

[Transcript begins on Page 17 of McCully Journal]

History of Auca Work

9/19/55 Nate + I made a survey going down Nushino almost to mouth – cutting north toward Napot reaching houses just south of Suno + Coca pungus.

9/29/55 On trip to Villano houses spotted 15 minutes away from here. These two finds so close together (in time) seem to be an encouragement from God to proceed.

10/6/55 First drop made to one of these houses. (a small aluminum kettle with bag of salt trailed by colorful ribbons). Drop landed on the beach between big house + river. Not a soul in sight. Windy and took $\frac{1}{2}$ hr to get it down good.

10/14/55 Second drop. Machete wrapped in canvas and colorful ribbons. This time drop made at house further up river and A's appeared. First one men, then several + then a bunch. They stood in group, around 3 canoes by edge of water waiting for the drop as it came down over...

[Page 18]

....their head. It hit the water (the machete) + as soon as it did, one man was in the water right now after it. Then they stood in a group and opened it. (evidently! Hard to make out exact action from 2000 feet! Binoculars help greatly!) Praise the Lord! Fear seems to be absent + they seem to get the idea of a gift. What a privilege it would be to preach Christ to them. Men right out of the stone age hearing about Jesus in the 20th century.

10/21/55 Third drop: aluminum kettle full of trinkets – combs, shigra, thread, string, matches, glass bottle + beads. This kettle blew off on first try and went sailing into the forest. We had to tie on a machete [sic] and lower it right to them. They were waiting – a bunch 10-12 of them. They had to cut it off the line. They may have tried to tie something on but it may have broken off. During maneuver they were showing us something red that may have been some kind of skin or hide. We then went down low + threw them a bunch of ribbons + bandages. Noise of motor may have scared them. They all went inside. I yelled "Kuri" to them. This may have scared them – at any rate as we went higher they came out again.

Real excitement when they got hold of the line of macheti [sic]. Hope they get idea of return gift.

[Page 19]

10/29/55

Returned from Villano with Jim. I stayed + Elliot made the trip. They put low powered loud speaker on plane. Tested here and Quichua Indians heard clearly from airplane when motor was turned off. Voice but no words audible with motor on. On reaching the sight they toured the houses but principally the main one giving out phrases – “We are friends, trade us for a macheti” [sic] etc. No fear today amongst some. Some of them run inside. They then let down a tied-on-macheti and also a small basket with hopes of exchange: The Indians cut off machete + basket; nothing tied on. Then the base rope was let down; They cut off a piece of rope. Then the rope was hauled in. During this time one man (chief?) strutted around with the new machete and last weeks pillow case around him ???? Then the plan went down low (no running away today) and threw out a kettle full of combs – beads – buttons – and one yellow shirt. A scramble followed. Man strutting with pillow case dropped it + got into scramble. One man emerges with yellow shirt tied around him. Waving to plane by all. Sometime during this one man ran into house and brought out machete lance.

[Page 20]

11/5/55

Nate and I left Arajuno at 9:30, returned approx. 11:10. Today we used same loudspeaker as before with new microphone and mouthpiece to cut out motor noise. Much better hearing – more power. I used phrases which mean – “I love you” – “We are going to give you a pot” and “we are going to give you a machetii” and also Quichua phrases “we are your friends” “we love you” “we have come to salute you” “don’t be afraid.” No fear manifested but rather a delighted spirit some jumping + waving – perhaps understanding? Their naked red bodies to be nearer + closer today. Possibly because Nate says we were down lower than before. After speaking to them we threw out a pot with: beads – all aluminum tazon – combs – buttons – ribbon - + one bright pink shirt. Pot landed in banana trees just to east of house and it took about 30 seconds for one guy to appear with shirt tied on – jumping and waving of hands. I forgot to mention that before throwing pot and after speaking I reached out + waved both hands widely at them. They did the same + waved back.

We then went up and tied on machete wrapped in canvas with red + yellow tape + white bandages. (Note: This 4th machete. 3 have been wrapped in canvas + 1 one white pillow case). Good drop once again. Today it landed in chogra [?]. Today there were at least 15 there...

[Page 21]

... immediately. Macheti was stripped and it shone in the sun. After another circle we left.

Observations + feelings: No fear manifest today even when plane was down low. No running inside or away. Most stood under banana trees while lowering machete – possibly because of sun. The plane gets close but somehow one longs to get closer. No sign of malice or anger. No lances seen. If there was a ladder down from the plane to them it would seem a good and safe things to go amongst them.

*One man jumped into the river and seemed to be doing some sort of antics. Not exactly the time for a bath??