

Nicaragua — Monkey Point Project

In Ben's own words, here's how it happened!

In November 2007, Iranian troops landed at Monkey Point, Nicaragua. Their intention was and is to build a dry canal across the country and to create a deep water port near Monkey Point. Iran opened an Embassy in Managua, the capital city of the Nicaragua.

This story was first released in a news article on December 17, 2007. By December 18, 2007, Chris Price and I had our plane tickets to Nicaragua.

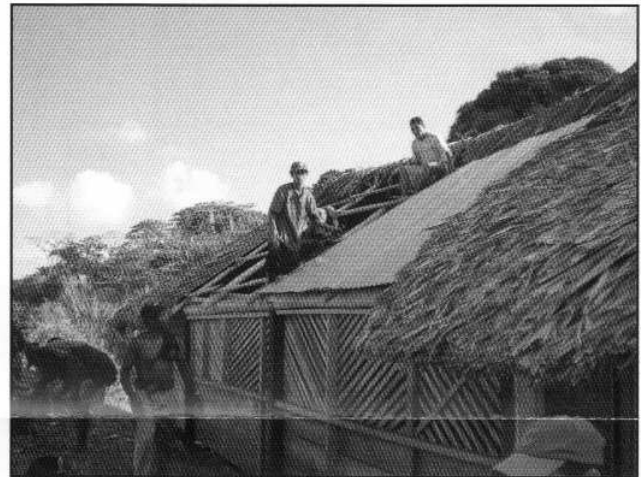
We left for the country on February 25, 2008. Our goals were simple. If Iranian troops were coming to our side of the world, there is good reason to believe that they want to learn more about us and our beliefs! Surely they are coming here to learn about Jesus and it is our responsibility to share Christ with them!

The first challenge is obviously the language barrier! Iranians speak Farsi, and we speak English! Can you see the challenge?

ROW has the answer — our Megavoice solar powered digital Bibles! We are able to provide the story of God in Farsi to the visitors from Iran! Village leaders in Monkey Point now have an inventory of Megavoice audio players in Spanish, English, and Farsi!

The folks at Monkey Point have a few concerns:

- Issues of faith and how to share it have been met by Megavoice, and the good people at Monkey Point will distribute the audio players to Iranians as they arrive and will use them as a way to introduce the



visitors to Jesus and the faith of the folks in the area. We will sure need more Megavoice players and Bibles in Farsi!

- The land around Monkey Point has been the home of the Creole people in the area for generations! By understanding the faith of the people at Monkey Point, it is certain that the visitors from Iran and the government of Nicaragua will respect the rights of the indigenous peoples and their land ownership issues. Forcing indigenous people from their land is no longer an acceptable way to demonstrate a sense of mutual respect.

- The issue of forced "conversion" to a different faith in order to get a job has been raised. The sharing of the Gospel with the visitors from Iran will enable them to more fully respect and appreciate the Christian faith, will equip the visitors from Iran with the ability to export the Christian faith back to Iran, and put everyone at ease about the forced "conversion" question. Iranians need not convert to

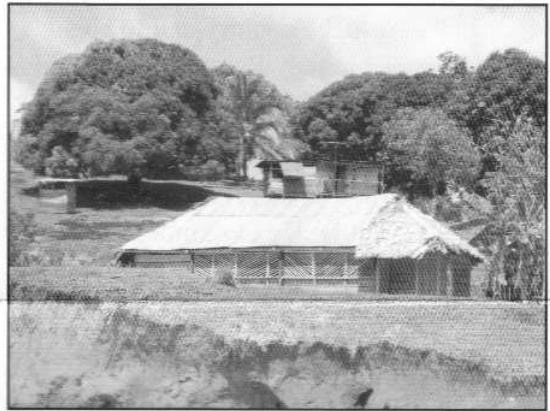
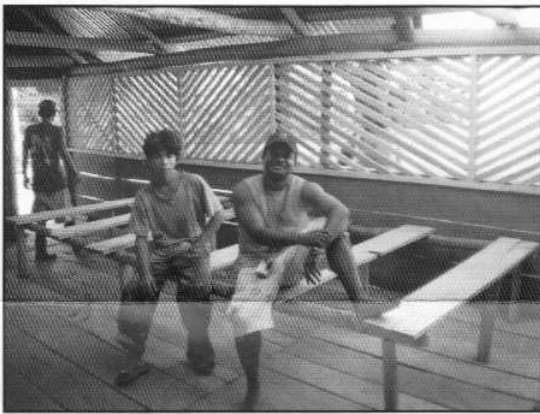
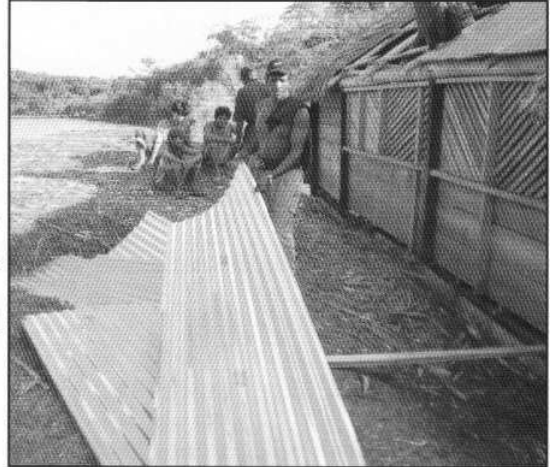
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Monkey Point, continued

Christianity to come to Monkey Point- and the folks at Monkey Point have a faith that they are certain will be respected and enjoyed by the visitors from Iran.

