

## NEWSLETTER – MARCH/APRIL 2007

### NEW BEGINNINGS – WOW!

I am quite literally blown away by the progress we made during my two weeks in Sudan from March 24<sup>th</sup> through April 7. The more I think about it, the more impressed I am with what God, and a few good men have accomplished.

A) - We had a leadership training course for our farm managers, in a Uganda setting. Our farm managers in the past have had little or no real understanding of either leadership or management, and only a little knowledge of farming with modern machinery. This should not be unexpected, since they have just recently emerged from the chaos of war and civil pandemonium. In this course, both **Pastor James Raddattz** (my home church pastor) and I had input. The greater proportion of training came from a long-time teacher of modern Agriculture, **Mr. Abusa Edward**; Sudanese, who had been in exile in Uganda, was trained and became a teacher with hands-on experience. The teacher for Administration and Accounting was **Miss Fiona Onyinda**, daughter of one of our former Sudanese farm managers who tragically died with cancer over a year ago. Fiona recently graduated from Makerere University (Kampala, Uganda) in Administration and Accounting.



**Pastor Jim Raddattz teaching on leadership to SFC farm managers**

B) – During this week of training, we also held a Board of Directors meeting by communicating through both telephone and e-mail, including **The Hon. Steven Wundu**, Sudan's Ambassador to Japan, and Chairman of the Savannah Farmers cooperative (Company) (SFC). VERY significant changes have been made in the structure of our management team. Much of this grew out of the recommendations I received from Volunteer Farmers from Canada who had been on the spot in Sudan long enough to more closely examine the needs for structural change. When the minutes of this meeting were finalized, we came to:

C) – The hiring of a new General Manager – **Mr. Abusa Edward**, and a new position altogether: an Accountant who will work exclusively with our farms, **Miss Fiona Onyinda**. She will be constantly circulating between the farms, working with the Farm Managers imposing a new and highly effective accounting system in each farm. It will include everything: financial accounting, inventory control, log books for all vehicles and tractors, maintenance records etc. Both of these are on a six month probation, and I have great confidence in their futures within the SFC farm system.



**Abusa Edward  
SFC General Manager**

D) – It was also decided to establish a central Head Office Compound. It will include housing for the General Manager and his family, the Accountant, and our new and highly qualified mechanic, A Ugandan named **Eddie Walugembe**. (*Incidentally, we discovered after we hired him that he will possibly become the Kabaka (King) of the revived Baganda Kingdom in Uganda when the present King dies. In spite of that high status, he never even mentioned it to us*). The Headquarters compound will include a Workshop, built primarily from the steel containers we send to Sudan, and a warehouse in which both supplies for the farms, and products from the farms can be stored before distribution and/or sale. And, we will establish the first **soil testing** unit in southern Sudan within this compound. This can determine what best crops to grow in any given soil, both for our farms, and for other small farmers in southern Sudan.



**Mr Zamba Duku  
New SFC Board**

E) – A New member was added to the Board of Directors, **Mr. Zamba Duku**, and will be the Managing Director to whom the General Manager and the Accountant will be directly responsible. He is, as I've mentioned before, the Hon. Speaker of the House of the Legislature of Central Equatoria, southern Sudan's prime State. Thus, the make-up of the Board of Directors is now:

- a) – The Hon. Steven Wundu, Chairman – also Sudan's Ambassador to Tokyo, Japan.
- b) – The Rev. Cal Bombay – Deputy Chairman – also President of Cal Bombay Ministries.
- c) – Dr. Samson Kwaje – Director – also Minister of Information, Broadcasting and Communications.
- d) – Brig. Gen. Zamba Duku – Managing Director of SFC – also Speaker of the House for the Central Equatoria State Legislature.

I should mention that all the members of the Board of Directors are members in their capacity as private citizens, and do not represent the government in any way. This provides 'insulation' against the wrong fingers getting into the pot. We have a zero tolerance for corruption! A recent case of pilfering is now being addressed – firmly!

