

# MISSION: MICRONESIA

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*"Vagabonds  
and beachcombers  
settled here."*



Earlier this year, we met Zebby from Poland who was visiting Palau. It is our joy to meet people from all over the world and to welcome them aboard RIM Nativa.

## Ship's Log: "I wonder who?"

Glen Knight

*I am nostalgic and I love history. My imagination is always at full tilt no matter what the task is for the moment or even if there is a task at all. And I imagine such things as who may have been here before and from where did they come and for what reasons did they end up here? And I try to feature what they may have accomplished and what if anything remains of their presence. I've heard tails of ships—sailing ships like ours that sailed in and out of this harbor, some for good and many for ill. There are stories of those that took much away from these islands, including some of the people who saw their loved ones no more and other stories that tell of ships that brought and gave plenty. Among them, the wonder of the world was introduced long ago to societies who knew little of what lay beyond their horizons. I am almost startled to know that the design and size of the ship RIM Nativa harks back to a time so long ago when these islands first became known to the world. Explorers and missionaries, early cartographers and traders ventured here. Vagabonds and beachcombers settled here. There were pirates and the soldiers who fought them. And oddly enough, an American Civil War naval battle was fought not far from here in an attempt to secure trade routes for the Southern Confederacy. **Wars were fought on these tiny islands from The Great War to WWII and thousands of people have died in the conflicts. Until now, the evidence of destruction remains. "Ownership" has passed from one nation to another—Spain, Germany, Japan, the United States. And now, even China is making an attempt to gain possession. But I have an idea that when all usefulness has been made of the people and their beautiful islands, they will once again fade into a forgotten past.***

*There is very little nobility among foreigners who venture into lands beyond their own. Most are in search of advantages they haven't had before. Some seek love relations. Others seek financial gain. I have seen this too often in the Philippines. And I see it here, but mostly now there are the pleasure-seekers and as in the past, hardly any bring anything good. But maybe this is a sign of our times that affects these quiet, out-of-the-way hamlets on remote islands the same as anywhere else in the world. Here there are people who still hold out for someone who will give and share and love and encourage and be a part of their society and culture. Every day I am reminded of our task. And I see a precious few others who have the same feelings. But more are needed in wider circles. I wonder who?*



A traditional “Bai” stands proudly on Babulthuap Island, north of Koror. This is a meeting house for men who serve as elders in the villages. Most Bais are very old.

*“Distant horizons are calling us as we continue seeking God’s leadership among the islands of the western Pacific Ocean.”*



The EAGLE ATVC is seen here with her bows open to receive the ramps for offloading the ATV and trailer, as well as equipment, supplies and personnel that will be easily ferried now from RIM Nativa to the islands.

## EAGLE ATVC...finished!

It has been nearly a year in coming from concept to completion, and now, the EAGLE ATVC is finished! The photo here shows the final buoyancy test of the hull. The blue drums of water represent the weight of the outboard motor and the full capacity fuel tanks. Other than these, she can accommodate one ton.



Sitting in the EAGLE ATVC with my friend, Alan Kim of Mikuni Marine Industries, we are making final alterations and additions to the build. This boat is robust and well suited to the type of work which will be demanded. Its compact size will make it easy for us to handle and its load capacity is exactly what is needed.

The map here shows all the islands of the Republic of Palau. Our base of operations here is in Koror. The distance from Koror to Tobi far to the southwest is 378 nautical miles. Nearby, and with the increased mobility the EAGLE ATVC will give us, we will initiate our work on Kayangel Island to the north of Koror and to Peleliu and Angaur to the south. During the time in Palau, we have focused our activities in eight of the sixteen states from Malakal Island to Koror and Babulthuap. Evangelism and humanitarian aid have been the two primary objectives of our ministry. We will continue this through mid 2019 in Palau.



Distant horizons are calling us as we continue seeking God’s leadership among the islands of the western Pacific Ocean. In the months ahead we hope to venture farther into Micronesia along the 7N parallel and southward from Palikir across the Equator into the Southern Oceans. The ship will be ready soon.

*“I had no preconceived notion of what only time could reveal of work and hardship, of danger and more often, despair of seeing the best effort made, resulting in far less than measured success, and often, what appeared to be absolute failure. I know that only Eternity holds the true accounting of all that has come and gone but the human part of me wishes so, for just a look beyond what is veiled to me now to see if what I do and who I am are pleasing to The Almighty. Sometimes in my frail nature, I think there is not yet enough. I think I am still undone.” —Memoirs of a Missionary, G. Knight*

## Gearing up with RIM Nativa

Take a look at the photo to the right. It shows another 300 feet of heavy ship chain which we purchased in November while visiting our chandler in Navotas, Manila. This, added to the other 300 feet of chain purchased earlier, gives us all new chain for our port and starboard anchors on RIM Nativa.

