



# Aerogero

August 2012

I have a German Tel. in S-Sudan!!  
**+49-5041 - 630 53 99**  
(whenever I'm online! Very new!!)

„Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice ... ?  
Is it not to share your food with the hungry ...“ says GOD in Isaiah 58, Verses 6-7

In Juba



In the bush



## For quite some time ...

... I am interested in Fasting. No, I am not overweight; but there is a quite fascinating link between eating, and the „blockage“ of our spiritual channel. You can check several passages in the bible for this.

What was the reason for the people of Israel to wish to go back into slavery in Egypt during their exodus? It was not hunger itself (as they had manna in abundance)! They were simply longing for more variety in GOD's daily food schedule, which made them forget all miracles they had experienced. Even the centuries of torture seemed better to them - for the sake of the stomach! (Read Phil 3:19)

The first of all sins had to do with Food. Let is be honest: how many “rights” does our stomach have? And how often do we make clear who is the boss? There's for sure more important things than eating. I'm so grateful for all the moments in my past, when I was so much involved in something, that I simply forgot about eating. This way, I learnt very early how easy fasting can be - with the right motivation.

In the bible (as well as throughout the first times of christianity), fasting was part of normal life. Today, we have banned it into the corner of extremism, or to obese people. Who says it always has to be zero food? It is the heart's attitude that counts. Otherwise, we'll miss a lot of GOD wishes to give us.

Btw.: modern medicine knows since long how healthy one day of fasting per week is for the body ...

## The past months ...

... were more eventful than ever before in my life!

Many things became too low priority, even a newsletter, planned for April.

Since last year, my work moved more and more towards South Sudan. In the end, it went faster than anticipated. Still being in Germany, I heard that I had to leave Lokichoggio behind and move to Juba myself. All my plans I still had for that dry and beautiful spot had to leave. And I was on the move - again.

A move beyond borders is in Africa not as easy as in Europe. The rainy season had just started, and the road where my furniture should have traveled to Juba, was washed away! Now I was in Juba, with boxes full of personal stuff, and unable to unpack with my furniture still in Loki. Very frustrating. Beyond that, we had lots to fly, so there was basically no time to make myself a home.

After 2 months, I had to take some time out to sort my life a little bit more (even with partly fasting).

To make it short: There is still lots to do, and some of my furniture is still in Loki ...

I have a small house here, and Bono has an even smaller garden, compared to his 1/2-acre kingdom in Loki! But on the other hand, he is more relaxed towards Africans, so maybe one day, I can have him patrolling outside with the night guards? Juba is, with regards to security, a typical African City ...

Bono himself has a different problem: The flies here are VERY annoying, “sucking” his ear tips until they are bleeding. I try all kinds of “applications” to avoid that. Any tips?

## Flying ...

... is highly demanded in South Sudan. The few existing roads are unusable or too dangerous (bandits, mines, or flooded). Flights which we can do in a few hours, would take days or even weeks when traveling by road!

3 guesses:  
↓ What is wrong here? ↓



Rainy Season quiz:  
What is behind the hinge?



... has a new Logo, as you can see here!

So far, we had different MAF groups with different logos, although we did the same kind of work - just in different countries. From now on, all MAF groups have only one logo to demonstrate unity.



**Partners of MAF:**

- relief organizations
- local churches
- medical teams
- missionaries

**What do we transport:**

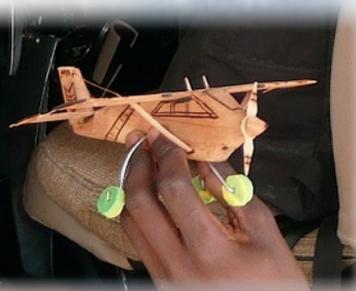
- medicines
- construction material f. clinics
- food items
- borehole drilling equipment
- tools etc.

**Our partners do:**

- medicine + health education
- water purification
- church planting
- fighting malnourishment
- microfinance projects
- reconciliation ministries
- and much more ...

Most of our flights are subsidized, depending on financial ability of the organization. That is why we pilots live 100% from donations, in order to offer our services as cheap as possible.

Without our flights, our partners could not do their ministry!



**Eliudi's airplanes still available!  
Want to support students:**

**Send 70,- € to:**

Gero Gringmuth  
 Netbank AG, Hamburg  
 BRN: 200 905 00  
 Acct.: 72 32 780  
 Subject: Eliudi Charles  
 BIC/ IBAN available on request.

**Thank you much to all!!!**

[Here is](#) the online link!  
(in German, but who cares?)

One day, I had too few seats for all the "joiners" who wanted to catch a ride from Yuai to Mabor. But when I heard that one of the Sudanese would have to travel 12 hours on foot, thereby crossing chest-high rivers, instead of going there with me in 22 min's, I took at least him along.

A woman had been working in "the bush" for 4 months without a break. Most organizations have a max. duty period of 3 months, with one (very much needed!) week of extra holiday. I had only the Co-Pilot's seat left over, which is usually for MAF personnel only. But this time, I would have felt heartless to leave her behind, especially as weight was no factor.

We have to do more and more flights from Juba. As 2 planes with only 2 pilots cannot work in the long run, we are regularly supported by Nairobi colleagues. Would be good to have one or two more pilot families up here permanently.

The unbearable amount of flying demand is a real prayer request, so we an prioritize in a good way.

I still enjoy my work out here. It is much more challenging than in Germany. It may well be that a "dry runway" is reported, and when I get there, I realize that they haven't said how much of the runway is dry ...

In this environment, a pilot is everything: loadmaster, fueller, flight attendant, etc. And when you assume you have already had all possible surprises, a new one comes right away ...

Every year again, stuck in the mud during rainy season. This time, it took me only 10 minutes to get out! It wasn't very helpful, though, that the folding shovel didn't work.

More mud situations (without getting stuck):

-Pakam was very long, so it didn't really matter that my acceleration during the first 300 m was almost zero: soft mud! (As soon as the nose wheel was off the ground, it was fine)

-Pibor: one team was without food, as almost everything has to be air-lifted, but the runway was too soft for many weeks. This time, I could at least land with my 1 t of food on board, even if I couldn't take any of the booked passengers out of there: the runway was still too soft for more weight.

-In Yuai the runway has been "rotated" for about 4°, luckily away from the worst mud.

**<----- Eliudi Charles ...**

... has a wife and 2 beautiful children. I was delighted when I heard that the firstborn is called „Gero Eliudi“!! Quite often, they name their kids after some "important" person ;-)

**South Sudan ...**

... had it's first anniversary! Which was celebrated big - and luckily peacefully. The relationship to Sudan (the "North") is full of tensions. But at least they have found some agreement about the oil, which is the only real income for South Sudan. Because of this missing income, cost-of-living has become dramatically expensive over the last few months - uncomfortable for us, unbearable for many South Sudanese ...

Agriculture is not really know widely: missing know-how, many years of war and the consequences, or it is just below their dignity, as they believe. Training & elucidation could help big time.

Funerals are very important get-togethers, which can easily last for a whole week. Our neighbor covered for such an occasion the road in front of our gate with many tarps to give shade - no cars passable any more. Luckily, the other direction was still open.

**Swahili...**

... is helpful in the (Arabic speaking) South Sudan. Words like „fish“ (=samaki) come from the Arabic (samak). How practical!

**Thank you for your support!!!**

Only as a team, I can manage this job. And you are an important part of it!

If not yet: Do you want to be?

**Greetings & Blessings, Yours**



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