

Rev.7

EVERY NATION PEOPLE LANGUAGE

SUMMER 2018



SEE WHAT GOD IS DOING!



1948
1949
1950
1951
1952
1953
1954
1955
1956
1957
1958
1959
1961
1966
1968
1969
1971
1972
1973
1974
1981
1982
1983
1984
1985
1986
1987
1988
1989
2000
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018

CONTENTS

- 1 WELCOME**
See What God is Doing!
- 2 COVER STORY**
Seven Decades of God's Mighty Works
As we look back at just a few of the amazing things God has done in our 70-year history, we are encouraged to believe for more.
- 8 SERVING TOGETHER**
What is JAARS?
Why we do what we do—and how you can join us.
- 10 CREATING SOLUTIONS**
Good Tools + Great Craftsmen = Creative Solutions
God has brought together a team of innovators committed to making missionary aviation service safer and more efficient.
- 12 LOVE STORIES**
Answering the Cry for Help
JAARS has responded in times of crisis with the compassion of Christ, offering our God-given resources to humanitarian service.
- 14 REFLECTIONS**
Faith of My Father
Grace Townsend Goreth shares, from a daughter's perspective, her father's legacy of absolute trust in the God he served.
It's Our Turn
Thoughts from JAARS President Woody McLendon.
- 16 MY STORY**
JAARS Was There for Me
Translator Joanne Shetler recounts how JAARS has supported her work for almost 60 years.

About the Cover:

In our 70th anniversary year, we reflect on technological advances such as the 1960's-era teletype machine to a smart phone that have helped accelerate Scripture access. See *what God is doing* on pages 2-7.

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 1 SUMMER 2018

Rev.7 *Every Nation People Language* is a publication of JAARS, Inc., which exists to make Bible translation and language development possible, especially in the most remote and difficult places on earth.

We do that by enabling locally appropriate and sustainable solutions in transportation, technology, media and training for dozens of partners--including SIL International and multiple Wycliffe Global Alliance organizations--in the worldwide Bible translation movement.

The magazine's name points to Revelation 7:9-10—the time and place where people of every language group will one day worship together before the throne of God.

Editorial Director
Steve Biggerstaff

Managing Editor
Grace Miller

Copy Editor
Charity Armstrong

Graphic Designer
Barbara Alber

Creative Services Director
Sarah Baer

All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the New International Version, 2011.



General
800.890.0628 (toll-free)
704.843.6000 (local)

Subscription Services
888.773.1178

Fax
704.843.6355

Email
jaars_info@jaars.org

Website
jaars.org

Mailing
JAARS
PO Box 248
Waxhaw NC 28173-0248



www.facebook.com/jaarsinc

WELCOME

See What God is Doing!

GRACE MILLER, EDITOR

We're celebrating our 70th birthday this year, so we're taking a time-out to look back at the many ways that God has blessed us as we have answered his call to help make Bible translation possible anywhere in the world.

Sometimes God has worked in breathtaking ways; occasionally he has carried out his plan through people who had no idea they were serving God's purposes; and many times he has worked through the willingness of his servants to work, give, pray, and tell others about JAARS.

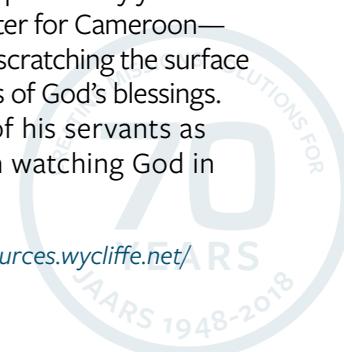
We have delved into publications, records, and personal accounts of the past seven decades, so that we may never forget God's mighty acts on our behalf. As Psalm 78:4 says, "... we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done."

Occasionally God has carried out his plan through people who had no idea they were serving his purposes.

We have rejoiced, over the past year, in the miracle of transformed lives in communities in South Asia when the Word of God reached hearts through audio and visual recordings produced in the studio made possible by your gifts. We witnessed God's amazing provision of a helicopter for Cameroon—including protecting it from pirate attack. And that's just scratching the surface ... read more here, or go to jaars.org for the latest reports of God's blessings.

We know God will continue to meet the needs of his servants as they are obedient to his calling. Because we've been watching God in action for 70 years.

**as of October 2017, per Wycliffe Global Alliance at <http://resources.wycliffe.net/statistics/Stats-2017-EN.pdf>.*





SEVEN DECADES OF GOD'S MIGHTY WORKS

GRACE MILLER



Uncle Cam surveys a remote village in northeastern Peru, c. 1945

It's thrilling to see the provision of the Lord along the line, and for those of you who weren't in on the beginning of things, I guess it's good for you to be told what happened, why it happened, or how it happened.

