




# ◆ The “Scoop” on the Scotts ◆

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## Connecting The Disconnected

Each week the sound of Jacob’s motorbike could be heard as he neared the end of the hot, dusty, nine-mile ride to his brother’s house. There, Jacob would sit on a stone bench and aim his laptop towards the cell tower in his line of sight, trusting there would be enough of a signal to send and receive email. His email wasn’t your typical staying-in-touch-with-friends message though. Instead he sent pages of his latest work on the translation of the Old Testament in his own language of Mwaghavul to Bob, his USA-based translation consultant. The following week, Jacob would retrace his journey to his brother’s house and back to receive Bob’s emailed response with suggestions to improve the translation.

Today, Jacob can sit in the Mwaghavul project translation office and send email to Bob each day without ever leaving his desk! Instead of connecting to the internet via the cell tower in his brother’s village, he connects via a geostationary satellite, using a BGAN (Broadband Global Area network) terminal that works anywhere. Power to operate the 8” x 10”



satellite terminal, shown here, comes from the small gasoline generator that also powers his laptop. Now, when he emails another draft of

the Old Testament passage he’s been working on, he can check back later that day or the next and probably find a response in his inbox. This quick feedback allows him to improve his translation and move quickly on to the next passage. The Mwaghavul people will have the Old Testament in the language that best speaks to them sooner rather than later! Evolving technology will have contributed greatly to the speed and also to the quality of the translation.

Several mission organizations are working in partnership to provide cutting-edge technology to build the capacity of mother-tongue translators such as Jacob and accelerate the work of Bible translation. Jacob’s satellite connection was provided by a Wycliffe Associates team working in partnership with The Seed Company, the Nigeria Bible Translation Trust, and the SIL technical team which Hank leads. Over one hundred translation teams worldwide are using this new technology now, including the teams that Hank reported on in prior newsletters, email and website updates during the last two years. You, too, have been an vital link in this partnership through your prayer and financial support. Thank you for helping to speed Bible translation for the remaining 2000+ languages still needing it.

*In HIS Service,*

*Hank & Krista*

### ***Thank you for remembering us in prayer!***

◆ We, along with a number of my coworkers, are low on support. The lack of sufficient funding distracts us from doing the kind of things that helped Jacob and thus, slows the progress of Bible translation. Please pray that as we begin to focus on building and strengthening our team of partners (you!), God would lead others to join us in this ministry. You make it possible for us to serve in our God-given ministry through your encouragement, prayers and financial support. We will be sharing more about this in future letters, but if you want to know more now about joining our team or acting as an advocate for us with those you know, please contact us or see our website: [www.hankscott.net](http://www.hankscott.net)

◆ We thank the Lord for an answer to our prayers investigating an assignment in Africa. His answer was that we should **not** go at this time. We are disappointed but we recognize God’s sovereignty in this matter. This door may still open in the future, in the Lord’s timing.

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For financial gifts, on a separate piece of paper indicate: *For the ministry of Hank & Krista Scott*