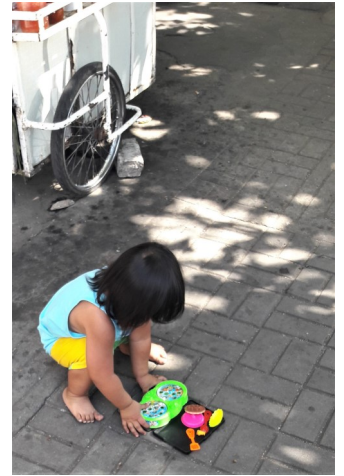


Being able to anchor in deep water off the barrier reefs of Micronesian islands is essential to our work now. In every case where there are no harbors into which the ship can enter, anchoring in strong current and at more than 100 feet of depth will be typical. The work out here is very different from when we were sailing the Philippines where the islands have few if any barrier reefs.



During the summer of 2018, while we were on furlough in the states, our primary generator on RIM Nativa ultimately failed. This necessitated the purchase of another generator, the one you see in the photo to the left. It is a first-class 20KW, dual voltage generator that will serve us well. It is en route to Koror at this time.

As many of you know, we also purchased this Auto Crane during the summer. It is now here in Koror, ready to be installed within the month. This valuable piece of equipment will pair with our new EAGLE ATVC for safety and ease of cargo handling on and off the big ship. At my age, every mechanical advantage is most welcomed!



When Summer and I were in the Philippines in November, we continued to help the street children near our accommodation. This child plays with her tiny baking set, imagining that she is cooking a meal.

*“My heart still hurts for the poor children and elderly adults of the Philippines.”*

## Successful ministry efforts in the Philippines

My heart still hurts for the poor children and elderly adults of the Philippines. And at the same time, I rejoice in the success of some of our churches in the Islands who are making a real effort to reach these in such need. The photo at the right is of children standing in front of the Amazing Grace Baptist Church, San Fernando, Pampanga, Brother Jeremiah Abay, pastor.



Summer and I were able to visit the church in late November and share with them in their regular worship service. I am happy that one of our PMBS graduates from years past continues to do a wonderful job of ministry. He is one among so very many who are doing the same. We will continue to aid them in prayer and encouragement.



This little boy grovels in street filth along Roxas Avenue in Manila. No matter the effort made to aid these children, their situation doesn't seem to change. The problem is in the hearts of their parents. This circumstance through more than three decades of my work in the Philippines remains the same. And yet we return time and again. And we hope...

*“They truly are the deplorables. They're dirty and they stink. They defecate in the street and turn to walk in the pile, giving no thought to the disease-ridden filth of their circumstance. They forage through garbage in the dumpsters, groveling for putrid scraps of discarded food and drink. This is reality. This is heart-breaking.”*

## Remote Island Ministries

*...Reaching people on the edge!*

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*Notes placed inside boxes of supplies from those who have given, especially from the children, always cheer and encourage us! Here is a sample of what I am talking about. Each one is carefully read with thanksgiving. This box comes all the way from Allen, Texas where we were able to visit with Harvest Oaks Baptist Church, Pastor Jay Gibson back in September of this year. We were able to say a BIG THANK YOU to the children when we visited them.*

**Email me:**  
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### Closing thoughts...

Glen Knight

*I know of no other way than the way forward in the service of the Lord. The close of yet another year causes me to think both of accomplishment over the past months as well as challenge for the year we're about to begin. We have been here in Palau now for 20 months, five of which Summer, Juli and I spent back in the United States. Upon returning to Palau and after a short visit back in the Philippines, we see the months ahead as a great opportunity for evangelism and for humanitarian ministry. This mission is so unique that in many ways, we are charting courses on a daily basis. Learning the ways of the islanders is a necessary aspect of that. We see progress daily. Thanks for praying!*



*The flag of the United States flies proudly from the mizzen mast of RIM Nativa. We love that we can display her, freely!*

*"I am truly amazed so often at the notions of some who, although they have never ventured much beyond the safe environs of their own living rooms, presume to advise and counsel others who have long been in the fray of pioneer missionary endeavor. Sometimes one wants for authority by experience." —Glen Knight*