needy people are giving thanks for the work and witness of *Joy in the Harvest*. May God bless each of you who are making this ministry possible.

Love,

*Lowell, Claudia
Kimberly & Luke*

Joy in the Harvest

NORTH ATLANTIC CROSSING UNDERWAY



“Spirit of Joy” Flying To Africa!

On Mission flying...

“Many are attracted to this open and rather daring field of frontier flying and its delicate radio network. It’s great flying, but the pilots do it here more for God than for flying.” *Flying Magazine 2/94*

As this is being written, our donated single engine Cessna 182 is being flown solo to Africa.

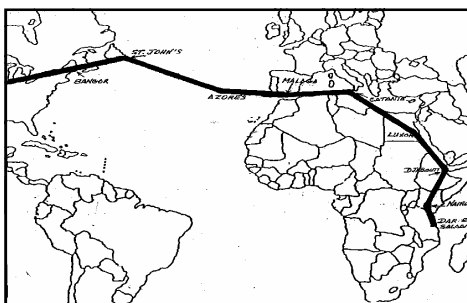
Mr. Jim Bone, a retired *United Airlines* 747 captain, is enroute expecting to arrive in Tanzania Dec. 2

Volunteer mechanics at *Wings of Hope* in St. Louis spent hundreds of hours preparing this airplane for mission service. It’s advanced equipment includes GPS satellite navigation, graphic engine analyzer, and a stormscope.

The eleven day flight will stop at some of the most exotic

locations in the World.

Stops include: Newfoundland, the Azores Islands, Spain, Sicily, Egypt, Djibouti, Kenya, and finally the capital of Tanzania.



Route: Chicago to Dar Es Salaam

Lowell and his District Superintendent will meet the airplane in the capital of Tanzania — Dar Es Salaam.

Jim Bone will return to Illinois while Lowell will fly the final 700 mile leg to the airplane’s new base located at Kigoma, Tanzania. ☩

→ CHECKLIST →

✚ Mailing Address:

Joy in the Harvest
P.O. Box 496
Lansing, IL 60438

Wishing you a Blessed Christmas!

✚ Ladies: Mark Your Calendars Now!

The Spring *Joy in the Harvest* Women’s Retreat will be April ?, 1995.

In Memory

Dear friend and supporter of *Joy in the Harvest*, Eugene McElyea, went to be with the Lord on November 19, 1994. Judge McElyea was the husband of Carolyn McElyea, Director of *Joy in the Harvest*. His death followed a period of long illness.



WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

Working behind the scenes to make *Joy in the Harvest* a successful ministry is Debbie Conklin. As our Stateside office secretary, she uses her skills & spiritual gifts to further the work of the Gospel in Africa.

As parents of five children between the ages of 2 to 9, Dan and Debbie’s commitment to Christ’s work starts at home and extends around the world.



The Dan & Debbie Conklin Family

Debbie is the teacher for their children’s Christian home school. They are very active in the Wonder Lake Bible Church in Illinois. Dan, a graduate of Moody Bible Institute, recently ordained, is planning on entering the Pastoral ministry. Debbie, a gifted secretary, does an outstanding job serving Christ in our Stateside office. We are thankful for this busy Mom and her family’s commitment to Christian missions. ☩



HAVE YOU HEARD?

News and Other Happenings

Boy Named "Joy"

You can imagine our surprise and delight when a Discipleship Class student gave birth to a baby boy and named him "Joy" in honor of *Joy in the Harvest*.

The other students in the class took up a special collection to welcome Baby Joy to the world and to help his parents with the expenses.



Back on the Air!

After being inactive on the **amateur radio** frequencies for several years, Lowell is back on the air from Kigoma, Tanzania. The callsign is 5H3OW. The operating schedule (when Lowell is in Kigoma) will be Thursdays at 1800 to 1900 GMT. Primary operating frequency will be 21.385 +/- 5 MHz. and our secondary frequency will be 14.260 +/- 5 MHz.

Lowell said, "Amateur radio has played an important role in my life. God used my interest in radio to introduce me to world missions. I hope our new station can be used by God to do the same for others." God's work is exciting — get a "Ham" radio operator involved.

Evangelist Murdered in Refugee Camp

The *Joy in the Harvest* witnessing and prayer ministry in the Rwanda Refugee Camp at Ngara, Tanzania saw hundreds make decisions for Christ. Shortly after our team returned to Kigoma, another Christian group went there to pass out Gospel tracts. One of the three team members disappeared. His mutilated corpse was found hidden in the camp several days later. Please continue to pray for the great spiritual needs in the refugee camps and those laboring for Christ in the camps.



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How Did You Make and Erect a Radio Tower?

Q. I heard you discussing your antenna system — how did you make and erect a radio tower?

(asked by a Ham Radio Operator)

A. When we wanted to get our station on the air, there was no place we could purchase a radio tower in Tanzania. We knew we would have to make it our selves, so Lowell designed a sixty foot triangular tower. It is ten feet at the base tapering to two feet at the top. We used galvanized water pipe. A crew of welders took over one month

to finish the job. The first section is 20 feet tall and each of the remaining sections are 10 feet. It is estimated that each 10 foot section weighs between



The Tower Going Up

900 to 500 pounds. To get the tower up, we welded brackets on the top of each section and inserted two 13 foot long pipes. Small chain hoists were placed at the top of each pipe. The hoists were used to lift the next section into place. After it was bolted, the pipes were moved to the brackets at the top of that section and the procedure repeated. A 12 foot mast comes out of the top section so our beam antenna is 72 feet high. It is a big tower. The whole town watched us put it up. ☩

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light... they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest." Isaiah 9:2,3