

FIELD REPORT

PAUL JONES

Serving in Guatemala

With Missionary Air Group



It has been an intense last few months here in Northern Guatemala. The most notable event being the construction of the MAG ministry base airstrip. As I have mentioned in the past, we were offered to construct our aviation ministry base on the property of the Kekchi Bible Institute. This is an awesome opportunity as it provides an additional way to cooperate with another ministry. My work is very technical in nature, but this gives me an outflow of interpersonal ministry as well. This gives me opportunities to invest in the lives of the student pastors by teaching technical classes and possibly basic bible classes in the future. The students study for 3 years to become pastors. All of their studies and living expenses are paid for by working on the self-sustaining farm.

Above is an overhead view of the airstrip I am constructing. It will serve as the MAG base of operations for the Guatemala program.

The airstrip has been an incredible learning experience for my first go at a construction project here. One of the biggest challenges was cutting down the 3 rock hills running through the airstrip. I moved 120 dump trucks of rock. The rock was used to build roads, a ramp and hangar foundation, as well as a level soccer field for the students. Unfortunately, the obstacles we encountered were not only physical challenges but financial as well. The owners of the equipment allowed us to finish the project and pay off the bill monthly. We are looking for special donations to cover the remaining \$15,000. Check out my video about how you can donate at my blog: www.hishangar.blogspot.com

The air ambulance calls continue to increase in number. I am now receiving calls on a weekly basis but unfortunately cannot accept them all as we are still developing our ability to handle some of the more delicate cases. At this point we handle patients who have been stabilized. In the near future we hope to incorporate additional life support equipment which will broaden our ability to handle the more critical cases. We are able to rent some of the more basic equipment from other hospitals but not on a consistent basis.

I continue to use the aircraft to support many other ministries in the country as well. The road infrastructure in the country can be extremely challenging, tiring, and dangerous. We are using the airplane to make the country smaller and more accessible for many who minister here.

Doctor Ricardo attends one of our recent patients, a victim of a motorcycle accident, this young woman will likely be paralyzed for life. Her husband sits next to me on the way to advanced medical care in the Capitol city.



Serving other missionaries. I have made several flights to the Capitol city for the Dinsmore family as their 4th child, Titus, was born with a heart condition requiring special medical attention.

Bible Institute students in my small engine repair class.



I had the unique opportunity to attend a legitimate indigenous wedding set deep in a cave in the mountains of central Guatemala.