

Their Mind, Eyes, and Ears  
By Woody M. Collins  
Congo Helping Hands, Inc.  
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*"But to this day, the LORD has not given you a mind to understand, or eyes to see, or ears to hear." Deuteronomy 29:4*

I had hopes of flying from Kananga to Kinshasa on Friday aboard the United Nations Mission in Congo (MONUC) flight. The UN flight to Kinshasa takes about 7 hours instead of about 2 hours aboard a commercial flight. The flight starts in Kinshasa, southeast to Kananga (500 miles), east to Kalemie (500 miles), southwest to Kamina (350 miles), southeast to Lubumbashi (250 miles), and then northwest back to Kinshasa (1000 miles). It is a free ride without food, movies, and frequent flyer miles. However, I was bumped from the flight by higher priority people. So I got to spend an extra day with my friend Jim, a local Congolese businessman who returned to Congo after getting degrees from Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina.

After purchasing my ticket, Jim and I went back to his house for a late breakfast. Jim was glad to talk about and use his microwave. He had bought it about a year ago but had not used it until he moved to his current house about 3 weeks ago. His old house did not have enough electricity to power the microwave. But his new house had plenty of electricity since it is across the street from the train station in Kananga. He told this story about his first time using it in front of Justin, his house handyman. Jim and his wife had returned home from working and attending to business affairs. As usual, Justin was ready to start the charcoal to heat their food on the stove. Jim told him that would not be necessary because of the microwave. He told Justin to watch it work. He put the food in, closed the door, and started the timer. Justin saw the light and heard the buzzing but saw nothing moving or no fire. DING! Jim took the food out and to Justin's amazement, it was steaming hot. Justin's eyes and ears were opened to a new thing, a microwave. But it will be a while before Justin's mind will understand it. As new things are introduced, Congolese will need educational resources to open their minds as well.

Thanks for your continued prayers and support. If you would like to know more about our education programs, please contact me. Together we can make a difference.

DING! I am finished here for now. I will be traveling back to the Indianapolis on Tuesday.

Blessings,

Woody M. Collins  
President  
Congo Helping Hands  
"Strengthening the Heart of Africa"

(317) 698-7643 USA  
(243) 812813597 DR Congo

[WMCollins@CongoHelpingHands.org](mailto:WMCollins@CongoHelpingHands.org)  
[www.CongoHelpingHands.org](http://www.CongoHelpingHands.org)