

*June*  
**J F BRANDON BAPTIST MISSIONARY**  
**Cruzeiro do Sul, Acre, Brazil, South America**

*1942*  
Wheaton Ill  
June 1942

**MISSIONARY BRANDON ARRIVES IN BRAZIL**

Missionary J F Brandon arrived in Belem, Para, Brazil at the mouth of the Amazon river at 9:00 PM Thursday May 14 1942. Since he left Miami Fla on Saturday May 9 1942 we have received two letters from him by air mail. We are happy to send both of them to you.

Port of Spain  
Trinidad  
May 13 1942

Dear Loved Ones and Friends, Brethren in the Lord Jesus our Saviour grace, mercy and peace be multiplied unto you all through Jesus Christ our Lord. He who is King of the nations has no less concern in the progress of the kingdom of heaven than in the movement among the various powers of earth wherein we are involved. He in whose hands our times are is guiding our destiny after the counsel of His own will and there is none that can stay His hand or say unto Him "What doest Thou?" Behold he ever liveth to intercede in behalf of His little ones. He careth for you.

I embarked in Miami on the morning of the 9th of May. Everything that had been planned was carried out in detail as we had planned it. There was nothing lacking, the Lord had made every provision and the days journey was so pleasant. We were served with a very nice dinner on board the plane, each passenger was given a lunch box filled with the most delicious food. Our plane carried 28 passengers and 4 officers. Before our departure 11 passengers had to give up their seats to government men who were being sent to various parts. Our plane traveled at the rate of 180 miles an hour and at an altitude of 10 500 feet. It was a four motor plane, yet the noise from the motors was not disturbing, and the vibration even less than a Greyhound bus.

Flying above the clouds and observing the land and sea from such an altitude was indeed a novelty for me and I enjoyed it immensely. So many are the glories of nature that can only be appreciated on such an occasion that I find my words incomplete to describe the thrill of my soul as I flew over the land and sea, held fast in the hand of the Master of creation, for He it is who has "All power IN HEAVEN and in earth" and it was He who said "Go ye and preach the gospel to every nation" Matt 28:18-20.

We arrived at Port Prince in the Island of Haiti at 1:40 PM, left some passengers and took on others and refueled the plane, 30 minutes delay. The afternoon journey was as fascinating as that of the forenoon. I observed the skillfulness of the pilots in taking off and landing the plane. These men are truly competent, the engineer being a master mechanic. The steward saw that everyone was well served at all times and everybody seemed to be so happy. The compartments were made for four passengers, it so happened that I had for companions three gentlemen who had never been in the air before. After we had asked one another questions with no good effect I went and stood as near the pilot as was allowed and there made friends with the engineer who told me more about flying than I had ever imagined. He pointed out so many objects of interest and told of so many of his experiences that the day was gone before I realized it. We arrived at Maracaibo, Venezuela at 6:30 PM.

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After disembarking we went directly to the hotel where we were to spend the night. As soon as possible I had supper and went to bed, my room was so hot, yet there was nothing to do lay still and soon I was asleep and the next morning I was so refreshed that I was anxious to start all over again. This time however we were to embark on a land plane which had flown from Southern California down through Mexico and Central America being enroute for Trinidad. This plane could accomodate only 21 passengers but in some respects it was nicer than the one the day before. It was Sunday, the day was beautiful and everything was so interesting and new. We made five stops, each being of great interest to me, there were so many people who seemed willing to answer questions and I saw that some of them were busy a good deal of the time. Our days flight was over cattle ranches, oil fields, farming sections, tropical forests and mountains, the gorges of which seemed to be without bottom while their peaks were rugged and high. Our altitude for the day was between three and nine thousand feet and the officers no less skilled than those of the day before. It was indeed a most enjoyable overland journey. We arrived at Port of Spain, Trinidad at 6:30 PM.

Port of Spain is a city of no less than eighty thousand, apparently a good commercial movement, the principal city of Trinidad and very beautiful. Originally it was controlled by the French and most of the architecture is of French design, however for many years it has been under the control of the English. Trinidad has a large population of West Indies Negros which furnish cheap labor for raising sugar which I understand is the principal industry. Some other things I feel could be successful, I think such as chicken raising, for eggs are selling in the stores at 65 cents a dozen.