—*History of JAARS* by W. Cameron Townsend, c. 1965

BEGINNINGS IN PERU

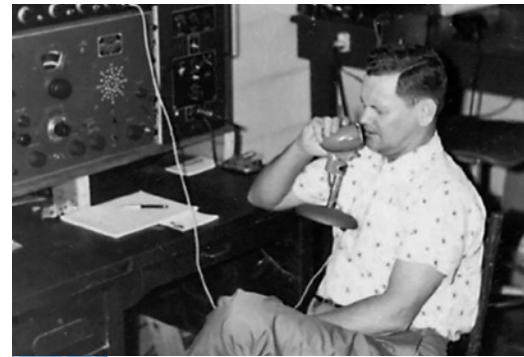
In a primitive camp, deep in the Peruvian rainforest, a small band of committed Christ-followers was building on a vision. It was 1946, and the Scripture translation work begun almost 30 years earlier in Guatemala by W. Cameron Townsend was expanding into South America. Since those early years in Guatemala, and later Mexico, Townsend had founded the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL) and Wycliffe Bible Translators (WBT) to fulfill God's call to translate the Bible for every nation, tribe, people and language. But reaching villages in remote locations was proving difficult and dangerous. In Peru, one airplane—with a pilot on loan from Mission Aviation Fellowship—was struggling to carry the load.

“Uncle Cam,” deeply concerned for translation teams’ safety and well-being, eventually declared, “No more translators should go into the jungles of Peru until they can be assured of adequate transportation service.”

Then in 1947 Cam's own near-fatal aviation accident gave him fresh impetus to find a better way for translators to travel and communicate. God miraculously preserved his life and the lives of his wife,

Elaine, and infant daughter, Grace, during the crash of a local single-engine plane with an inexperienced pilot. Cam used his time of enforced rest and quiet while recovering from his injuries to pray over his vision for mission aviation that first took root in the late 1920's.

In 1948, the Wycliffe Board of Directors approved his request to establish a new service committee—Jungle Aviation and Radio Service (now known as JAARS)—to provide a safety net of air service and radios for translation workers. With no financing provided, Uncle Cam and his team forged ahead and conducted their first organizational meeting, as one member put it, “in an atmosphere of great joy and praise to the Lord.”



The first radio message is sent from JAARS in Waxhaw to Yarinacocha, c. 1961.

God's provision was quickly apparent. A \$10,000 gift for the flying program allowed the purchase, by the end of that year, of 395 acres of land for the Yarinacocha logistics center in Peru. Little more than a decade later, the hangar there housed nine aircraft. Some were used in cooperation with the Peruvian government; some were gifts from groups who had been inspired by God to support JAARS. War-surplus radios bought at bargain prices

formed the initial communications system that helped translation teams in remote locations keep in touch with their home bases.

By 1960, training, travel, and supply problems had made it clear that JAARS needed US-based headquarters. Finding the right place proved to be a challenging undertaking, but God was just getting started in pouring out his blessing on JAARS.

BUILDING IN NORTH CAROLINA

Four men walked the length of an abandoned cotton field south of Charlotte, North Carolina. Lawrence Routh, a Greensboro businessman, along with pilot Merrill Piper and aircraft mechanic Les Bancroft, had been commissioned to find a site for JAARS operations. Accompanying them was Henderson Belk, a Charlotte businessman who had recently encountered Christ in a Billy Graham crusade. Belk suggested that they take a look at his family's worn-out farmland lying unused just outside the little village of Waxhaw.

When Belk offered to sell JAARS the 256 acres for the price of one dollar, Townsend's representatives were astonished and grateful. There was just one problem. “We didn't have one red cent,” recalled Bancroft. Fortunately, they were able to borrow the necessary dollar.

Construction began on a hangar and a dirt airstrip at the JAARS site. “We made the first radio contact with Yarinacocha, Peru, from our radio department. The townspeople of Waxhaw are almost as thrilled as we are to think that from Waxhaw we can reach to other parts of the world.”

—*JAARS Jottings* Oct. 1961



Uncle Cam uses a shortwave radio to communicate with translators in a village in Peru, 1953.

A nucleus of personnel moved to Waxhaw and began overhauling aircraft, training pilots, and setting up radio networks for Wycliffe branches overseas. As additional workers moved to Waxhaw, the McAlister Foundation of Charlotte, facilitated by Billy Graham, donated funds to build an administration office. “Jungle Aviation and Radio Service” was officially incorporated in North Carolina in 1963 with two major departments: Aviation and Radio.

THE JAARS MINISTRY GROWS

God’s unfailing provision for his work in the ensuing years brought expanded services, new programs, increased staff, and additional buildings to house it all.

In the last three years alone, the total number of aircraft in the JAARS fleet has doubled. Expansion will continue as JAARS provides transportation and communications for Wycliffe translators reaching out into new frontiers with God’s good news.

—Beyond Dec. 1973

In 1977 JAARS began to explore a new avenue of translation support: the possible uses for portable computers.

The JAARS radio department has been authorized by the JAARS Board to research and develop a low-cost, portable, desktop micro-computer for translators. The unit would, in effect, replace the typewriter and would store language data, eliminating the need for the constant retyping of material which the translator now faces. Projected timetable: field testing by June 1978.