How grateful we are that technology can be used to share the Good News of Jesus across the barriers of language, cultures, and differing faiths! Please pray for the folks at Monkey Point as they prepare to minister to the visitors from Iran and feel free to visit them. Contact me at ben@row.org for details!

God bless- Ben Mathes



Come to the Dominican Republic!!

ROW has a variety of needs in the Dominican Republic — a lovely place to come and serve!

ROW needs volunteers to come and spend one to two months, or even up to a year in the DR teaching English and working in the medical/dental clinic. You can work on your Spanish speaking skills while you're there! We also need pastors to come and teach Bible and preaching skills to new pastors.

ROW needs youth ministers to come and meet with leaders and pass along creative ideas and provide training. These can be either long or short-term opportunities.

ROW also needs supplies: educational packets (there is a school of 400 children, all of whom need supplies: pencils, paper, crayons/markers, rulers, etc); books in English or Spanish; medical supplies; health kits for families (with toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, comb/brush, anti-itch medicine, Tylenol, etc); clothing, and sewing supplies.

The local trade school has a 14-month program where students can learn welding, sewing, and other job skills. It costs only \$500 for food, housing, transportation, supplies, and the education! Can you help send a student to school so they can get a job?

This is a wonderful opportunity. Interested? Contact Drew@row.org.

A dream is becoming a reality!

There is a clinic being built at the base of several mountains.

Looking up the mountainside is a checkerboard of small plots, staggeringly steep, that grow sugarcane, bananas and coffee. The 24,000 people that live in these remote villages scattered throughout the mountain slopes surrounding the central Honduran town of Taulabe are campesinos - subsistence farmers. They live a hard scrabble, scratch-it-out, isolated life.

The challenges faced by these communities are many. A major challenge is access to health care.

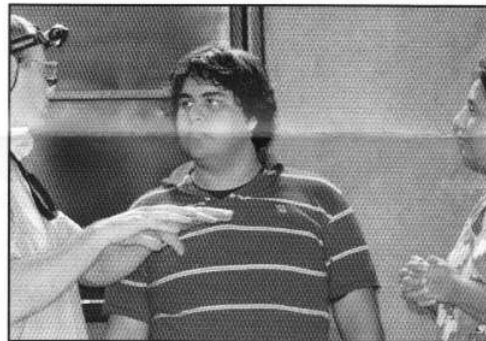
Imagine being sick, in pain and walking 10 miles down a steep mountain road then waiting in the blazing sun for a passing bus to take you on a 2 hours trip to get medical care. Infant and child mortality soars; adult life expectancy plummets; treatable diseases both routine and more complex go undiagnosed; unnecessary suffering and deaths continue.

But there's a clinic that has been long in the making. A clinic in Honduras envisioned years ago by Honduran born physician Javier Sevilla Mártir and his friends, Reverend Israel Gonzalez and his wife Dra. Floripe Hernandez de Gonzales.

Together they dreamed of creating a place of health and healing to those most in need. They dreamed of bringing health care providers from different countries and different disciplines together to learn from each other and to give back. They dreamed that others would hear about this clinic and want to play a part. They dreamed of land enough for a clinic site, dormitory housing, nutrition education, gardening and job retraining.

That dream is becoming a reality, thanks to volunteers like the team from Hampden-Sydney College, who went to the Honduras in January 2008 to help build the medical clinic.

Can you help ROW fulfill this dream?



Mark your Calendars!

On October 11, 2008, ROW friends and supporters will gather for our annual fundraising dinner and we will be honored to have Lt. General Jerry Boykin speak and minister to the group about his experiences and his passion for sharing the Word of God.



LTG (Ret) Jerry Boykin was one of the original members of the US Army's Delta Force. He was privileged to ultimately command these elite warriors in combat operations. Later, Jerry Boykin commanded all the Army's Green Berets as well as the Special Warfare Center and School. In his thirty-six years in the army, LTG Boykin also served a tour with the CIA. He has participated in clandestine operations around the world and served his last four years in the Army as the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence. Today he is an ordained minister with a passion for spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ and encouraging Christians to become Warriors in God's Kingdom.

You can learn more about his ministry at <http://www.kingdomwarriors.net/>. Tickets will be limited and purchase information can be obtained by e-mailing '3' at 3@row.org or by calling 850-832-6377.

Order your tickets today! This is one event you won't want to miss!

ROW

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Rivers of The World (ROW) is a not-for-profit Christian ministry that targets remote river basins. Our goal is to serve with people who live in these river basins and those we serve determine our projects. We ask them what makes up their greatest challenges and covenant with them to meet and overcome those challenges together

ROW emphasizes that it is their country, their village, their culture, but our problem. Our goal is to serve in an atmosphere of mutual concern and respect.

ROW projects run the gamut of human, physical and spiritual needs. Academics, research, education and medical/dental concerns go hand in hand with church planting, construction, evangelism and Bible distribution.

ROW is involved throughout the globe and volunteers are welcome to assist in the implementation of ROW mission projects.