There are many beautiful buildings, very large and stately, among them are a number of churches, some of which I could visit for a few minutes in passing. So far I have not contacted a Baptist church, the nearest to one was a small Plymouth Brethren meeting house, the others being Roman Catholic, Church of England and Church of Scotland. There are ever so many east Indians here, some of which sell jewelry in the streets, bracelets and necklaces of the oriental type, interesting but very costly. I met one in the street yesterday who was dressed after the fashion of his own country, he tried to sell me a bracelet, I don't know why but the way he talked and what he was selling made me think of the servant of Abraham. I think he was a Hindoo and when I didn't buy anything from him he didn't have time to hear a word of the gospel.

I was unable to make the plane on the 11th as had been planned, it being the will of our Heavenly Father for me to remain, as yet I do not know why but it is well, Praise God from whom all blessings flow. You see they set me out for a direct journey and the expenses of the Hotel will be for the Airways Co. I do not object to that for I feel that they are better able to pay that than I. He prepareth a table for me, my cup runneth over; yes he who feeds the sparrows feeds his servants too, the Lord has access to the hearts of all, He may use one or another, at any rate the need is supplied from some source and the giver is happy to give. The way of the Lord is higher and more sublime than the mind of man has ever fancied. Isa 55:8-9.

I hope to get away in the morning and if so we will take off at 6:30 AM and the Lord willing will arrive in Balem the same day. I have written the way I have because I was requested to do so by more than one person.

Yes I was forgetting to say, I had the pleasant surprise in Miami. Bro and Mrs Warfield, missionaries to the Indians in the upper Amazon Valley of Brazil came walking into the Airway Company office while I was there waiting to be served. I was very happy to see them again and to know that they too are soon to fly on their return to Brazil, being in Miami now awaiting a plane. It is possible we will arrive there about the same time and travel together up river as far as Manaus. They have a fine baby boy born since I last saw them.

Lest the work of the Lord should be hindered and his servants remain inactive I urgently request all of you who love Him and the promotion of the truth to pray that open doors may be given us and that power from on high may come upon us and that we will not be able to contain ourselves because of the inspiration of the Word of the Lord and His blessed and Holy Spirit, so that the result will be the salvation of a multitude of lost sinners.

I count not my life dear to myself but my earnest prayer to GOD is that I may be sacrificed in body and mind so that many may come to know the Lord Jesus as their own personal Saviour and be born again. I know that the sacrifice is great and I would not have it be lessened, rather that GOD will give me grace and help me to endure hardships as a good soldier of Jesus Christ to whom be the honor and the glory and the praise for ever and ever, amen. Now may the things that are better and really worth while in life be yours through Jesus Christ our Saviour and if death should overtake any, may there be no dread or fear but peace be multiplied to any such, by Jesus our Lord. Faithful is the Lord Jesus our Master and faithful let us all try to be.

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Belem, Para, Brazil May 19 1942

Dear Loved Ones and Friends in the Homeland:

May the peace of GOD our heavenly Father that passes understanding, together with His mercy, love and amazing grace be the daily portion of each of you who sincerely love the truth, the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. You wonder why I have not written sooner, I wrote a detailed letter from Miami and Port of Spain but since arriving here I have not been able to write until today. I felt a bit weary from the journey and thought I would do well to wait a day or two.

Arriving at Port of Spain I found everything very comfortable indeed far more than I had expected. The people were so very nice to me and it is such an interesting place. I was there from Sunday night until Thursday morning. I went to prayermeeting on Wednesday night but arrived just at the close of the services and after talking to some of the people I concluded that it was just as well late as early.