—Beyond, Aug.-Sept. 1977

God brought together the right people with the right abilities, and in January of 1978 Dr. Joe Grimes and a team from Cornell University, where Grimes was a professor, demonstrated a prototype machine. Jim Baptista, then executive director of JAARS, pronounced it “mind-boggling,” and wondered, “How can we measure the value of getting the Scripture to people five or ten years sooner?”



The first portable computers were implemented in 1978.

Avionics (aircraft radio), communications, word processing and data processing are playing an increasing role in Wycliffe work, making Bible translation more efficient. Pray for the JAARS radio department at Waxhaw as it responds to the growing demand for training and field support.

—Beyond Dec. 1977-Jan. 1978

In April of 1982 founder Cameron Townsend, who had spent his later years with wife, Elaine, in their home near JAARS, was promoted into glory.

Our beloved Uncle Cam has been called home by the Lord. ... His God-Given vision for the Bibleless tribes and his strong conviction that every man should have the opportunity to read God’s Word in his own language spawned Wycliffe Bible Translators, its sister organization the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL), and servant to both, Jungle Aviation and Radio Service (JAARS).

—Beyond, May-June 1982

A year after Townsend’s death, plans were announced for a major new facility at the JAARS Center. The W. Cameron Townsend Building was completed in early 1988 with generous financial gifts and many hours of volunteer labor. This building is the cornerstone of the JAARS Center. Every Tuesday morning, staff and volunteers meet there to worship, pray, encourage one another, and learn what God is doing around the world. Prayer groups use their lunch time to meet in smaller sections of the dining room to intercede for particular language groups and the teams who work with them to share God’s Word in the way that reaches their hearts best.

A BROADENING VISION

The JAARS leadership team soon began researching additional solutions to transportation problems in regions with poor roads and difficult terrain. “Jungle Aviation and Radio Service” officially changed its name in 1985 to JAARS, Inc. in order to better represent the multiple services in transportation, technology, training, and media it was now providing.



4WD vehicles are needed to maneuver through mud and rough terrain in Africa.

JAARS, long noted for its air service, is initiating a program to meet surface transportation needs for Bible translators in Eastern Africa. ... [T]he program will begin with four-wheel-drive vehicles and a maintenance facility in Eastern Zaire. “The need is acute,” says Eastern Africa Director Hans-Juergen Scholz. “We hope to place 45–50 new translation teams in the next five years.”

—Beyond, May-June 1990

“JUNGLE AVIATION AND RADIO SERVICE” OFFICIALLY CHANGED ITS NAME IN 1985 TO JAARS, INC. IN ORDER TO BETTER REPRESENT THE MULTIPLE SERVICES IT WAS NOW PROVIDING.

The first Kodiak arrived in Papua New Guinea on Sept. 25, 2009. To date, it approaches 5,000 hours of flying.



In a growing sense of global mission, JAARS explored the possibility of connecting its overseas operations with a new messaging system called “electronic mail,” using a PC computer with a modem connecting the computer to phone lines. Burkina Faso, Africa, was chosen as the test site and equipment was installed in April 1992. The test was a resounding success—turn-around time for a message was a mere 48 hours.

Soon the newly reorganized Computer and Communication Services was outgrowing its home and ability to function. When, in 1997, the JAARS Board of Directors authorized construction of a 30,000-square-foot building at a projected cost of \$2.1 million, no one knew where the money and workers would come from. But by God’s grace and generous gifts of funds, donated labor, and materials provided at no cost or reduced price, the Language Services Center was completed in less than two years—and under budget. From this hub Bible translators here and around the world continue to receive the tools, training, and technical support they need to finish the task.

TODAY AND TOMORROW

Cameron Townsend’s legacy of faith-based action emboldened JAARS leaders in 2004 when they committed to a “God-sized” venture: the Kodiak Project. The aging piston-engine aviation fleet was dependent on avgas, a fuel type that was becoming increasingly expensive and difficult to obtain. The answer was to move to turbine aircraft, such as the newly developed Kodiak.

The Kodiak, designed with missions flying in mind, operates on jet fuel, which is cheaper and more readily available. It also boasts increased weight and cargo capacities, superior engine performance, and better maneuverability. Ten Kodiaks were proposed at a projected cost of \$13 million. Moreover, quick action was required to secure the first aircraft with a deposit of \$175,000. JAARS partners were trusting God for big things.

GOD BEGAN ANSWERING ALMOST IMMEDIATELY THROUGH A SINGLE GIFT—ALONG WITH A NOTE FROM THE DONOR THANKING THE PRESIDENT FOR “ALLOWING ME TO INVEST IN MISSIONS.”

God began answering almost immediately through the single gift of \$225,000—along with a heartfelt note from the donor thanking then-president Jim Akovenko for “allowing me to invest in missions.” Like so many of our prayer, financial, and service partners, this contributor had a heart for Bible translation, but had never been called to go to the mission field. By partnering with JAARS to support Scripture translation, those who contribute their time, prayers, and finances share in experiencing the transformative power of God’s Word.

