

LUDVICEK FLIGHT REPORT

KEGATA

APRIL 2023

We've Prayed For You

The day finally came! I was to get my Kegata checkout. Landing on runways here in Papua isn't as straightforward as landing somewhere in the US. Every airstrip is unique in slope, length, altitude, position to obstacles, etc. and requires a special approach for the plane to land safely. To learn how to do this, a pilot will fly with an instructor, and if all goes well after around five takeoffs and landings, the pilot is good to go solo. Out here in Papua there are varying degrees of airstrip difficulty, so over the years a pilot will get checked out in airstrips of increasing difficulty. My time finally came to be checked out in one of the most difficult airstrips in my area. This might seem like just another step for a pilot, but just think about what it means to the people in villages with difficult airstrips, those in complete isolation...



The church leaders in Kegata who faithfully pray, graciously shown by the guy pointing

Kegata is tucked away in a lonely valley around 20 minutes by airplane from Nabire. There are no roads, so without an airplane the trek to the nearest hospital would be nearly impossible. For communities with difficult airstrips, it may be years without service due to qualified pilots. What else can they do but pray? And pray they did, for years.

A group of men in Kegata faithfully gather every morning at 4 a.m. to pray. They pray for MAF pilots, and for the past three years they have been praying that a pilot would get checked out there to help serve them. Their prayers finally came true last month, and it really was God opening the doors to make it happen. The only instructor in Papua who could help with this location was available, in Nabire, with great weather, and an entire year earlier than planned for the checkout. The village was excited to have an MAF pilot out of Nabire serving their community and church needs again. Join with me in praise to the Father for this blessing of being able to serve the needs of this isolated group of people.

"This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us." 1 John 5:14



What Else Is New?



Liku explaining his progress in the teachings



Liku's daughter reunited with her adored pet



Puluk and Mokendoma were among the new airstrip checkouts I received last month. These villages were the focus of the documentary MAF released called "Ends of the Earth." It's great to be able to serve them now. I already had the chance to bring the evangelist Liku back home to Mokendoma for a break. He was happy to report that there are now 100 new believers in Puluk! They teach through the scriptures six days a week - plus two other times to review the previous lessons of that week! They are currently studying Ephesians.



There's no lack of medical flights. Recently I flew a man who was carried three hours to Pogapa by his friends after an axe wound to his knee. Before each flight, it's good practice to pray for quick healing.



While stuck in Pagamba because of bad weather, Pastor Saul pointed out all the churches in their valley (I lost count at 15). MAF alone supports all of these and their communities by airplane. It was a good reminder of the impact MAF has on the local church here in Papua.

Thank you so much for your prayer and financial support to our ministry! You may notice a letter from David Holsten, MAF's president, about our support increase. If you have any questions, don't be afraid to ask our Dad about it!



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