I was unable to sleep that night and arose early to take the plane which had been held up from the day before on account of rain, came in late. My emparking again came in question by the traffic manager who is a Roman Catholic, that may also explain why other of the Lord's servants are held up there without cause, however I had the advantage for I had been with the Lord and knew that all was well and so it was. Some of you may ask yourself why I had to remain there four nights when our prayer had been to let us through without delay. My honest convictions are as follows: "The Lord will have us to recognize that He is  
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GOD and to be still before Him and to wait patiently before Him until He sees His work of submission complete in our hearts, then He will act and act quickly." We were having some terrible storms last week and travel in some places was very uncomfortable. Well after embarking we run well for an hour or more but then run into a tropical storm and the journey became very rough, the pilot went up to avoid as much of it as possible and did to a great extent but the altitude he gained was trying on me, he must have exceeded 15 000 feet, but it was for a short time only for we were nearing St George where some passengers were to remain. Going down again through the storm we found it rough but the landing was a very skillful one.

We were there for about half an hour and by that time the storm had passed and the journey on to Belem was very delightful indeed, we arrived at nine PM thus finishing a peaceful and miraculous journey, the actual time spent in flight was about 19 hours. That does not include the time spent in ports; we made 10 stops in all. I had written to one of the brethren here that I would be here on the 11th of May and they were worried about my not coming. They had made two trips to the airport to meet me, then decided it better to wait. When I arrived the man who examines the baggage said "Oh you are the minister that is expected" I replied "I am" and he said "You need not open your bags we have orders about you". The other passengers looked on in amazement, they had rushed in first and I had waited until last, however it was a great surprise to me as it was to them. You see the chief of this department is a Presbyterian and when he knew that I was coming he did this without being requested, again the hand of GOD was seen. The way prepared by the Lord may have rough places but in the end all is peace and safety. Praise Him from whom all blessings flow, Jesus our Lord and King.

By the time I arrived at a hotel, I was weary, more nervous than I had thought, again I was unable to sleep but by morning I felt better and was up to meet some friends who came early to see me. After having prayer with them I felt relieved and was sleepy, so I spent most of two days and nights sleeping. By Sunday I felt well and went to worship at the First church, I enjoyed meeting the brethren once more, some changes of course, one old preacher had passed on, a new missionary had arrived and there seemed a lot of things to talk about. It was announced that I would preach in the evening service and the Lord was there with us in great power, the house was full and such a service as it was. As I spoke to them I felt my soul lifted far higher than I had been as I flew through the heavens on my way down here. I had spent the day with the new missionary and for the short acquaintance, like him very much indeed.

On Monday morning the pastor came to visit me, we had prayer together and the Lord drew very near. In the afternoon I went to visit brother Lima a friend and brother of many years. I was invited there for dinner tomorrow and to the pastors today. I do not know how long I will be here, perhaps several days, the boat I had thought of going on left the day before I arrived. I may have to remain until the 28th of the month. There are a great number of army men here and everything is much higher than it was and somethings cannot be had, seems as though it will be higher still. I must hurry to post this letter so that you will receive it soon. I hope that you are all well and happy and enjoying the blessings of the Lord in abundance. GOD bless you all and keep you useful and happy in His service is my prayer at all times. Grace from the Lord Jesus be with you all, Amen.

Sincerely,

(Signed) J F Brandon

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MAY

Dear Brother Overbey: I submit the following report of receipts for the month of May 1942 for missions:

Hopewell Baptist Church..Trigg County Ky.....	\$ 6.50
Womac Baptist Church..Centralia Ill (Eld C A Smith).....	6.00
South Union Baptist Church..Cadiz Ky.....	9.50
First Baptist Church.....Wheaton Ill.....	70.05
Harmony Baptist Church.....Detroit Mich.....	47.75
A Friend....." " .....	1.00
Donald Grollimund.....Wheaton Ill.....	1.00
Carl Vining....." " .....	2.00
Edward Overbey....." " .....	1.00
Donald Overbey....." " .....	1.00
Naomi Franz....." " .....	1.00
Ruth Hughey....." " .....	1.00
Frances Meyer....." " .....	1.00
Ralph Claybaugh....." " .....	4.00
John Phenix....." " .....	1.00
Dale Overbey....." " .....	1.00

Total \$154.80

(Signed) Z E Clark

WOMAC BAPTIST CHURCH

Brother C A Smith the pastor of Womac Baptist Church, Centralia Ill wrote on May 4 1942: "I have been receiving your letters in regard to Brother Joe Brandon's mission work. Of course I have known Brother Brandon all the way along and think that he is doing a very good work in a most needy field. So on last Wednesday night our Church here voted to have a part in the work which he is doing. This gave my heart a great deal of joy," Thank you beloved and may we hear of similar action of other Churches that are considering this matter.

