

Guatemala to the west & south.

FAMILY MEMBERS HAVE GONE THERE FROM TIME TO TIME IN WITNESSING TEAMS, but there has never been a permanent Home there. Actually, it would be rather difficult to have a Home there because it is very small & very poor & conservative.

A FEW MONTHS AGO THE LORD GAVE ME THE IDEA that the way to witness to Belize is thru MWM. It is a British colony soon to be independent, & there is only one radio station in the country.

WELL, I KNEW THAT THE LORD WANTED ME TO GO THERE, so I went to Belize to see the program director of this government-owned radio station. To my pleasant surprise, I found that the person I was to talk to was a charming, beautiful young woman. She was very sheepy also. She loved the program & even confessed that she would like to be able to do something similar but that she just does not have the resources in Belize. PTL!

IT IS A REAL VICTORY TO GET THE SHOW ON THE AIR THERE, as everyone there listens to Radio Belize because there is no television station there. Praise God! His glorious light is shining in Belize, & the simple message of love will be heard by the simple people there. It is a dark country & reminded me of what perhaps Africa must be like. I hope that MWM can change their hearts & lives. (Amen!)

INVADING RADIO STATION CONVENTION!

(GBM)

From Senaah & Crystal; USA: **WE WANT TO SEND YOU SOME TESTIMONIES & LESSONS WE LEARNED** in the past couple of days as we attended the National Convention of Radio Broadcasters.

WE RUSHED DOWN TO THE

CONVENTION WHERE OVER 400 RADIO STATIONS WERE REPRESENTED, & we took with us our tapes, tape recorder, PR MWM photo album, brochures, stickers & guitar. Crystal put her MWM sticker over a button, & it looked quite official, besides being the most beautiful one there & in colour.

THAT SAME NIGHT WE FEED TWO LAWYERS FOR THE FCC (Federal Communications Commission), who were really turned on about the music, our work & the Lord. The Lord used them to refer us to some other people too.

THE FOLLOWING DAY WE HOPED TO BE ABLE TO SOMEHOW REACH THE STATIONS EN MASSE, but the Lord did not lead us that way. We walked around all day, stopping different broadcasters to talk to them, play our tape for them & show them our newly-made album where the state sheets impressed them quite a bit! Most of them requested sample demo tapes to play for their program directors who help make the decisions as to what they broadcast!

WE TALKED TO BOTH NBC & ABC, who are now in the process of experimenting with segments of music instead of only the news. They were interested in our music, particularly NBC, & it seems like a big open door, with limitless possibilities.

ONE BROADCASTER FROM MICHIGAN LOVED THE TAPES & WANTS TO PLAY THEM for the many people in Michigan with whom he works—that could give us 34 more stations if they approve it. Another man has 11 stations & asked us to send a sample tape so that he can decide with his people if he can use it. He also liked the show! Many stations (10) were interested.

THERE ARE SEVERAL LARGE RADIO CONVENTIONS COMING UP TOO. (Ed.: check local papers

in your area in the U.S.) And during this November one of the biggest conventions of all is scheduled in Buenos Aires—a hemispheric convention.

THERE ARE A FEW THINGS THAT WE WANT TO SUGGEST: Be sure to have lots & lots of colour brochures, or even black & white ones, because everyone wants to take one, as well as business cards, because writing down your name & address at each moment at random not only is time-consuming but very unprofessional. Generally, we found that the stations using only hard rock, jazz, big bands, black, religious & country music were not interested in our show, even as a speciality show, but that stations looking for adult contemporary music or easy listening music were more prone to be interested in our material.

IF POSSIBLE, THRU THE PUBLISHED LISTS OF REPRESENTATIVES THERE, see which stations you're interested in talking with. If possible, try to provision a table, stand or booth in advance, or whatever, but some place where you can be easily reached by house phones, or at least where they can leave messages for you when they are free & want to hear the show.

Another tip is to try to approach the men when they are alone, as they listen better than they do when they are in a group of even just two or three.

ONE LAST NOTE: THERE IS A MAILING LIST AVAILABLE OF ALL THE RADIO STATIONS IN THE U.S., if you haven't already gotten it. It can be obtained thru the NRBA, 1705 De Sales St., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20036. (Phone 202-4662030) We were told that the National Public Radio station might be interested particularly in our non-commercial program.

Shack Becomes Studio - With Love!

—Using Japanese matting and egg cartons!

(An article that appeared in the Japanese interior-decorating Magazine "My Room". The text was written by Ezra himself.)

From Ezra Milestone, Japan:

MY MISSION IS TO SPREAD THE HEART OF CHRISTIANITY THROUGH MUSIC. Influenced by my mother, who is a pianist, I've been a lover of music ever since I was a child. When I decided to be useful to others through this, I came to Japan with nothing but myself. Now, after 6 years, I've got my own family & fellow members.