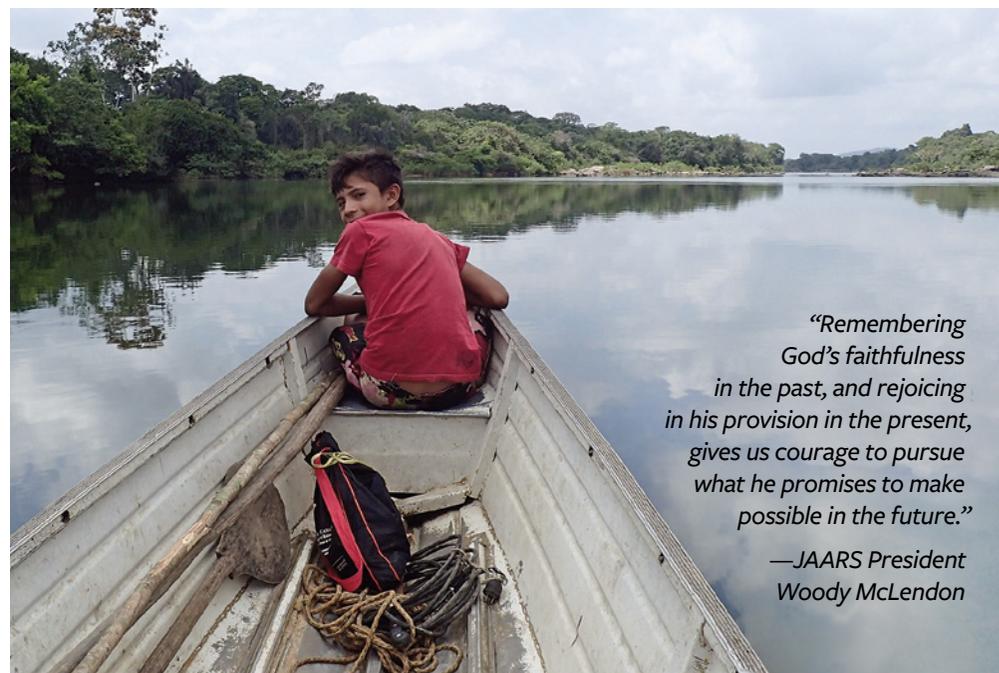
Because of your prayers and gifts to the Aviation Fleet Renewal project, Kodiak #008 is fully funded and scheduled for delivery to Papua New Guinea next summer. This airplane will be our first Kodiak in service on the mission field.

—Partner Express, Fall 2007

In the last month alone, Global Technology and Information

Services, operated by our SIL partners in the Language Services Center at JAARS, responded to 956 requests for IT assistance from around the globe. The old McAlister Administration Building now houses SIL’s International Media Services, where audio and visual Scripture is produced and workers are trained to reach cultures who do not read or write. Over the past five years (2013–2017), God has blessed JAARS with the capacity to provide technology, transportation, and media solutions for 774 language communities in 33 countries, serve 49 partner organizations, and train 1,447 people. More than 600 JAARS, WBT, and SIL staff members and volunteers serve translators across the globe from a formerly abandoned cotton field in North Carolina.

We look forward with great anticipation to see what God will do next.



“Remembering God’s faithfulness in the past, and rejoicing in his provision in the present, gives us courage to pursue what he promises to make possible in the future.”

—JAARS President Woody McLendon

WHAT IS JAARS?

OUR VISION

WHO WE ARE

People's lives and communities are transformed as they experience God's Word in their own language.

JAARS is a team of problem-solvers who are committed to that vision. We are a community of full-time missionaries, dedicated volunteers, and a few employees who work together to accomplish the Great Commission goal of providing Scripture to every people group on earth in the language they understand best—their heart language. We do that by supporting Bible translation and language development partners globally, and by working with prayer and financial partners in the United States to help make a range of unique on-the-field solutions possible.

OUR MISSION

WHAT WE DO

JAARS helps make Bible translation and language development possible, especially in the most remote and difficult places on earth.

We do that by enabling locally appropriate and sustainable solutions in transportation, technology, media, and training. Sometimes our boots are on the ground (or in the air, or on the water). Other times, we're providing expertise, training, logistical support, research and development, project management, or funding. In all cases, we're



working hand-in-hand with global field partners to identify, design, test, refine, and implement solutions that can be sustained going forward.

And because Bible translation and Scripture-use work best in the context of loving relationships, the work we do also helps our partners' efforts in literacy, education, healthcare, economic development, and cultural preservation. Since the very beginning, written language development and translation have always combined a Great Commission focus with our Lord's second "Great Commandment:" to love our neighbors as we love ourselves—and these practical, tangible expressions of love are the outcome.

WHERE YOU FIT IN

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

What if you could help someone experience the Bible for the very first time?



