

from the

# REGIONS BEYOND®

Bruce & Becky McDonald

March 2004

**NAIROBI, KENYA:** A much needed two week break in our schedule has arrived! We started the current ministry schedule with a crusade in an Islamic country which was immediately followed by a conference and crusade in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a pastor's conference in India, a woman's conference, and another trip into Sudan. Combined with the daily operational oversight of the orphanage, negotiations in the purchase of the property for the orphanage, the renewal of our — resident permits and some security problems in —...I get tired just think about everything. In the midst of all, we are rested and at peace. This is God!



A Moment of Relaxation



**Skeletons scattered across a battlefield:** By tradition the bodies of soldiers killed in battle are left where they fall. Here is a brief snapshot of Southern Sudan. World's longest lasting civil war... Land of Cush in Biblical times... Land of famine... Target of Arab slave traders... Largest nation in Africa... One half the size of the United States... Missionaries expelled for last forty years... Primary export is terrorism... Leaders boast of being the leaders of Islamic Revolution in Africa... Animism and Islam are religions of area we are working... Government has forced Islamization policy.

**Return To Sudan:** Our first journey into Sudan was marred by flash floods and landmines. Although reluctant to initially fly into this remote and risky area of Sudan, Mission Aviation Fellowship agreed to take me in. The plane was greeted by very curious people, many of whom were quite frightened. For most, the only planes they had ever seen were Arab planes that dropped bombs. Each morning the local officials came to my "camp" for coffee, a modest breakfast and to talk. Permission was readily granted to evangelize and tell people about Jesus.



Arrival into Southern Sudan



Sudanese Girl



Soldiers Listening To Gospel



Local Market



Multitudes Respond To Gospel



Local Culture

"Our desire is to preach the gospel in the regions beyond" 2 Corinthians 10:16

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# Beating floods and bullets

**F**lash floods had swept the truck off the roadbed. Bruce McDonald jumped into the torrent. But a director of Regions Beyond International, Pastor Tom Cabell, became trapped in the cab as the vehicle tipped into the water.

When the truck was righted, their first journey from Kenya to Kapoeta, southern Sudan, to set up a new ministry continued through an area with landmines. 'The UN told us to follow vehicle tracks. But sometimes the road was washed out, sometimes we slid off into mud,' Bruce recounts.

'When we reached Kapoeta, I was worn out from being constantly flung about on poor roads, bruising my shoulder and back. I was hurting so much it was difficult to work. On the return trip, we passed caches of rocket-propelled grenades and human skeletons. We had to stop a night for a river to subside.'

But the second time that Bruce visited Kapoeta, his journey took just 28 minutes – aboard an MAF aircraft. 'I arrived rested and with the time needed for ministry,' he testifies.

Regions Beyond plans to send medical teams into this area of Sudan, which has no medical facilities. A place where the local currency is bullets for guns, and without churches, schools or hospitals, or food in the markets. Yet thousands of people need

help. High-speed safe transport will be so crucial for the teams to maximise their working time.

'Our medical workers will show the love of God to these unreached people,' Bruce anticipates.

'We will share the Gospel, attempting to lead them to spiritual healing and hope. My thanks go to MAF for taking me where they had not previously flown. I couldn't handle the physical challenges and extreme danger of another such road journey. With your help, we will now be able to open another ministry to people in need.'

The organisation also works in Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo. Flying in from Nairobi, Bruce led a major mission, and several thousand people indicated a desire to follow Christ.

His wife Becky taught women. With little specialist ministry to women, and many in extreme hardship from war and volcanic eruption, her input was greatly welcomed. 'Women often take the brunt of difficulty. Ministry from someone who understands the culture and challenges they face is essential,' Becky maintains.

'I would hesitate taking Becky with me – but MAF made it possible,' Bruce adds.

The couple also visited pygmy villages around Goma where they were both able to explain the Gospel.



**Mission Aviation Fellowship features Regions Beyond in international publication**

**THE REGIONS BEYOND. . . Sudan. . .** The spiritual foundation for a church in a previously unreached area has been set in Sudan. In April Bruce will be back in Sudan to continue teaching and training. A medical clinic whose primary focus is measles vaccinations will also be conducted. Next to malaria, measles is the second leading killer of children in Sudan.



**The Greenhouse Church**  
New Building Under Construction  
Jurmala, Latvia



## COMPASSION MINISTRIES OF REGIONS BEYOND

