

Summer 2024

# JEYSON & STEPHANIE BRAUN

*Giving Wings to The Good News*

Missionaries with  
**Commission**  
TO EVERY NATION

Serving at  
**JAARS**

## Mission Flight Standstill.

In the very northern part of Brazil, where one of our mission bases is located, missionary aviation has recently become very complicated. Not the flying itself, but rather the permission to fly, which comes from the government. To sum up the situation, the government has been showing itself to be increasingly opposed to missionary work in certain indigenous villages. And therefore is making it intentionally difficult for mission planes to fly to them.



In the past, our mission had near autonomy to choose when and where to fly to villages. But in the last weeks, the government suddenly halted ALL missionary flights in one of the regions where our planes fly. The only exception is to request permission for an individual flight through an arduous, bureaucratic process. The government originally stated it would take 5 days to consider each flight request, then changed it to 14 days, and now 30 days. And even then, most flight requests go unanswered or are denied. Our Brazilian mission organization is doing everything it can legally to have the new rules reversed, but so far it has hit dead ends.

This mission plane grounding is in spite of the desire of the native villagers themselves. The indigenous people in this region value the work of the missionaries and desire that missionaries serve among them. They view the mission planes as a lifeline for the village and for the missionaries. Despite this affirmation from the indigenous people, the government's stance continues.



*Picture from the past of missionary pilot Jefferson flying one of the missionary families who serves in a village in the region*

Meanwhile missionary families in at least 8 villages, many who we know personally, have been "stranded" in villages without supply deliveries and without a way to leave. Among these are families with young children, including toddlers.

One of these villages has access to a small town by river and canoe. When one of the missionaries in his late 60's, who was in town, realized his teammates were running out of food and supplies, he took a canoe upriver filled with food and supplies. It took him 10 days

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and nights to reach his colleagues! Please pray for the well-being of these missionaries and the indigenous people in the villages. Pray that there wouldn't be any medical emergencies or crises without supplies. Pray for continued peace and trust in God to care and provide. While this problem may seem big in our eyes, we know it is completely within God's sovereign control. This is a good reminder that our hope is in the Lord, not in airplanes and governments.

Pray for favor before the government; that the Lord would move in hearts to lift this ban to His glory. That the Fruit of the Spirit would be evident in the lives of the Brazilian missionary aviation team as they bring the case before the government.

## Ten New Pilots and Mechanics Ready!

Here at JAARS, this weekend we celebrated ten new missionary pilots and mechanics who have completed our training program and are now ready for the field! They will be serving in Indonesia, Brazil, Kenya, the USA; and several are still waiting on assignments.

It was a joy to invest in this group and see them develop in their technical skills as well as their emotional and spiritual readiness. From training on maintaining specific engines, to learning to land on short, grassy fields in the mountains, and countless valuable conversations about the joys and hardships of life serving overseas. This group is ready! Thank you for your faithful partnership that helped prepare them for the field.



*We especially enjoyed spending time with the Burns family who were part of the training group at JAARS and are preparing to serve in Brazil.*

## Hangar Happenings.

One of the big projects this month was changing out our R66 helicopter's bubble windscreen. Even though it's relatively new, it started delaminating. The removal process is quite extensive and required much care due to the fragile parts. Jeyson and an experienced helicopter mechanic worked on the project along with a new apprentice and a new intern who are being mentored and gaining experience in missionary mechanics.



## Upcoming NJ Trip.

Summer is in full swing! For those of you in the NJ area, we will soon be traveling your way and we would love to see you! We will be in southern NJ July 12-14, central NJ July 15 - 27, and again in southern NJ July 28 - Aug 2. If you would be interested in getting together with us or coming to one of our partner churches when we are sharing, please reach out and we will be happy to send you more information!

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