THIS SHACK-LOOKING STUDIO IS VERY IMPORTANT for creation & fellowship with my co-workers. When we found this place where there are still some farms, it was literally a shack. It was only a 6-mat size, but it would cost a million yen to make it into a professional music studio. So I decided to do it on my own somehow, using waste material. Although I had a knowledge of music, it was hard work for me with no knowledge of carpentry, but it resulted in the super cheap expense of only 50,000 Yen.

WHEN HAVING A HARD TIME PLANNING, my eye fell on the paper egg cartons piled up on the refrigerator. After that the plan went smoothly. The cartons have become wonderful sound-proofing for the wall, combined with tatamis, (Japanese mats), which have been used in Japanese houses for a long time for a sound-proof & moisture-proof material. The mikestands are made out of water pipe & wire, the chairs are made from car seats & plastic pipe. Everything was made using waste material as we first planned. The musical



Naomi, Ezra & Isaiah in the studio.

instruments, amps, speakers, etc., were donated by church volunteer fellow-workers, which was a real help.

IN THIS VERY FIRST CARPENTRY WORK OF MINE, I not only got blisters, but also got injured & had 8 stitches on my foot. Nevertheless, I'm so satisfied to have our own space. However, it is not perfect, the radiator has a hole so the air regulator is not in good condition now. I'm not in a hurry to fix it, but am thinking of repairing them in the fall. — Sent in by Melanie.



Shem, happy at work, to bring MWM to Japan! (Translated from Japanese by Charity)

Music Cracks Closed Country

Four concerts in three days! 17 Family songs recorded!

(Names & locations withheld for security!)

ONE DAY LAST SPRING WHEN WE WERE SINGING ON THE WALKING STREET of our city a man who had been listening invited us to come to his country, saying he could arrange for us to play in a club there. We were very inspired about this, as this is the country we have been trying to work to reach!

WE HAD OFTEN PRAYED FOR SOMETHING TO OPEN UP for us there with our music ministry. But since it is a very closed country, we knew it would really take a miracle of God! So PTL, He is able! He certainly gave us a lot of surprises & "did exceedingly abundantly above all that we could ask or think!"

IN OUR THREE SHORT DAYS THERE WE GAVE FOUR CONCERTS for hundreds of young people & did a recording of 17 Family songs! Possibilities may be opening for some of it to be broadcast on radio, for an article about our singing to be in a youth magazine & for a record to be made!

IT'S OFTEN UNPLEASANT TO CROSS THESE TIGHT BORDERS, with nervous pressure etc., but this time we felt so happy, inspired & encouraged by the Lord's Spirit, that beautiful peace you have when you know you are doing His will! The border crossing went quite fast & while listening to MWM's love in a musical key, we took off into the country.

THEN CAME THE FIRST TEST: One of us got sick with a bad headache & high fever. Thank God, after prayer & a good rest he was well again! The Devil gets mad when you charge into his territory! In the evening we arrived at our friend's door & had a happy time talking

together before bed. He said that the theatre where he had thought we could play had been closed. But "by accident" he had met a friend on a bus who works in the culture department & arranges things for youth & he had suggested that we could play at one of their events the next night.

THE NEXT AFTERNOON OUR FRIEND TOOK US to the culture house where there was a big cowboy-style party! About 300 young people in cowboy costumes with lassos & whips were dancing folk dances! They had a few good groups playing (quite a lot better musicians than us!), & everyone was enjoying the music & fun.

AFTER A WHILE WE WERE CALLED ON STAGE. As the announcer introduced us & translated for all how we were singers from afar who wanted to sing for them about love "because love is what makes the world go 'round", there was laughter & a great applause. As we started to sing, the people were flocking around the stage & the reaction was incredible! Our friend was our "speaker" & translated what we said, parts of the text etc.

WE WERE CALLED BACK FOR AN ENCORE, & the announcer grabbed us & asked before the crowd if we would like to play the next night at another event, & would we like to do some recording? Behind the stage we met the young man who wanted to work on the recording with us, which was to be in two days. Later when we left the hall, everyone greeted us cheerfully, & our friend was very happy about the success saying, "You have something special that draws the people!"—Yes!—The Spirit of God!

FOR THE NEXT DAY OUR FRIEND HAD ARRANGED FOR

US TO PLAY AT THE SCHOOL of his 12-year-old son. They had told the school principal that they had some foreign musicians visiting, & so our great surprise all the classes of kids from ages 12 to 16 were gathered in the big dining hall where we were able to give a 1½-hour concert on stage! The teachers were there also, & the children were all excited. We told them about our life, about the meaning of the songs, about our country, & they were eagerly asking questions.

WHEN WE SANG "TAKE TIME TO LIVE", THEY WERE ALL SINGING ALONG & clapping to the beat. Then our friend wrote the words for them on a big board, & that was a great hit! At the end we sang it again, & after we stopped they kept on singing & wouldn't stop! We felt like the whole city would hear it!