JAARS serves all over the world but the Center located in Waxhaw, North Carolina, is where core operations such as research and development, training, and program management take place. Career missionaries, along with short-term and long-term volunteers, fulfill God's call on their lives by serving together with JAARS at the Waxhaw Center.

We have five strategic ways you can join us in making Bible translation possible. Will you partner with us to make this work happen?

■ PRAY

Like every mission, we are completely dependent upon God. We pray daily, both individually and corporately, for the people we are working to reach, for our partners around the world, and for the effectiveness of our own work. We depend on your prayers for these things, too.

■ GIVE

JAARS is investing in the eternal destiny of men, women, families, and entire people groups around the world, but we are only scratching the surface of the support needed to reach them. We're asking God for partners who can invest any amount of resources faithfully, significantly, and eternally in this mission.

■ SERVE

Scores of key positions are ready to be filled by godly people doing "regular," everyday things to

support Bible translation. Serve short- or long-term, from home or at our center in North Carolina. Opportunities range from project management to IT, hospitality, writing, audio and video production, human resources, R&D, fundraising, aviation, and more.

■ ADVOCATE

We depend upon volunteer, part-time advocates in cities and towns across the United States to talk about JAARS in their own spheres of influence: churches, schools, Bible studies, and small groups. We'll train and support anyone with a heart to collaborate and share.

■ ADVISE

Advisors are people with special expertise or networks who can 1) pick up a phone or review a document, 2) help us resolve a question, and then 3) go back to their own work. If you want to contribute but your schedule doesn't allow for a regular commitment, advising may be the perfect fit.

We can help you find your place in God's calling. Contact us at jaars.org; call us at 888.773.1178; or write to us at PO Box 248, Waxhaw, NC 28173.

CREATING SOLUTIONS

GOOD TOOLS + GREAT CRAFTSMEN = CREATIVE SOLUTIONS

RICHARD SHIPMAN



From an ordinary hangar at the JAARS airfield come some extraordinary products—products ranging from hard-to-find aircraft parts to innovative aircraft hardware. Terry Heffield, head of engineering, has a team of engineers, mechanics, and machinists who regularly fabricate hard-to-find parts for JAARS aircraft. They also design and produce components needed in the field—cargo pods, safer aircraft seats, and improved cargo tie-downs are examples. There are no templates for these projects. They require creativity, innovation, and technical expertise—JAARS signature qualities.

Safer aircraft seats are a perfect example. In the mid-1970s, a JAARS pilot broke his back when his seat collapsed during a crash landing. Following this tragedy, Heffield led an effort to improve seat crashworthiness. After testing many designs in a Federal Aviation Administration crash simulator, Heffield found that an innovative S-frame was the most effective design for crew seats. With FAA approval, JAARS technicians fabricated the new seats and made them available to all mission fleets.

“I know of at least five (non-JAARS) people who are walking around today thanks to the improved crashworthiness of our seats,” says Heffield.

Specialized cargo pods are another example of JAARS engineering creativity. Every mission flight needs to be optimized, but a cabin filled with people leaves no room for cargo. YAJASI, our Indonesian aviation partner, requested that JAARS design an aerodynamic external cargo pod for their PC-6 aircraft. In response, JAARS engineers partnered with Aerocet Corporation to produce a fiberglass cargo pod that fit perfectly into the area designed for external fuel tanks—leaving the aircraft’s flying characteristics virtually unchanged. Have the pods helped? Nate Gordon, a YAJASI pilot, needed to fly

Fiberglass cargo pods carry additional cargo, so more passengers or supplies can be taken in one trip.



supplies for mission work 150 miles from his base. The cabin was full, but thanks to the new pods, he was able to accommodate 317 pounds of cargo that would otherwise have been left behind.

Another example of JAARS problem-solving ability—and testimony to our good stewardship: an improved PC-6 cargo tie-down assembly. Tie-down hooks secure cargo loaded in the aircraft’s main cabin. This small assembly provides a movable connection where straps can attach to secure cargo. These tie-downs are regularly damaged and need replacement. But the original parts were very expensive. So to help mission aviation partners worldwide steward their resources well, Heffield’s team began to research alternatives.

“We designed prototypes on our 3-D printer and sent the drawings to our machinists for fabrication,” explained Heffield. “After several modifications, the team came up with a revised tie-down assembly that was stronger, lighter—and about eight times cheaper than the original model.”

Terry will be the first to acknowledge the help JAARS receives from

outside parties on its projects. Many people played important roles in developing the improved seats and cargo pods: engineers from JAARS partner organizations, government workers, total strangers who miraculously came into contact with JAARS. Maybe not so miraculous, according to Terry. “The Lord worked it out, so we could meet people with special skills to help us,” says Heffield. Not only were these people industry leaders, they knew the Savior and were willing to use their invaluable contacts and specialized skills to help JAARS.

