

Now, our **Kiswahili lesson**.

First of all, thank you for all your courageous replies to the last quiz! Most of you were quite right, or very close.

It is Ujerumani, Mjerumani and Kijerumani for German country, person and language. In Norwegian, the whole thing is even easier:

Unorway, Mnorway, Kinorway. The same applies by the way for a lot of other countries, e.g. Uswiss, Mswiss and Kiswiss and so on ...



Cessna Caravan + "Kili"

A new one:

We had a MedEvac course last year, to refresh some of our knowledge about transporting patients. When we were talking about narcotic drugs, somebody mentioned the Kiswahili name for it, which gave all of us a good laughter. The Germans will understand easier, but I think even in English this word is known: It is called "Nusu Kaputi", whereas "nusu" means "half".

This time, I have added a **photo page** for your enjoyment. I had to reduce the quality quite a bit for sending, but you'll find a high quality version at my web page, to enlarge.

And one more announcement: please check this shopping link on my website:

<http://www.comboutique.com/shop/homeboutique-7669.html>

My Cousin, a professional Cartoonist, added a lot of "Aerogeros", and to be honest, I'm impressed! 2 examples you'll find btw. already on the photo page.

My next newsletter will already reach you from Kenya. No matter if I'm still in Nairobi, or in Lokichoggio, you can use the future address shown below to send me postcards, greetings, christmas parcels, cars, hot air balloons or else...

It is great to know you, and I absolutely regret that there is not more time for personal contacts. But still, I hear from you, you hear from me, and one day, we'll meet again! Maybe even before heaven?

Until then, GOD be with you! Yours,

(Aero)gero

Active a few more weeks:

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Remark: "Gero Gringmuth"



*Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, [...] running over, will be poured into your lap.
Luke 6, Verse 38a*

Dearest friend!

It is a bit risky to use the upper bible verse when depending on donors: It might sound like asking for more. But to be honest, I see myself as the one being spoken to, rather than you!

The bible is full of words saying that we will lose the things we try to keep, but only those we are willing to share, or to sacrifice, we will get back.

It is thus my call to give away. And this can have a lot of faces: time, money, prayer, advices, belongings, a home...

When you look at my header above, something has changed. And this is one reason why considerations about giving away affect me now very practically: I will start working with MAF Kenya soon. It's not that I don't like Tanzania anymore, but the need for pilots in Kenya is more urgent. Beyond that, I believe that GOD has called me to continue my flying in Kenya.

For sure I will miss the quiet and safe life in "the world's only capital village", Dodoma, and the interesting monthly health-clinic flying. But on the other hand, I am glad that GOD has spoken, and that I may obey HIS words. That is more than satisfying.

My decision to go to Kenya has especially consequences to my job as **Safety Officer**: as my deputy will leave as well, we'll have to find new persons for these roles, and my aim is to leave a clean "desk" behind. Therefore, I asked our operations to take me off flying for some weeks as far as possible, in order to care for all the safety related issues: Safety information filing cabinet (sorting infos of the last 10-20 years), Safety Meeting(s), finalizing/evaluating safety reports, finding a new & safe location for all paperwork, sorting emails, finishing courses for our staff, etc. I like the job very much, but it is definitely a job!



But let me start last year.

Already after my return from Arusha to Dodoma in **September 2008**, I had to follow up things and meetings; my safety officer job had been a bit neglected due to my almost six month's absence (Germany and Arusha) in 2008.

October, we had a fellowship day with all MAF staff, which was great. Beyond that, we had a day of prayer with our whole team in November, where GOD spoke intensely to a lot of people in our team. This was very helpful and encouraging for all of us, as we are just going through a quite difficult phase, not only due to the global financial situation.

November, I joined a Safety and Quality Conference Nairobi, and the following weekend I could participate in **MAF Kenya's** fellowship day. Looking back from now, this was great planning from GOD, in order to learn and live already with MAF Kenya folks. I heard about their plans with MAF Sudan (it is still a subbase of MAF Kenya rather than a program for itself), and a lot of other things, which



made me already feel part of this multi-cultural & lovely group of people.

Then, **my father came** for a visit! The next special time in 2008! Although too short, we could see a lot together, built shelves for my house in Dodoma, flew to bush clinics (but the runway was too short), and had about 1 week of real holiday afterwards. It was great.

Then, christmas came, and with it, a question from MAF headquarter in Ashford/GB, whether I could imagine to move to Kenya.

But first, I was planned for **3 weeks Uganda**: They had too many flight requests, we had too many airplanes (+pilots), and so I flew out of Kampala from Jan 3 - Jan 24, 2009. This was another special time for me, as I knew already several families there (some of them were in Dodoma before, others I met during my MAF preparations 4 years ago) and could visit them now for free!

Flying in Uganda is definitely interesting. Not only could I add 13 more airfields to my statistics; the country is, compared to Tanzania, very small, so most of the flights went into neighboring countries like Southern Sudan or East Congo. Regions not necessarily known for their overwhelming peaceful behavior ... Therefore, we got weekly UN updates about the security situation, whether we'd have to make diversions, or maybe avoid a specific region for a time.

The last week in February, I had been **sent to Arusha** again, to cover the base in Eivind's absence, who is our Arusha pilot. During this time, I met a German TV managing director who wants to produce a documentary about "Mama Massai", a German lady who works with the Massai for several decades now.

They want to use a MAF plane for their eye clinic in the bush, which is difficult to access on foot: so every day new challenges. And if you get **German TV**, you may watch Sun. April 19, 5:30 pm in ARD.

March/April is now dominated by good-byes, and preparing my move (incl. Bono, my dog) to Kenya.

The timing is as follows:

Kenya needs me as soon as possible, but the residence permit might not arrive before May. Thus, I am planning to visit Germany in April/May 2009: 4/17 until 5/11.

The general plan for Kenya is, to stay only shortly in "Nairobi", and then cover the flying out of **Lokichoggio**¹, our north-west, at the border So back to the peaceful At least a peace agree-

Dear Children,

nice ideas you sent to me after my last month's question! Thank you very much for this! The winners are the guys from the Kids' Café in Schorborn!

Now a very simple question: You'll find a new photo collection attached, or soon on my web page which can be enlarged by clicking.

How often do you see my father on those pictures? Look up carefully, as he might be sometimes a bit hidden...

The answer, as always, may go to Gero, who's address you'll find at the last page of this newsletter.



Therefore, I have to get a rating for our large **14-seater "Caravan"**, as this type is used in "Loki". This will be done partly in Nairobi, and partly in South Africa.

Meanwhile, we are in the midst of our **Rainy Season**. It started late this year, and we still hope for a lot more to come. Very welcome to all people who farm, not so welcome to pilots. These days, some interesting airfields are out there. See yourself:

I don't know where he got it from, but unfortunately **Bono** is still sort of a racist.



Which does not only mean that black people have a hard time getting into the garden, but if there would be bad white guys, he would even welcome them. This is also not what I want.



Eventually, it could be very interesting to find the right house/garden in Kenya, and new house helpers without fear ...

1) Also called "Lokichokio"



Landing strip, OR WHAT???



Our new landing strip for the Mbeya safari: Madundas



A lorry construction set ...



What might be sold here?



Living Luggage



Cellphone reception everywhere!



The grass was a bit long...



Fire exercise in Dodoma



Chasing Giraffes



Quiz: what is in front of the dust?



Haircut in Dodoma