

22 February 2009

## Uganda Update #6

Today was a day of relaxing and getting refreshed. I woke up, dressed and transmitted the update that I typed up last night. It was about 1:00 am when I had finished typing up the update, and I didn't want to wake up Mary Lou to use her computer to transmit it.

After sending the email and checking my email, Mary Lou and I sat down for breakfast. We had our usual scrambled eggs and toast. I didn't tell you how we make the toast since there isn't a toaster here. If you've ever been camping you would know how. Just butter one side and place the bread into a frying pan and brown. Voila! Toast.

We had decided not to go to church today, but to have church with the children at Airfield school. The day started out to be a scorcher. We took bodabodas to the school. While there, I took pictures of six children that are in need of sponsors. These children except for one are from Gulu. The other is from Sudan. I will give you more detail about them tomorrow. I talked to the boys about working together as a team. There is a competition between the boys dorm and the girls dorm as to which one will keep their dorms clean and in order. So far, the girls are ahead. I gave them an incentive, that if they won the competition I would have Mary Lou buy them a big bag of candy. That really got their attention.

After that, one of the boys asked me what tribe I was from. I asked him to guess. Someone guessed it, I think it was Charles. He said Jap, which is short for Japadhola (ja-pa-dola), The Japadhola tribe is located in eastern Uganda. They are directly related to the Luo (Lu-oh) tribe in Kenya. Another boy said that I could not be a Jap. He said that my father is Ugandan and my mother is a muzungu. So I asked him, what is a muzungu. He said a white person. So I tell him my mother is not a white person. He was surprised, so then he says, she is a European. I say "no". Again they are surprised. One boy pipes up and says I am lying. So I tell them I am half and half. My father is Ugandan and my mother black American. Then I ask them, do you know where black Americans come from? They say no. So, now I give them a short history lesson on the history of the black Americans. They were very attentive, and asked many questions. In the end I tell them that we are all brothers and sisters. We are all Gods children. It does not matter what we look like on the outside, we are all the same on the inside.

I said my good-bys to the children and left Kajjansi for Kampala as it rained. This is the first rain since I've been here and it was refreshing and cooling. I will spend the remainder of my time here in Kampala with my relatives.

Today I would like to share with you how I have spent the funds thus far and what the needs are.

### EXPENSES

Transportation	108,900/=	
Airtime	14,000/=	
School supplies	78,000/=	
School fees	630,000/=	Half of the amount for this term has been paid.
Items for children	243,000/=	Like mattresses, shoes, socks, mosquito nets etc.
Meals	28,000/=	meals bought, and water.
Personal	30,400/=	Magazine, groceries and some cookies
<b>TOTAL (shillings)</b>	<b>1,132,300/=</b>	
<b>Total (dollars)</b>	<b>\$576.53</b>	Dollars (at 1964 exchange rate)

### NEEDS

School uniforms	144,000/=	for 12 children 12,000/= ea.
Compound uniforms	120,000/=	for 12 children 10,000/= ea.
Sports uniforms	144,000/=	for 12 children (PE uniforms)
Sweaters	192,000/=	for 12 children 16,000/= ea.
<b>Total</b>	<b>600,000/=</b>	
<b>Total in dollars</b>	<b>\$321.72</b>	(at exchange rate of 1964)

Normally, we do not need to buy these because it has already been paid, but since most of the children are starting in a new school, the one time cost applies. The children who attended Airfield View School last year were given uniforms and now need new ones.

Airfield View Primary School has agreed to let us make monthly payments, since this is how we receive it from the sponsors. Previous schools required the full school term payment up front or within two months. The agreement we made will work out well for both SOHI (SEEDS OF Hope Int'l) and AVPS (Airfield View Primary School).

Here are some more pictures to share.



Left to right: Mary Smith, Juliet Ofwono, Mary Lou Kimball



Approaching Kajjansi from Mary Lou's place.



Approaching Kampala from Entebbe. The tall buildings you see in the background is Kampala.