How can so many engineering innovations come from the modest building at the JAARS airport? It’s no mystery to Terry Heffield. “We have good tools, great partners, outstanding craftsmen, and a Lord who provides the assistance we need.” This winning combination enables JAARS to support missionary aviation worldwide with innovations that make flying safer, cheaper, and more efficient.

Richard Shipman, a retired Navy pilot, is a volunteer member of the JAARS writing team.

**THESE
PROJECTS
REQUIRE
CREATIVITY,
INNOVATION,
AND TECHNICAL
EXPERTISE—
JAARS
SIGNATURE
QUALITIES.**

LOVE STORIES

Answering the Cry for Help

GRACE MILLER

COMPILED FROM ACCOUNTS IN
BEYOND AND CONROD, JAARS
PUBLICATIONS

*Pilot Steve Ottaviano loading blankets
for Banda Aceh (Sumatra, Indonesia)
tsunami relief in 2004.*



*Loading victims of 2006 Nias Island (western coast of Sumatra, Indonesia)
earthquake onto the Samaritan's Purse Cessna Caravan.*

Photos courtesy of Steve Ottaviano, pilot.

Was it a coincidence?

When an urgent plea for help went out in June 1976, from Papua, Indonesia, in the aftermath of a devastating earthquake, JAARS had a Helio Courier and a pilot nearby in Papua New Guinea. The aircraft had been awaiting official consent to enter Indonesia for translation service there—permission that was now swiftly granted. Flights began immediately to bring in food and to take the injured to medical care.

It was an example of God's perfect timing and provision. JAARS, along with MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship), had only recently entered into an agreement with the World Relief Commission, an arm of the National Association of Evangelicals, to make available more than 140 aircraft for on-the-scene transport of food, medicine, and personnel to areas struck by national disasters. God's blessing was evident when, as a result of the mercy flights, the relationship between JAARS and Indonesian civil aviation officials was strengthened.

More opportunities to show the Savior's love and mercy soon followed. During a 1978 flu epidemic in Peru, JAARS provided transportation when the Peruvian army sent a doctor to help victims in the Sharanahua village of San Marcos. The following year, the JAARS DC-3 carried 31,000 pounds of food to five locations of southeast Bolivia to feed thousands of people left homeless and hungry when torrential rains caused flooding in the area.

When hurricanes David and Frederic struck the islands of Haiti, Dominica, and the Dominican Republic, the World Relief Commission requested help from JAARS, the Christian Pilots Association, MAF, and the disaster relief division of the Southern Baptist Association.

*It was an example
of God's perfect
timing and
provision.*

Once again, God's timing made the JAARS DC-3 available. The aircraft had been slated for service to Colombia, but was delayed due to minor exportation-importation problems. JAARS pilots and mechanics made several flights to transport food, building materials, medical supplies, and personnel to the badly devastated areas. JAARS partnered with Samaritan's Purse to provide pilots.

The JAARS Center itself was struck by Hurricane Hugo in 1989. The Center was without power and water for nearly a week, but there was no major damage to buildings or equipment on the Center. JAARS provided food and housing for 54 repairmen who came from other states to restore power to the area.

Humanitarian efforts following the devastating South Asia tsunami of 2004 sent IT staff speeding to Sumatra to help man a broadband satellite internet service. The communications assistance offered in that crisis not only brought connectivity to service organizations for relief to local people, but the experience birthed a vision for providing high-speed internet, email, and communications capacity for Bible translators living in isolated places.

Coincidence? No, just examples of the many times, over our seven decades of service, that we have witnessed God's grace, goodness, and provision for his work.

Rescue of a Pennsylvania man crushed between a backhoe and rock at a construction site atop a mountain near Altoona PA, was accomplished by JAARS helicopter and pilot Roy Harris on Sept. 10, 1982. Praise God that JAARS was nearby for a Missions at the Airport program!

- Beyond Feb.-March 1983

[REFLECTIONS]

Faith of My Father

The Townsend family,
circa 1949.
“Mom and Dad planted
trust in God in my life ...”
Photo courtesy of Grace
Townsend Goreth.



In 1955 my father, Cameron Townsend, was driving across Oklahoma when he suddenly noticed a small airplane that seemed to be flying beside him, so slowly that it appeared to be parked in the sky. Something told him this Helio Courier was just the right aircraft for translation workers out in the bush country.

Daddy later visited the Helio factory in Kansas with two JAARS pilots and businessman Lawrence Routh. After a demonstration of the plane's remarkable short takeoff and landing capabilities, the president of the aircraft company asked him, “Dr. Townsend, how many Helios do you think you will need?”

Daddy thought for a moment and said, “We will need six to begin with.” This was going to cost \$180,000—and at that point, there was no money in the budget for even one airplane. But Cameron Townsend trusted God for the impossible, and plowed ahead.

That was the kind of faith that I saw lived before me every day. Mom and Dad planted trust in God in my life, more by how they lived than anything else.

