



Stutzman Summary

October 1991

Box 497 Ukarumpa Via Lae Papua New Guinea

FAREWELL TO TAUADELAND

On August 6th, the Director with several men went to Sopus to get our things and to tell the people that we would not be coming back in the near future. The people were fairly cooperative in helping to carry our things to the airplane, however, they did take this opportunity to steal quite a few things from us. Due to the apathy of the people and the uncontrolled violence in the area, the Director is not sure what to do about the Tauade people. We have assured them by letter, that we will not forget them, but will pray for them regularly. Please continue to pray with us for the Tauade people that God may have His way with them.

HELLO, LOU ISLAND

On September 3rd, Robert and I left for Manus Province to do a sociolinguistic survey on Lou Island. What we found there was a group of people belonging to an evangelical SDA church who are very eager for the scriptures in their own language. They have been begging SIL to send them a team to assist them in translation work for four years. They gave us royal treatment, hosting us with good food, and comfortable accommodations. They claimed that

they would put Bible Translation as part of their church budget. We met three highly qualified men who stated their interest in working on Bible translation. Two of them are retired school teachers who have a good command of English. The third man has a diploma in theology and has studied both Greek and Hebrew. Two of the men have already translated some English hymns into the Lou language. They sang some of these songs in the church service and we were very impressed. The people in one of the villages have set aside some land on which to build us a house. Absolutely everything was totally opposite from our experience in Tauadeland. This is the type of translation program where we would not have to carry the load. We would only act as trainers and advisors to the people who would do the actual translation work. Due to the nature of this program, it may not take as long as a traditional program does.

After prayer and discussion with Jason and Jeremy we have decided to help the Lou people with translation. We are really excited about this opportunity. Just being on Lou Island for a few days really helped us toward being emotionally healed. After returning to Ukarumpa, we noticed that we no longer had negative feelings toward Papua New Guineans and that we did not have the same responses of fear to strange and sudden noises. We praise the Lord for this!

This program will not be without its challenges though. We can fly to Manus Island, but from there the only way to get to Lou is by boat. We went in a 19' fiberglass boat with a 30hp Yamaha outboard motor. We battled 8-10' high waves and lost our camera and a watch to salt water. Since returning to Ukarumpa, I (Verna) have been battling malaria for the first time since coming to PNG. Difficult travel and physical sickness were not part of the Tauade program, but they definitely are challenges in the Lou program. Please pray that the Lord will protect us in these areas.

Thankyou for your continued support in prayer and finances during the difficult time we've had. Please continue your support in the days and months ahead. We believe that God is blessing you richly for your obedience to Him.

Our plans are to go back to Lou Island on Nov 5th. Jason and Jeremy will join us after school finishes on Dec 12th. We will all be out there until Jan 18th. The next edition of the Stutzman Summary will be published in Feb 92. Have a Blessed and Happy Christmas season!

In His Service,

Robert & Verna Stutzman

Wycliffe Bible Translators. . Box 3068, Station B. Calgary, Alberta. T2M 4L6 Canada
Wycliffe Bible Translators. P.O. Box 2727. Huntington Beach, CA. 92647 USA