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Dear Friends,

Big events always bring us a larger audience. When the war started I started extending our hourly newscasts. We rebroadcast news from Voice of America, British Broadcasting, and Radio Australia. I had three receivers in the studio so I could use the one that was giving the best coverage. I received many calls from people who were asking when the next news would be on the air. Tonight I got a call from a regular listener thanking me for the war coverage and after a few minutes he said I have to go Unshackled is on and I don't want to miss it.

There are many young people from the FSM in the U.S. military and some are in Iraq. They are eager to learn all they can about what is happening in Iraq because of their relatives who are there which is causing them to listen to our station. We just pray that they will also stay tuned to hear the gospel which is also presented every hour.

I got a phone call this week from a man about 85 years old who has health problems and is confined to his bed. He says he keeps his radio tuned to our station 24 hours a day. He says he can't sleep at night and really enjoys having something good to listen to. I witnessed to this man several years ago and soon after he got saved. He talked to me about what he had heard on several programs and talked about the Bible study programs most.

On April 10, a storm came through the area. The winds were not so high but the rain gave us 15 inches in one day and in one hour we got three inches. That brought flooding to our church and we got four feet inside. Fortunately a church member who lives across the street from the church was able to rescue the electronic piano before the water got to it and I was able to clean the sound system and salvage it. During the storm I took a fall down the concrete steps of the station which caused an infection in my leg. It took me out of commission a couple of days but with the treatment from the doctor the leg is now healing. It may be a while before I can climb the tower again but I am able to use it normally again.

We thank you for your continued prayers as we never know what a day will bring. I was using a tractor in February to prepare the land for installing the ground wires for the antenna system when the Environment Protection Agency came and stopped me because I didn't have a permit. I had obtained one but it had expired. I made the proper application to get a new permit and then appeared before the EPA board a month later. To this time the permit has still not been granted and I was told that the holdup is because they decided to have a public hearing on the issue. The man arranging the public hearing is the same man who is a squatter on adjacent land and had the power to hold up our lease with the government for 12 years. His nephew who has served jail time is on the EPA board.

Many of the young men here work in the pineapple fields in Hawaii. When it comes time to fill out the U.S. income tax they are lost and the U.S. embassy has been recommending that they come and see me. I try to witness to these people in the process of filling out the tax forms. One young couple was here a couple of weeks ago and when I learned where they lived I asked them to visit our Baptist church in their area which is an hour's drive from our location. They accepted my invitation and were in church last Sunday. Please pray that this might result in their accepting the Lord as their Savior.

May 11, 2003, was the first day of the new Congress of the FSM. On this day the president and V.P are chosen from among four of the 14 senators. I was asked by Congress to handle a live broadcast to be aired nationwide by satellite over the government stations on each island as well as our own stations. The broadcast was over two hours and during the half hour the senators were out of the chamber making their leadership selection, I was able to promote all of our Baptist churches on each of the four islands and invite the listeners to attend our services. This is especially helpful at this time as one missionary on Yap has a new church and there is also a new one here on Pohnpei.

In His Service,

*Dave & Ruth Ann*

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