

Montags' Junglegram

Dick and Sue Montag

ILV, Casilla 2492

Lima 100, Peru, SA

PLEASE NOTE ADDRESS CHANGE FOR LETTERS

RMontag@mtwsa.org or dick-sue_montag@sil.org

February 27, 2006

Mission to the World

PO Box 116284

Atlanta, GA 30368-6284

(Our account #094778)

Dear ones,

"Though the fig tree does not bud
and there is no fruit on the vines,
though the olive crop fails
and the fields produce no food,
though there are no sheep in the pen
and no cattle in the stalls,
yet I will triumph in the Lord;
I will rejoice in the God of my salvation!
Yaweh my Lord is my strength;
He makes my feet like those of a deer
and enables me to walk on mountain heights! (Habakkuk 4:17-19)

And with the consultant check of that passage, our "Selected Portions of the Old Testament" was completed on February 25. What a wonderful final passage of victory!

This morning I began working on a computer adaptation on the Old Testament for the Kashinawas of Peru into the alphabet of the Kaxinawás of Brazil. As soon as that is done, we will be on our way from Lima back to Pucallpa, and hopefully be on our way to Nueva Luz within the week. There is a team of Brazilian "Kaxinawá" due to begin working with us in PERU in our usual village of Nueva, and we will check the rough draft done by computer adaptation and also make some dialectal changes. This is a very tedious task and we must be carefully tuned in to anything that might not be the way the Brazilian Kaxinawás would express the same concept. However, the hardest part is being sure that the spelling is correct.

This time in Lima we have been able to finish up several other projects beyond working full speed ahead on the Old Testament. We have also completed "The History of the Kashinawa Church", with accounts from five points of view, and a lot of the early history as remembered by one of the older men, our story teller. I was able to translate the account of the "story teller" and our own view of their history from Kashinawa into Spanish. Also a previous Swiss missionary sent her account in Spanish, and that added a lot to the orderliness of the history. The book will be letter size and has about 150 pages. What I had translated from Kashinawa into Spanish was carefully checked by our dear friend, who is a professional translator, and I still need to insert her corrections into the text, and then it can be printed. We expect to take it out with us when we go to Nueva Luz this time, and I trust it will be a blessing for many. The Kashinawas have very little to read in their language, so I imagine many will read it.

Dick's book, "A Tale of Pudicho's People", has now been translated into Spanish and it lacks only one more check before it can be published in Spanish. He is especially happy to see that nearing completion.

No, we don't get bored! The whole time we are in Lima, we have a continental breakfast in our room with the Kashinawas, and then lunch and supper are in little restaurants in the area. We specialize in the \$1.75 meals! It sure is nice not to have to cook, shop and wash dishes for us all (this time, it has been for our co-translators Roberto and Waldemar, and Dick and me).

This is summertime in Lima and the weather is perfect! Our church in Lima rented two buses and had a picnic on a beach on the Pacific on Saturday. Dick had already returned to Pucallpa to present a conference on Missionology and Cross-Cultural Anthropology, so Roberto, Waldemar, one of my long time friends and I went to the beach. The day was gorgeous! The waves were wonderful! No one burned! Lots of food! And good fellowship with many that we don't always have a lot of time to talk with!

Yesterday after church, I was able to take the men to our wonderful Lima Zoo. We took sandwiches, and after almost four hours of just enjoying the sites, we were really tired. But what a delightful day and beautiful park and zoo it was. We have been going there over the years since we first arrived in Peru in 1968, and it sure has grown and changed a lot over the years. Our children always loved going there, as have we. The Kashinawa men kept seeing wild animals that they would naturally shoot for food, and it was kind of amusing to see their mixed feelings. They don't have the "Bambi complex" that we often do about seeing wild animals in a zoo or in the wild. But then they don't have any source of neatly wrapped packages of supermarket meat, and must hunt to eat!

It remains our goal to begin type setting the two editions of "Selected Old Testament Portions" in Lima in early May, to be published by The Bible League. When the manuscript preparation is completed, we anticipate returning to Dayton, TN. By our next time into Lima, we will be able to contact many of you regarding when we think we can visit you. Dick will begin teaching in Dayton in August so we will want to begin visiting as many of you as we possibly can and right away.

Tomorrow I will be sending Roberto and Waldemar off by bus to Pucallpa and I will go the following day. We trust it will be just a 19 hour trip, and we always pray for the Lord's protection on the road. I believe that some day I will physically see His protecting angels around us, for I know He has kept us safe so many, many times when others have had their buses assaulted. In God we trust, and if we cannot trust in Him, there is NO one else.

Well, I guess I am getting to the end. I hope I have been able to tell you some new things about life in general for us. We know that many of you pray for us daily and we need this more and more each day. We have seen what we are sure was an attack on Roberto, with a strange illness that lasted for about a week, and after a special time of prayer, he quickly recovered. We are in the "war zone" of the enemy as we get closer and closer to finishing our translation work, and need His daily protection upon us all: on Roberto and Waldemar, on the two Kaxinawá families coming from Brazil very soon to work with us, on Dick and me and upon all those with whom we interact.

We thank you, dear ones, for your faithful prayers and gifts for us. How I wish I could sit down and write you each a long and personal letter, but this seems to be the time in our life when we are glad to have time to just get through one day at a time, and very joyfully, too. These years in Peru have been best 5 1/2 years of our lives! Thanks for your part!

Yours in Christ,
Sue for Dick and Sue Montag