

MISSION: MICRONESIA

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Ship's Log: "Reaching Far...Lending a Hand"	1
Loading EAGLE ATVC	1
In Service Project...	2
Dry Docking RIM Nativa	3
Photo of the Month: "Crossing Oceans"	4
Closing Thoughts... Shouldering Up to 2020	

"The islanders are dependent on such supply runs and the vessels that can make the trips...are few."



Food and service supplies for the ship are loaded from the markets in Koror onto the EAGLE ATVC and then taken to the ship, laying at anchor. Justin is seen here stacking the supplies on our utility cargo boat.

Ship's Log: Reaching far...lending a hand

—Glen Knight

It's all in a day's work...or rather in work, day after day and month by month, as the missionary sailing ship, RIM NATIVA and our missionary family continue reaching the people on remote islands of the western Pacific Ocean. The good sailing season has passed for this year and although we will likely make short runs to nearby islands from now through January, the long voyages will wait until mid to late February to avoid being caught without shelter in a typhoon.

The photo here shows our delivery of food supplies to the islands of Hatohobei state in Palau on a thousand-mile, round-trip voyage last month. The islanders are dependent on such supply runs and the vessels that can make the trips from Koror are few. Among them, NATIVA is the only cargo ship that can load the tonnage of building supplies so often in demand. And as we go, we deliver that most precious of cargo...the Good Word of God. All our delivery services are without charge.

We have opened the seaways to the southwestern islands of Palau through the last three months. The coming months will find us working among the ten islands of Yap State in Micronesia...an area of the western Pacific that encompasses one-million square miles of ocean. Our work is larger than ever before and having the ship in top condition is a necessity. Please read this newsletter carefully. We need your help to accomplish our task.

*God bless you all!
Glen & Summer*



Men of the southwestern islands of Hatohobei State, Palau, unload food, hand over hand, delivered from the holds of the missionary ship, RIM NATIVA, seen at a distance off the reef shelf of Tobi Island.

—July 2019



On August 21, we shared the joy of marriage with our son, Justin and his bride, Natsuki. The Lord has been good to our family in so many ways and here is yet another! Congratulations, Jus & Nats!



Pray for Justin and Natsuki as they hope to immigrate to Japan early next year!



In Service Project—Helen's Reef, Hatohobei

Our July/Aug voyage to the islands of Hatohobei State, near New Guinea took us for the second time this summer to Tobi Island and Helen's Reef where we had previously worked. Good relations have been developed with the native Tobian people and with their state government. A large load of cargo was delivered, consisting of construction supplies, food stock and much needed hardware. The photo here shows our summer workers loading the EAGLE ATVC.



Upon arrival off Tobi Island, we were greeted by the men of Tobi with their service boat. In the photo to the left, we are beginning to unload the lumber, plywood, corrugated roof panels, cement and other hardware for the islanders. It is not uncommon for us to load twenty-five tons or more of supplies in the holds and on the decks of NATIVA. She is unique in her abilities to navigate great distances among the islands with such loads. Her ability to sail both by diesel and wind power make her the most capable and versatile ship sailing out of Koror. Our hearts for spiritual ministry make her crew truly the most unique in all of Micronesia. What we do is without charge to the people. Please help us continue this.

At Helen's Reef, over a two-day period of time, with the help of the local men, we removed the rusted remains of their Ranger Station roof and replaced it with a new roof. The photo here shows the ongoing removal of the old corrugated GI sheets. It was leaking so badly due to the rust, that the building was becoming uninhabitable. It is the only permanent building on the tiny island and houses the radio unit for the Rangers. With the new roof, the station is once again viable for work that must be done by the personnel assigned to the reef-watch conservation program.



Our workers are seen here, posing on the upper landing of the Ranger Station. The work was completed just as storms began moving across the area. The atoll's geography provides no shelter from storms. The mooring we set here in June served us well. A time of worship among the islanders was enjoyed once the work was completed. Pictured are (R to L) Will Chesshir, Butch Houser, James Houser and Demario Riley. Great job, men!

"Some people who live in such circumstances one can hardly imagine, have grown so accustomed to their situation that they never consider it. Any existence that is mere inches above the level of the sea and hundreds of miles from any dry land, is, by every estimation, most precarious." Helen's Reef—gk

September 2019: Dry Docking RIM NATIVA



Three years from her last dry docking, we found it necessary to return to the Philippines with the ship for another haul-out. The problem we faced was a leaking stern tube which was admitting far too much water into the bilge causing us to have to pump out two to three times, daily. The photo at the left shows her up on the rails of Colorado Shipyard, Cebu City, PI. We were 11 days hauled out and two weeks in transit.

