

Lots of love and God's blessings.

Missão Evangelica do Bailundo
2nd April, 1954

Dearest Mother and Olive,

We were discussing the address and have decided that the best way to write it is as you will find it on the outside of this letter. However, you can also address letters to Missão do Chitima. One is the old name, the other the new, and presumably official one, but for the present we think we shall use Missão Evangelica because of its Protestant significance and because we consider Bailundo as having been begun by our church. There is also a Catholic Mission of Bailundo, which I believe that it has, has an official name, Missão do Chitima, because of the name of the mountain near which it is located. We get along very well with those of that mission I think and I have no idea of offending them. I don't believe that using Missão Evangelica as Bailundo is going to offend them either. It occurs to me that the official name ~~was suggested~~ by someone who wanted to have all the missions equal, or to put our missions at a disadvantage by making it impossible for one using the official name to know whether one was Catholic or Protestant except those of the officials. I'm only guessing in any case. From our relations, which seem to me to be very good, I see no reason not to use, or to refrain from using, either of the names. With which reasoning we are continuing to use Missão Evangelica do Bailundo. Well, I've gone on long enough about such a matter.

Betty was over in one of the suburbs of the station today at the birthday party of a one year old. Just how this has all come about I have no idea. Why we are expected to help celebrate the birthday of one one year old when there are several hundred of them just around us I have not figured out yet, but Betty and Harriet Summerville went anyhow, and perhaps Naomi Okuma.

Bessie and Patty are asleep I hope. Kenny and Tommy are playing with cars or an old gramophone motor which "Uncle" Dick Webb brought to them day before yesterday from Salangue, and I'm getting at this letter, long, long overdue.

We have had a busy time ever since just before Reuling was here. I've only this past week had time to curl up an instant to do some real honest-to-goodness thinking about some of the work needing to be done. We must begin dry season work in the villages right away. The rains seem to be stopping. We must finish plans for a bathroom, for which the Board is granting us funds. I've had one hole dug for a septic tank, and find that we may have to modify our plans again, and that I'll have to dig still another hole for the tank. I'm trying to work out an audio-visual education program. We are also looking ahead to a two or three week vacation at the coast in August, but because of dry season work find it a difficult thing to plan. Betty is teaching the boys now, but we hope that the new teacher, Miss Margaret Thomas will be here by June and that by September the boys can go to school. We'll miss them but they should be getting their work under the supervision of a teacher who only has the one occupation. The Okumas are leaving the latter part of July and we must prepare for that as well as for the nurse's return within the next four weeks. She is now crossing the Atlantic. I see that I'm going to use some of the side of the sheet to finish up, so here goes.