

also tries to peel his potatoes, like he has seen the other Canarians do in the village.

6. DAVIDITO HAS BECOME A BRAVE FLY-HUNTER! Whenever he hears someone say, "fly", he swats real hard and fast, as if he had a flyswatter in his hand! One day on the porch at his first try at swatting with a real swatter he got four flies in a row, and one of them in the air!

7. DADDY TAUGHT HIM HOW TO HOLD THE FLYSWATTER by the handle and not to touch the dirty end! Once Dito was praised for his good marks, he would swat in the air and at every little black speck he saw for the next couple of days, hoping he could get more flies!

8. PRETTY SOON, THOUGH, HE BEGAN TO PITY THE POOR LITTLE DEAD THINGS, and so tried to keep up the good work by swatting at them very ferociously, but would just barely tap them with the swatter itself. Ha! Daddy said, "I've noticed that he is a lot more friendly towards the flies now... That's another Canarian trait, you know, not to kill insects, but to live and let live!"

9. WE SOON FOUND OUT FROM SOME OF OUR FRIENDS THAT THE ANCIENT GUANCHAN LANGUAGE OF TENERIFE WAS NOT OF WORDS, but of very strange and impressive sign language with the hands!! Daddy said that Davidito uses more sign language than any other child he has ever seen!

10. HE BANGS HIS HANDS ON HIS EARS WHEN HE HEARS A SOUND, and twists his hands over and over again to explain that something is gone or missing. He motions "stop" with one arm completely outstretched in a still motion while he points with the other

arm outstretched back and forth like a traffic cop. He also

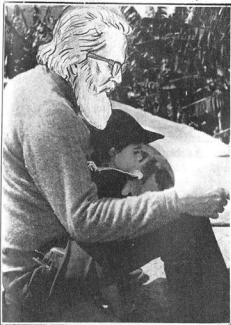


points by just moving his wrists and index fingers back and forth in a quick motion. He adapts these motions to different meanings, and we have learned to interpret what he is trying to say along with his grunts and groans. He surely must have Guanchan spirit-helpers! Daddy explained,

11. "THAT FIRST EXPERIENCE I HAD IN THE OROTAVA BAR hearing the old Guanchan spirits weeping and crying out to me for their children was such an opposite from the later one I had when I was sitting out on the porch one day. I was wondering why, of all the strange things, that we should move to the very town in which Davidito's father was born and raised. This was his town, these people are his relatives, and particularly those spirits that I saw out there. And I said, 'Lord, why are we here, especially after seeing Carlos is hopeless and we've given up on him?'

12. "I LOOKED OUT THERE AND SAW THESE HAPPY REJOICING PEOPLE ALL THROUGH THE BANANA FIELDS! You say, 'Well, hallucination, maybe you just saw the bananas.' No, I

didn't, I know what I saw, and immediately the Lord spoke, I think Abraham spoke first in tongues, and then with interpretation about his ancestors,



13. "THAT THE SPIRITS OF HIS ANCESTORS MAY REJOICE!" Well that must mean some way or another they are confined to this area temporarily for some reason, because I was talking about the location--"Why, Lord, did we move here, and why is it we're raising him here?" And the Lord said, 'The spirits of his ancestors', and they were out there everywhere praising God, hands up-raised, banana workers and old ladies and all kinds of people!

14. "SO WHEN YOU'RE TAKING CARE OF DAVIDITO AND YOU'RE OUT THERE, REMEMBER YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE THAT'S WATCHING HIM play and rejoicing. You're not the only one he's entertaining, the only one that's enjoying watching him play! The spirits of his an-

cestors are rejoicing as they watch him, and I'm sure, of all things, influencing him.

15. "IT'S TOO UNCANNY SOME OF THE REACTIONS HE HAS AND SOME OF THE THINGS THAT HE DOES, just as though he was hearing directly or somebody was speaking to him or somebody was helping him understand. So you've got lots of helpers taking care of Davidito!"

16. (MARIA: ONCE BEFORE THAT, WHILE WE WERE ON THE BUS GOING TO SANTA CRUZ, THE LORD SAID THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN CENTURIES THEY HAVE SEEN A GREAT LIGHT!) "The people who dwell in darkness have now seen a great light. We have come to this Island to bring light."

17. (MARIA: YOU WERE WONDERING ABOUT DAVIDITO'S EYES, the way he was always looking at you like almost questioningly, but really looking deep into yours.) "Did you ever notice when he stares at you and you really look deep into his eyes, sometimes there's almost a hint of haunting darkness there, like he's peering out of the past."

18. "TO ME IT'S ALMOST LIKE THEIR SPIRITS ARE SOMETIMES PEERING THROUGH HIS EYES. For the first time beholding a great light--the light of the Lord and His love and almost as though they're looking through his eyes at us."

19. "SOMETIMES IT'S ALMOST AS THOUGH I LOOK INTO HIS EYES AND GENERATIONS OF THE PAST ARE LOOKING OUT OF THEIR DARKNESS THROUGH HIS EYES at the great light. I don't know how to explain that to you, but it's as though God is using him as a channel, and through his eyes they're seeing the light for the first time,