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Darit - Ngabang
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Regions Beyond Missionary Union

Dear Fellow Laborers:

Our recent two-week holiday at 'Long Sands' will long be remembered by our children. After seeing nothing but jungle for over a year, it was a welcome sight to permit our eyes to wander out over the endless

expanse of water. The omnipotence of God became very real to us as we read in Isaiah 40:12 that "He hath measured the water in the hollow of His hand." One day we overheard Janet and Ellen explaining the meaning of this verse. Ellen looked over the ocean and said, "Look, Janet, God can hold all that in His hand and not spill one drop." Then she filled her little hand with some of the water and said, "Hmph, I can't."

This reminds us of another wonderful truth. God has all of us in His hand, and no one can pluck us out of His hand. Sometimes we get too concerned about our 'big family' of redeemed precious souls here and we forget that He has them all in His hand. The Bible School students are passing through many trials and testings, but they are safe in His hand. He has the missionaries in His hand, and He knows their needs.

It is a comfort in the jungle to know that our life is in His hand. We certainly are aware of this every time we travel. Not only does He protect us along the narrow, over-grown paths, but also as we travel along the roads. This we experienced on our recent trip to the beach. The two-hundred-foot Darit bridge had been declared unsafe for over a year already. However, the only other way out was closed because of impassable roads. After committing our trip into His care, we 'loaded' our power wagon and 'plowed' our way to Darit (1 mile from our station). At the bridge our family alighted, and we began to strengthen the bridge by laying planks across the half-rotten round poles which were nailed across the also half-rotten girders. With both doors open, I slowly edged my way across. Then, in the middle of the bridge, the truck stalled. Driven by fear that the bridge might break, we all began to push. By then crowds had gathered, and needless to say we felt somewhat embarrassed. But God protected us and we crossed safely. Space does not permit us to write of the hours we spent in the middle of the road replacing a broken main spring, of the four-foot-deep troughs through which we ploughed on our way out, or of the 'putting up' overnight enroute. But we returned refreshed, and I am sure that you will agree with us that God does take care of us here.

Bible School closed on July 15th and will open for its third term on October 5th. But before that can happen we must build two classrooms, make beds in the girls' dormitory, and prepare the courses. We request your prayers for these needs. It seems that Satan has thrown every imaginable obstacle in the way this year to keep these young people from returning to school.

You ask what we have been doing this last year besides teaching in the Bible School. Besides 'pastoring' the churches and outstations here, I have spent much time in Pontianak on Mission Business. The new Mission Jeep truck arrived here the end of May. A month later Mr. and Mrs. Henry Thiessen arrived, and since then Miss Alice Shelley has returned from furlough. During my absence Ruth had to care for all the needs of the station and churches. This, plus teaching Loren and Janet, is a full-time work. However, we don't complain; we are happy to have the health and strength to witness for Him.

We pray that you will be blessed in faithful intercession,

*Elmer + Ruth and
the "5"*