In 1968, at the height of the Cold War, Mom and Dad were invited to go to Russia by the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City. Mom and Dad were at JAARS waiting for their visas, planning to leave for Russia in ten days. One day while Daddy was out, Mom received a telegram from the Russian Embassy saying, “Not this year; maybe next.” When Daddy arrived home, Mom showed him the telegram, wondering what he would say. Daddy's first words were, “Praise the Lord, our first no is behind us!”

Sure enough, ten days later they were on a ship bound for the USSR.

And over the years, God supplied—not six, but twenty-one Helio Couriers—as well as Cessnas, Kodiaks, PC-6s, and helicopters. God has promised to provide, and we have seen his faithfulness.

Grace Townsend Goreth has served JAARS in Partnership Ministries for 14 years. She currently serves on the JAARS Board of Directors and as an Ambassador.

IT'S OUR TURN

WOODY McLENDON,
PRESIDENT

JAARS has always relied on people like these to help us support Bible translation. See page 8 and the outside tear-off page for more about how you might fit in.



What I love about history is not the facts, locations, dates, and accomplishments. What I find so encouraging are the accounts of *people*—people that God used to accomplish amazing things that even they probably didn't fully understand.

The story of the modern Bible translation movement—and JAARS' contribution—is an amazing one to recount. In this year when we celebrate God's faithfulness over 70 years of ministry through JAARS, it is good for us to look back and remember those who have gone before. You've read amazing stories in this issue. These represent only a tiny portion of all that God has done. I continue to be touched, amazed—and grateful.

But there's one very important point: *this story is not over because the work is not yet done.*

Today it is up to us to live our lives wholly dedicated and consecrated to the Lord Jesus Christ, committed to serve faithfully in God's mission as he leads—now

and into the future. Our vision is that people from every tribe, nation, and language can know and worship Jesus Christ, experiencing the transforming power of his love and grace through the Word of God in the languages they understand best. Hundreds of millions cannot because the Word is not yet available to them. It is now our turn.

JAARS is committed to serve this global movement with the unique gifts and abilities God has entrusted to us. We invite you to join with us—either for the first time or again—so that the Lord Jesus will receive the glory he deserves in all the peoples of the earth.

Thank you.



MY STORY

JAARS WAS THERE FOR ME

JOANNE SHETLER



Joanne returned to Balangao in 2010 to review the story of Jonah with translation co-workers.

My translation co-worker, Anne, and I had just spent three weary days riding an overcrowded bus, jolting along on a rough track. Now we faced two *really* hard days of hiking through the rugged mountains of the northern Philippines in headhunter territory where one never goes alone.

It was 1962 when we arrived in Balangao, the remote village where God had called us to bring his Word to a people who had never heard the Good News. JAARS was our living hope for the practical assistance needed to get God’s Word to the Balangaos in a language they could understand—their own.

JAARS provided us with two-way single sideband radio communication, and the generator needed to run it. They housed us and fed us when we came out of the village for workshops, translation collaboration, and rest. But we realized that our most valuable resource for serving the people, saving time and energy—and possibly our lives—would be air

transportation. When we finally found a relatively flat spot, the JAARS pilot air-dropped shovels, sledgehammers, and crowbars to us to work on a landing strip. Balangao men hammered away at massive boulders, built drainage ditches for two natural springs and built an 11-meter extension on our wee flat spot. A year later that giant eagle-in-the-sky landed in Balangao!

When it brought in a battery-operated radio—the newest, most wonderful thing going in those days—our joy knew no end. Now we could get rid of our generator that always needed attention, and the new FM radio would no longer allow the rest of the world to listen in on conversations!



The whole world of Balangao had waited breathlessly for the coming of an airplane—that “magic” from another world.

The whole world of Balangao had waited breathlessly for the coming of an airplane—that “magic” from another world. But most were very skeptical about the message the American ladies brought. Although some people in our village believed, those in faraway villages were not receptive. That changed one day when the pilot flew a mother, near death from prolonged labor, to a lowland clinic, then later brought her safely home with her healthy baby. The amazed village folk tried to put it all together: “That pilot must be your brother—he is, isn’t he?” ... and “Now, who is this God, the one you’re always talking about?” A new church was born in Balangao.

I finished the Balangao New Testament in 1982 and returned to the US for furlough and speaking tours. Visiting the JAARS Center in North Carolina, I realized it was a place where I could care for my mother in her last days of widowhood and yet complete my Balangao work. JAARS had the technological support that would help me continue working on the Old Testament and remotely carry out field responsibilities. The Construction and Maintenance department could help with fixing things—after so many years away, I was very nervous about how to handle life in the States. And the Vernacular Media department [now known as International Media] could convert

the Balangao text to audio and make video presentations.

My assignment now includes international travel, presenting Culture Meets Scripture workshops with my colleague Amy West. JAARS has come through again with assistance in obtaining visas, making connections, and travel advice. I have also had the joy of sharing from my years of experience with future translation workers when they come to JAARS for cultural training. I’m glad to be able to give back to an organization that made it possible for me to share God’s Word in the language of the Balangao people.