THE CLARION

THE CLARION is published monthly at Fulton Miss. Brother A M Overton is the Editor and Brother Rupert Powell is the Associate Editor. The May issue told of Brother Brandon's visit to the Churches in Mississippi and the June issue gives good space telling of Brother Brandon's departure and other information regarding his work. The subscription price of this good Baptist paper is only 50¢ a year. May the Lord lay it upon the hearts of Editors of other papers to help as THE CLARION is doing. We are thankful for the \$1 sent by Mrs W Hickman, Fresno Cal to help in getting out these monthly sheets about the mission work in Brazil.

PRAY AND GIVE

Brother Brandon Left Benton Ky on May 5th with \$205 with which to pay his way to Miami Fla--boat passage for 3500 miles from Belem to Cruzeiro do Sul--and to live on for about 3 months. How much do you think he will have when he gets there? On May 5th Sister Brandon had \$101. She has to pay rent, buy clothes and food, pay doctor bills and other expenses for herself and five children. To adequately support these servants of God the need is \$250 a month. Let us pray and give. Send offerings to Elder Z E Clark

5216 Concord Ave  
Detroit Mich.

H H Overbey

Belem, Para, Brazil May 25 1942

Dear Loved Ones Family and Friends: May the grace of the Lord Jesus be multiplied unto you all, and all that is worthwhile in life for your happiness, usefulness and prosperity be yours with the peace that passeth the knowledge of man through the amazing grace of Jesus our Lord and Saviour, Amen. PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW, Amen.

I went yesterday and bought passage for Manaos and if the Lord wills I will embark Thursday May 28th and will perhaps arrive there on June 5th. I notice quite a few changes since my return. The work in Para is about as it was, a new missionary, new methods for organizing but no more preaching of the Word of the Lord, for which the people are starving.

The Federal Government has advised the Indian Missionaries that they can no longer work among the Indians. They are not yet certain as to how they will proceed. I hope they will unite their efforts in soul winning among the Brazilians. In the State of Para there are only 360 Baptists which go to make up the membership of 9 churches, while the State of Amazonas is but little better, at present I do not know the number of believers or churches. Acre of course still less.

Now you who love the Lord and His Gospel, remember His own admonition to you to "Pray to the Lord of the harvest, that He will thrust forth laborers into His harvest." And that the ones who are here already may be overcome by divine power and no longer count their own lives dear to themselves but with unequalled zeal go forth receiving nothing from the Gentiles, preaching the gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven and the value of the blood of the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus to cleanse the sinner and complete him before GOD when received by faith.

I do not know how long I must remain in Manaos but am trusting the Lord to guide me in the way. I find everything to be ever so much more expensive now than when we passed through last year. I am so glad my family is there, living is cheaper there than here and better too. I understand that you will have to have permission from the Government to send money to me. It will be well for Brother Clark to talk to the Banker about it. I think all that will be required is for his Church to request the bank to send the desired amount to be used only for mission work. And if you think best to send a Cashier's check in the air mail, just ask the Lord to send it in safety and without delay and He will do so I believe. I preached Sunday night at the Church in Pedreiro the Lord was with us and we were all blessed. I had forgotten I was to go call on the pastor this morning, so I will have to close this and write more later.

If anyone drinks ice water here it will cost them a half cent a glass or that is the price but the truth is they never have the change do the cost is usually one cent or two glasses of water. This reminds me of giving a glass of cold water to one because he is of the Lord Jesus. I hope you are all well and happy. Write me at Manaos. So far I have not heard from anyone but will expect to hear when I arrive there next month. GOD bless you all and keep you all from sin and help you to do all that is just and right, to the glory of his own great Name, Amen

Sincerely

(Signed) J F Brandon

This letter from Brother Brandon came today (June 10th)