Because of the new personnel and the changes in management structure, we are certain that the present farms, particularly Logobero, Morobo and Romogi will be covering ALL their own expenses, and *making a profit* by the end of this current year. Their excess above expenses will be rolled into further development on these farms.

**BORI FARM** – The building of the Bori compound is nearly finished including a guest house (for Volunteer Farmers, executive visitors, Government visitors etc.) an office building, machine sheds, and a large open concept dining building with a kitchen. Containers will be converted into secure storage for both produce and small equipment. Many acres have already been cleared and will be planted within the next few weeks. Another area of up to 2,000 acres has been ceded to Bori farm and is presently being cleared for ploughing. You can see the progress in the compound in this picture. You can also see an example of the kind of land that is being cleared. The establishing of the compound itself will cost about \$8,000 (USA), remarkably inexpensive, and remarkably efficient. We need to drill a bore-hole for good water, both for the farm compound itself, and for the neighboring villagers. Do you know a well-driller working in Africa? I need one. We are considering **BORI** to be the first of the fifty we will start in the next ten years. And then there's...



One of the new tractors clearing land at Bori.



Bori Farm compound

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**MORE GOOD NEWS : MOGIRI.** – New ground is being cleared and broken on yet another new farm. The new farm is called **MOGIRI**. As we stood on this ground with exceptionally fertile soil we formed a circle and dedicated this new area to the Lord to feed his people in southern Sudan. It was a somewhat emotional moment for me. A new farm manager has been assigned to this farm, **Amos Lomoro Kenyi**. Forty-eight farms to go!



Prayer of dedication for the Mogiri Farm

**THE HOSPITAL** – As you know, I appealed for funds to help finish the Hospital we began to build when I was still VP Missions at 100 Huntley Street. Of the \$60,000 I appealed for, more than \$11,000 has come in. I am trusting God for the balance. Meanwhile, Government of Southern Sudan officials visited the site, and were deeply impressed by what is there, and were anxious to see it finished. The hospital of course will come under the ministry of health, and they will supply some medical staff. Two nurses from the USA have also offered themselves. I found while there, that a doctor's house must also be built. Please pray with me on this need.

From **May 6<sup>th</sup>** through **June 10<sup>th</sup>** I will be in British Columbia. There are many open dates at this time, and if your church would like to have me, please phone my friend **Arnold Labrentz**, and ask for a date when I will be free. He is booking my meetings for me. His number is **1 (250) 428-9714**. I would love to come to share the details of what God is doing through this ministry in southern Sudan. Or, go to my website [www.calbombayministries.org](http://www.calbombayministries.org) and pick your day, then contact me, with a copy to Arnold Labrentz at [alabrentz@hotmail.com](mailto:alabrentz@hotmail.com) so that we keep coordinated. My Cell phone is **1-519-750-4400** while I am on the road.



We became experts at changing flat tires!

No trip to Sudan is without problems. A newly opened road (de-mined) was available to go from Kajokeji to Yei for the first time. It is just a little less than 200 km. It took fourteen hours of driving, bouncing and careering over rocks. I suggested that we take the square wheels off the LandCruiser and put round wheels on. No one laughed. Our backs were too shaken and sore. Our heads occasionally bounced off the roof of the vehicle.

But ask me if it is worth all that discomfort, and I will answer "Absolutely!" So what if we caught a few 'bugs' which caused their own discomfort? So what if we missed a few meals? Thousands will eat in the immediate future because of these farms.

I am so glad that you are there to support this ministry. Still, there is no one else doing this kind of thing.

Please continue to pray for all of us involved in this rather massive undertaking. It IS God's will. And God WILL supply the needs. We need only to listen to His heart, and obey.

*Cal. R. Bombay*

Thanks you for your love, your prayer support and your compassionate giving. It just would not happen without you.

Sincerely in Christ Jesus, for Sudan  
Cal Bombay

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