



# The WAM Report

From **Wendy And Mike Buchanan**  
Serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators in accounting and member care

October 2007

## Arrival in Yaoundé Cameroon

On July 18th, we arrived in Yaoundé after 18 hours in airplanes. We had uneventful flights except that, when we arrived in Yaoundé, one of our pieces of luggage got lost in Paris. It caught up with us about 10 days later.

Life in the capital city of Yaoundé is much different from our other African experiences. For example, it isn't so hot here with an elevation of 3,000 feet, plus so far no mosquitoes are getting in the house so we don't have to sleep under mosquito nets. The city is much bigger, and the roads are wide with very few potholes. The downside of this is that people drive very fast and are constantly passing each other which ends up making four lanes out of two. Pedestrians crowd the sides of the road and dodge in and out of traffic. Driving is a bit frightening, and since we don't have our own car, we usually take taxis, which thankfully are very inexpensive. A taxi ride only costs about 40 cents, but you have to share it with four other people.



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## What are we doing here?

Michael is the finance manager for the Rain Forest International school (RFIS). He works with several Cameroonian men. Jonah Mabu, who is the school cashier taking in tuition and selling school supplies and books to the students and Norbert Tchoukeu (see the back page), the administrative assistant who buys calculators, cell phones, and whatever the teachers need, as well as dealing with government offices to obtain residence papers for the teachers to be able to work in Cameroon.

The student body is a mix of 7th—12th grade students from all over Central Africa. Although the majority of the students are missionary kids, about 30% of the students are Cameroonians whose parents are not missionaries. It is fun getting to interact with the students. Michael is part of the running club, which runs twice a week. Those in the running club get the privilege of going on the school trip to climb Mount Cameroon—one of Africa's largest volcanoes, which has an elevation of 13,255 feet. The trip takes place in the spring. Michael is also working with another teacher in getting a video-production club started for the high school students.

### Prayer and praise

- We praise God for:
- A nice place to live with lots of children for David and Elizabeth to play with.
  - A great school which the kids are really enjoying.
  - The prayers and financial support of so many which allow us to be serving here.
  - Both RFIS and the elementary school have enough teachers.

### Please pray for:

- Safety as we travel on the roads.
- Health—especially against malaria.
- For wisdom in our relationships cross-culturally with Cameroonians.

## How is running a school related to Bible translation?

RFIS was started in 1991 so that missionaries working in Cameroon and other central African countries would not have to return to the U.S. when their children reached high school age. Thanks for being part of the team with us that is helping to keep Bible translation moving forward here in Cameroon!



Eating fish the Cameroonian way!



I sat five hours for this!

## Some facts about RFIS

- There are 93 students currently enrolled.
- There are teachers from 4 countries.
- There are students from 17 countries.
- Last year, the percentage of students in the AP French class receiving **excellent** results was one of the highest in the world.

## Did you know that...

- Elizabeth and David each have 8 kids in their classrooms at the missionary kid's school.
- Wendy has been the substitute teacher for their school.
- Elizabeth has 18 calluses on her hands from the playground just outside our front door (see photo below.)
- there are about 100 missionary families serving with Wycliffe in Cameroon. They are assisting with the Bible translation work in eighty languages. One hundred languages are still waiting for Bible translation to begin.
- where we are living gets 54 inches of rain per year. Wendy sure will appreciate her clothes dryer when she gets back to the U.S.
- we have tried 5 different mattresses in 3 months for Wendy's back pain and we will finally had our Select Comfort mattress brought by friends flying over from the U.S.



Upside down on the monkey bars.  
Our apartment is in the background.

## Come help build the new RFIS!

A building program for a new school campus is currently under way. Classes presently meet wherever they can find space, including screened verandahs at the school. The new campus will allow ...

**Want to help build it?** Wycliffe Associates has several 3 week construction trips planned in 2008. If you would like more information, you can visit the website at:

<http://wycliffeassociates.org/serviceopps/teamtrips.asp>

Or contact us and we can tell you more.

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Bible Translation,  
Mike & Wendy  
David & Elizabeth*

For financial contributions, please send checks to Wycliffe Bible Translators at the address below. Include a separate note indicating "for the ministry of Mike and Wendy Buchanan." You can also donate online at [www.wamplus.org](http://www.wamplus.org). Thank you!

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