



The View from Up Here

Cleared for Departure to... Indonesia?

As I sat in the chilly conference room, my first thought was, "In-duh-nee-zhuh—that's a funny way to pronounce *Africa*." I was there for the decisive meeting with an MAF committee to assess whether I was a suitable candidate and to decide my future assignment.

In high school, when I first thought about becoming a missionary pilot, I had a friend whose dad worked for MAF. He told me about a few of the programs in Southern Africa, describing countries with rugged and unforgiving terrain where MAF pilots often completed medical evacuations. My imagination was captivated by the thought of getting to do that someday, and now I had a set goal to visualize. I wanted to be a medevac pilot with MAF in Southern Africa!

In May 2024, I underwent a week of maintenance tests and flying evaluations at MAF headquarters in Nampa, Idaho. The instructors who proctored the tests provided no feedback during the process to assess how I handled the stress. Despite making some mistakes, I was invited back for Candidacy in July, when MAF would make a final decision.

Near the end of the two weeks, in that overly air-conditioned conference room, the Candidate Committee members said that MAF was accepting me! They invited me to serve as a pilot/mechanic in Indonesia.



Summer 2024 Candidacy Class, Photo: Chad K.

Although I had always envisioned myself going to Southern Africa, I was open to going wherever I was needed most. I learned that the operations in Indonesia do many of the same things that originally piqued my interest.

The need for MAF in Indonesia is great! Every year, our flights save mission organizations *decades* of travel time, making their ministry that much more effective. MAF flights also provide critical medical support for those regions. Being able to provide those flights in **Jesus' name** is what I am most excited for and can't wait to begin serving overseas!

Nathan

Praise Report:

Praise God for His faithfulness in bringing me to this point in my life!

Prayer Request:

Please pray that the Lord would raise up people who are willing to partner with my ministry with MAF

MAF's Impact in Indonesia

Located in the archipelago between the continents of Australia and Asia, Indonesia is a deceptively large nation. From corner to corner, it is about 500 miles wider than the United States is from San Diego to Maine!

MAF has been in Indonesia since 1952, when operations began on the island of Papua. Many of the people groups are serviced by only one or two unpaved roads, so during the dry season



(June to November), getting to the nearest village may take multiple days of travel with an off-road vehicle. In the wet season



Celebrating the completion of a Bible translation. Photo: Heather M.

(December to May), the roads turn to mud and become impassable. In both cases, **having an aircraft can turn days of travel into a short 15-minute "hop."**

MAF uses aviation to support not only the local church in those remote places, but also outreach to places where a body of believers has not yet been established. The nature of rapid transport can also open up the opportunity to provide medical help in isolated places or bring people to a well-equipped hospital.

You could be a part of this!

To begin serving in Indonesia, I need to build a support team here in the United States. I believe that the Lord has been preparing people who share my desire to see isolated people changed by the love of Christ, and who would be willing to help support that mission.

Prayer

Most importantly, I need people who are willing to pray that the Lord would soften the hearts of the people we serve, so that they may come to know and

Monthly Support

To cover expenses such as salary, housing, and insurance, I need to raise \$7,700/mo.

One-Time Expenses

I need to raise about \$40,000 to cover expenses such as shipping of my belongings, language school, and field flight training.

Would you prayerfully consider partnering with me in this exciting and necessary ministry?

Three Ways to Give



maf.org/dankers
Click 'Donate Now'

208-498-0800
Ask for Donor Services

Please make checks payable to Mission Aviation Fellowship, and note *Dankers, 9171*. Mail to P.O. Box 47, Nampa, ID, 83653

MAF missionaries raise support for a pooled fund out of which MAF covers salary, housing, benefits, and staff-related ministry expenses. MAF exercises discretion over the use of missionary support to carry out its mission and care for its staff.

Mission Aviation Fellowship
P.O. Box 47
Nampa, ID 83653
www.maf.org
208-498-0800



Contact info:

Nathan Dankers 720-550-9509
ndankers@maf.org
maf.org/dankers