VISITING THE JAARS CENTER, I REALIZED IT WAS A PLACE WHERE I COULD CARE FOR MY MOTHER AND YET COMPLETE MY BALANGAO WORK.

THANK YOU

for praying, giving, and telling others about JAARS and Bible translation.

Please send me (check all that apply):

- Partner Express** A bimonthly newsletter update on JAARS projects
 print edition email edition
- Prayerline** A prayer calendar
 print edition email edition
- Rev. 7** A magazine highlighting JAARS' role in Bible translation
 print edition email edition

Please contact me with information about:

Serving as a: Prayer partner Advocate Advisor Co-laborer

Giving non-cash assets

Including JAARS in my estate plans. When doing so, please incorporate the following wording: "_____% (or \$ amount) of _____ (asset or assets) to JAARS, Inc., PO Box 248, Waxhaw, NC 28173 Federal Tax ID #56-0818833."

Please accept my gift to support the following needs:

SOLUTION	\$	GLOBAL INITIATIVE	\$	STRATEGIC INITIATIVE	\$
Media		Africa		Aviation Training	
Technology		Americas		Fleet Renewal	
Training		Asia		CORE Mission Operations	
Transportation		Pacific		Where Needed Most	
TOTAL					

Name * _____

If giving by credit card, print name exactly as it appears on card.

Address * _____

City * _____ State * _____ Zip * _____

Email* _____ Phone * _____

My check (payable to JAARS Inc.) or money order is enclosed.

Please charge \$_____ to my credit card. one time monthly

Type * Visa MasterCard Discover AMEX

Card number * _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Security code * _____ Expiration Date * ____/____

Signature * _____

* Required fields

To give, mail this form to:

JAARS, Inc.
 PO Box 248
 Waxhaw, NC 28173
 Call 888.773.1178
 Or visit jaars.org/give



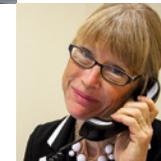
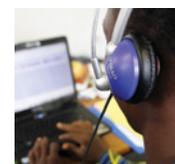
Contributions are fully tax deductible. If gifts exceed current needs in the designated area(s), funds will be used to make similar solutions possible in the near future. JAARS is a nonprofit that helps the Wycliffe Global Alliance, SIL International, and other organizations get practical, day-to-day support for Bible translation. We focus on transportation, technology, media, and training.



The Combined Federal Campaign, conducted from September 1 to December 15, 2018, offers active and retired federal, military, and postal employees the opportunity to give to participating nonprofit organizations. If you receive a federal government paycheck, you can give to JAARS through CFC number 11739. Go to www.opm.gov/cfc for more information.

MR1807

THERE'S A PLACE HERE FOR YOU!



Do you have a heart for reaching people with God's Word? Are you wondering what you can do to help make that happen? Scores of positions are available at the JAARS Center in North Carolina for godly people working part-time and full-time in a variety of roles that support Bible translation. 95% of our positions are filled by volunteers or mission staff who are supported by friends, family, and churches. Some of the positions you might find fulfilling:



ADMINISTRATION

- Vice President of Global Initiatives



AVIATION

- Avionics Technician
- Parts/Inventory Manager



CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY

- Teachers for Babies; 2-5-year-olds
- Middle and High School Leaders



COMMUNICATIONS

- Digital & Social Media Manager



ENGAGEMENT

- Multi-Generational Programs Assistant Manager



FACILITIES

- Skilled Maintenance Technician
- Plumber & Electrician



FINANCIAL

- Financial Analyst
- Bookkeepers



FUND DEVELOPMENT

- Regional Fundraising Representatives
- Strategic Giving Officer



HEALTH SERVICES

- Lab Technician/Technologist
- Registered Nurse



HUMAN RESOURCES

- Director, Human Resources
- Volunteer Recruiter



MEDIA

- Videographer/Photographer



OFFICE

- Administrative Assistants
- Reservations Clerk



OPERATIONS

- Center Services Director
- Receiving Coordinator



TECHNOLOGY

- Director of Technology & Business Solutions
- Business Analyst (SalesForce Certified)



TRAINING

- Training Coordinator
- 4WD and Motorcycle Instructor



WATER TRANSPORTATION

- Operations/Standards Program Managers
- Boat Maintenance Specialist

We'll be glad to help you find your place. Check us out at jaars.org/serve or contact us at 877.313.0139 or locally at 704.843.6049.

JAARS



JAARS Inc. · PO Box 248 · Waxhaw, NC 28173-0248

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!



In 1946, Betty Greene, a pilot on loan from Mission Aviation Fellowship, flew a war-surplus amphibious aircraft called “the Duck” to provide transportation for SIL translators in Peru.

*This service helped pave the way for JAARS, which was officially born on **May 21, 1948** when the Wycliffe Board of Directors voted to establish a new service arm of the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL International).*

*The organization was named **Jungle Aviation and Radio Service**, now known simply as **JAARS, Inc.***