AFTER OUR ENCORE three sweet kids came up to give us all gifts, flowers & hugs. GBT, they really won our hearts, & it looked like we won theirs too, thanks to the Spirit of God & His songs of love of His children of love! As we put away our guitars in the back room, our friend opened the door & we were literally attacked by a crowd of children armed with papers, books, arms—anything you can imagine—for us to sign our autographs! They all wanted our address, which our friend helped them copy from each other.

ESCORTED BY A CLOUD OF FOLLOWERS to our friend's house, we found there in front of his house our car covered with roses, flowers, love notes & gifts. All over it was written: "We love you!" & "Take time to live!" etc. We went up the elevator & from our window on the 10th floor we could hear them call, "Send them down! Send them down!" Fin-

ally we had to go down & sing another song to calm them down! For the rest of the time we were there the love letters & little gifts kept coming & kids came to the door to see us.

THAT SAME EVENING AT THE CULTURE HOUSE WERE 23,000 PEOPLE. It was a more serious affair with interviews of authors, artists etc. Our singing was again very well received & we were each handed a club insignia. On the way home in the car our friend was talking about how he believed we could do something in his country & that we & the songs really hit a key with the people.

HE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO HELP US & maybe arrange a few "tours" now & then. Also he said how one of his friends who had been present at the concert that night works as an editor of the youth magazine. They had taken pictures & he wanted to talk to them about making an article in this magazine as that would be a way for us to get recognition.

EARLY THE NEXT MORNING WE WENT TO A SMALLER OUTLYING TOWN where it was arranged for us to give a concert in the local movie theatre which was filled with young people for the occasion. So again we presented our program to a very receptive & thank-

ful crowd. We sang, talked about our life, answered questions & explained our songs, which by the way are all Family songs.

AGAIN, THE CROWD WAS SINGING HAPPILY ALONG with us, & in the hallway they all wanted to get our autographs. We were deluged with flowers, souvenirs & kisses, & after the concert we went in our, again, rose-decorated car to a beautiful local castle where we were treated to a full-course dinner with the culture representatives & movie-house director.

THIS, OUR LAST EVENING IN THIS COUNTRY, WE SPENT RECORDING for about 5 hours. This was as yet another culture house where a crew of about 5 or 6 technicians was working, two of them professionals. They were so sweet & humble, so thankful for every song they could record & afraid that we would get tired & impatient. But after doing the first few songs we all realized how much we were enjoying it, & getting more & more inspired, we finished 17 songs!

A FRIEND WE HAVE BEEN WRITING TO for some time lives in the city & she also came to listen, & the songs were a real testimony to her. When we talked with her about how we pray & read the Bible together at home & about the reason for

our singing, she said, "It is so wonderful! The people here need that love so much!"—Like the voice of the goddess!

OUR TIME HERE ENDED WITH A QUIET MORNING with our friends. On our way home we stopped to thank the Lord for everything! We felt so small & amazed that He could use us in such a way, to open the doors & make it all possible even under such difficult circumstances! Even our friend who arranged everything said,

"IT IS REALLY A MIRACLE HOW ALL THESE THINGS WORKED OUT!" Like it says in Isaiah 43, the chapter we got before we started our trip: "When thou passest thru the waters I will be with thee, & thru the rivers they shall not overflow thee; when thou walkest thru the fire thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee."

IN ALL OF OUR LABOUR & MINISTERING BEFORE to the people of this country we have always been very cautious, both for our own security & for that of the people there. We felt that we either had to go so "low" that it would not be noticed, or so "high" that it would be accepted, as it looks like it might be possible now with this music ministry! So Lord help us to ride God's wave! (Am 2:9!)

PLEASE PRAY FOR MWM-THAI

From Luke; Thailand:

WE HAVE FOUND HOW EASY IT IS TO GET FREE AIR TIME & how great a vacuum there is. For the past year & a half we have tried translating the DJ part of the MWM shows into Thai, leaving the songs, interviews & skits in English, using the DJs from the two universities that were airing the show weekly.

SINCE DAD HAS EMPHASISED THE IMPORTANCE OF A SPIRIT-FILLED DJ, we are

endeavouring now to find the Lord's DJ & praying He will raise up the right national disciple for the job. The Family here believes that a music radio program could be so effective to reach each little village of which the majority own a radio, so we are unitedly doing what we can to set up a small home studio.

THE LORD ENCOURAGED US when He used a king to lend us two reel-to-reel tape recorders & thru a provisioning contact, microphones & stands. The Family is unitedly provisioning what we can & trusting God to do the

rest to reach this field in the time we have, as Dad has warned. The studio will also be used to tape Gospel & Letter tapes in Thai for our dear Thai disciples. We are in the process of organising a faithful follow-up for those who've already heard the show & written.

WE'D LIKE TO THANK THOSE who have sent donations in so far as the MWM ministry in Thailand. Please pray with us for it to get off the ground & send donations c/o your Reporting Office (cheques payable to Fred Servais). Tks! WLY!—Luke. (Am 2:9! PTL! GOY! Hallelujah!)