Flight Log

July 2023

PHOTO: MARIJN GOUD

'A gift from above'

First MAF landing at a remote Angolan village completes a 16-year airstrip project

On Wednesday 31 May, Brent Mudde — MAF Pilot and Country Director in Angola — made a historic first landing at Cavango airstrip, a village located 100km from the nearest town. The remote location can now be seen on Google Earth thanks to a 16-year project facilitated by MAF and made possible almost entirely by volunteers.

There were shouts of joyful celebration from dozens who gathered to welcome MAF's Cessna 182 aircraft, which was followed by a larger Cessna 208 Caravan soon after. The second landing delivered medical cargo to the village's isolated clinic as well as carrying a critically ill patient back to Lubango hospital — a two-hour flight that takes 14 hours by land.

Dr Tim Kubaki, who runs the Cavango Medical Clinic said, '[The first medevac patient] had a life-threatening condition and his devoted family travelled for many hours to get him to Cavango. Today, he was loaded into the aircraft — it's truly a gift from above!'

Brent said, 'In December 2007, I stood at the bottom of this hill, and we completed the first survey. It's a project that's taken many donations and volunteers — and today it's a marvellous airstrip. We are so grateful to everyone who has made this happen.'

A colourful dedication ceremony was held at Cavango airstrip on Monday 12 June to celebrate the fact that at least 40,000 people from surrounding villages now have access to emergency medical care, thanks to MAF.

Dr Kubaki concluded, 'MAF gained nothing for themselves by building this airstrip, they built it for the benefit of the people of Cavango.'

Pause for prayer

We thank you, Father, for the incredible privilege of enabling access to isolated communities like Cavango. We pray for many other projects — still to reach completion — which will provide help, hope and healing to those living in hard-to-reach parts of the world long into the future.

MAF podcast

If you've been enjoying the long summer days and taking some exercise — why not tune into MAF's new *Flying For Life Podcast*? Find out about fascinating parts of the world where MAF operates, by visiting www.maf-uk.org/podcast

Looking for an adventure?

Many people think the only way to serve MAF is by being a pilot or an engineer — but that's simply not true! From finance to IT, project management to teaching, MAF has a host of different job opportunities. Visit **www.maf-uk.org/jobs** to find one that could be for you.

MAF UK Castle House, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2TQ
Scotland Office Challenge House, 29 Canal Street, Glasgow G4 0AD
T 01303 852819 **E** supporter.relations@maf-uk.org
www.maf-uk.org
MAF UK @MAFUK MAFUK @flying4life MAFUKFILM

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