The photo to the right shows the removal of the big rudder. Its weight is close to one ton so three chain blocks were employed to lift it off. The propeller was then removed and the tail shaft pulled out. The stern tube bushings were extracted and new ones made and inserted. The babitt bearings inside were relined and the shaft turned to make it true. Then the packing compression plate was redesigned to make it easier to control leaking around the shaft in the stuffing box. These measures resolved the uncontrollable leaking.

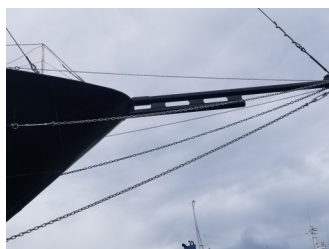


Above, the ship with her new bowsprit under construction and the completed work, below, much stronger than before with larger chain and cable stays. The flat bar seen here is for use repairing the rusted bulwarks on the main deck.



While on the rails, I decided to refinish the entire hull from keels to bulwarks. This required sandblasting the entire ship and repainting with multiple layers of primer, anti-corrosive, anti-fouling and top coats. Here, you can see the finished work with the shaft, prop and rudder reinstalled. We also renewed several of the zinc anodes on the hull to help prevent rust. We removed the hardwood decks due to deterioration and are busy at this moment, refinishing the steel decks. We have replaced one of the portlights on the hull and intend as soon as possible to replace another two. Keeping the ship in good condition is essential for safety and performance.

During our crossing from Koror to the PI, we met a storm at sea, created by the feeder bands of a typhoon passing to our northwest. In the height of the storm, with her bow plowing into big head seas, NATIVA'S bowsprit broke off. We had to undertake emergency procedures to cut away the steel and planking and let it fall off into the sea. This necessitated rebuilding the sprit once we arrived at the shipyard. See the photos in the sidebar.



The ship's propeller, below is still in very good condition. To confirm that, we did a balance and pitch test on it and also checked it for cracks at the root of the blades on the hub. It passed the exams! Good, because that's a \$9,000 prop!



"What you do when lying sleepless through long nights at sea or when standing watch at the wheel in all conditions, fair and stormy, is to pray—often, in fact, without intermission. The hundreds of thoughts that pass through the mind will certainly madden most individuals except those conditioned by the unknown whose eyes are ever lifted to the Lord of the Oceans."

—Memoirs of a Missionary, Glen Knight

Remote Island Ministries

A Ministry of
Victory Baptist Church
10000 Brockington Ave.
Sherwood, AR 72120
USA

Stateside Address:
REMOTE ISLAND MINISTRIES
Glen Knight, c/o Cheryl Clem
8101 Thames Ave.
Texarkana, TX 75503
USA

Field Address:
Captain Charles Glenn Knight
Summer C.E. Knight
The Sailing Ship RIM Nativa
Malakal Harbor, Koror, PW

Email only:
glen@rimnativa.com

Cell: +680-776-6397

Email me:

glen@rimnativa.com



Here is such a child as those who wait by the hundreds to greet us upon arrival off their islands. We form a part of their life-line. We are Remote Island Ministries, Micronesia.

...Reaching people on the edge!



Crossing oceans with the gospel and with aid of every sort for people in desperate need, is the work of the sailing ship, RIM NATIVA and our missionary family.

Closing thoughts... Shouldering Up to 2020

Glen Knight

The summer of 2019 was the busiest we have had in the two years we've worked in Micronesia. The photographic collage to the right was assembled by Summer to help us remember parts of the work. As we near the end of this year and shoulder up to 2020, we do so with great hope, courage and determination. We believe that the coming year will be pivotal in our work as well as in world affairs out here in the western Pacific Ocean. We will be among those making a difference in this part of the world. Thanks for helping!



"I've thought it often and have voiced it at the ends of major events in ministry, that '...this is without question, the most challenging of our work to date.' And each event that evoked that statement, indeed had been so. It leaves me with the very clear understanding that things stretching the limit of endurance, physical or emotional, and even financial, are preparatory to what is yet to come. It is only in perseverance that one comes to know the value of the challenge." —G. Knight