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NARRATIVE REPORT OF BUTOKE: JANUARY TO DECEMBER 31, 2017

(Translated on Google/ Itranslate)

BUTOKE ACTIVITIES

This choice of areas of activity is dictated by the frequency of violations of these specific human rights by community members.

Post-conflict support for vulnerable children and young people.

As the ancient sages say, education is not only the major weapon to promote the social status of the individual and his family, but also for the development of the whole community. The education sector is now officially recognized as not giving practical skills in reading, writing, arithmetic, nor understanding of citizenship, morality and lifestyle. We have developed our own school in two places. In the meantime, we are trying to compensate for the shortcomings of existing schools by sending teachers and heads of schools to training.

We have many children that we support in our schools, vulnerable girls and boys, whose parents died in the war. Others prepare the TENAFEP, national exam for primary students (35 girls and 43 boys), but cannot afford either the costs of the courses or the costs of the examinations at the end of the primary cycle. Our schools in Tshikaji opened as expected. The enormous difficulty is the demand for school fees, which is much compared to the current situation in the province that comes out of the war and inability of families to meet their own primary needs. Many families have kept their children at home. Our Tshimbundu Primary School was burned by militias. The trend of the United Nations and bilateral and international NGOs that came to Central Kasai focused on the distribution of dry food.

This special year when families are returning to the village and do not know for sure who died and who is alive, we support 348 vulnerable primary school students, 178 high school students in general, 54 medical, and 13 at the University level. Really, we ask God of heaven to enrich the pockets of our brothers and sisters who shared with us this time of torment never experienced in this province that has bereaved many families.

Protection of Human Rights

War, we have always heard about war, but today lived, is a very bad thing. We were saved because of your prayers and support. The war started 135 kilometers away, and we, Butoke, became foster families, most of us restored to our homes. In any case, Dr. Cecile DeSweemer is a truly impossible and formidable missionary, who initiated us all to share our goods in difficult times with those who came in this direction. Our center was transformed into the hospital and the maternity center for war refugees. As the war advanced towards us, Cecile gathered us in meeting and told us: "Share all with everyone, according to his experience." For once in my life, I stayed with pants and panties after distributing everything with the initiative of Cecile

In the meantime, the war advanced towards us with the response of the bombardments of weapons of all kinds never seen, never heard. We were the only ones to have houses as modest and presentable, and the young people were the target. Dr Jean decided to evacuate all our orphans to the city center, 18 kilometers from our home of Tshikaji in our health center Musue Bantu. Dr. Cecile refused, saying that the city would be the target, but then agreed to join the orphans because our home had become the target. Two weeks later, the war arrived downtown. Where will we go now? And Cecile looks at me without saying anything, because it is God who protects. We did not lose the members of our team during the war. Our neighbors in the village lost a lot of theirs and others the whole family. Your prayers helped us.

Orphaning or hosting center of refugees of the year

All orphans have escaped this deadly scourge. Some are in the rising classes and others at the end of primary or secondary cycles and the elders at the university. They have just started the second trimester exams, and may have the Easter holidays at the end of the exam session. All the children are grouped together in Tshikaji except some who decided to stay in town and stayed with two of our workers who take care of them. This stay in the city center was very popular with the children because they could find the adults who in the past took care of them.

Upon our return to Tshikaji, the children had the chance to play freely in the big center and the fields and ponds of Butoke. This has also allowed them to participate in new activities, such as raising fish and also raising pigs, which is almost a mystery to them.

Our orphanage is out of place because all the children whose parents are dead have been able to find shelter at the Butoke orphanage and many stay with the host families and only come to eat, study and get treatment. In addition to 24 former resident children, we accepted 17 new children who do not have relatives, and by fleeing the war, ended up in Tshikaji, so we have a total of 41 resident children and 53 children living with families of welcome and spend the whole day with us. Of our 18 vulnerable children who live in the area and have parents without means, we have taken care of their studies and food; 37 other children of this type have been added and in total we have 55 children.

The future of ex-military children

For the first time, a large number of ex-militia children are accepted into our school because they are rejected by all, even their own families, for the significant damage to property and lives that they have caused even to their own families. We agreed to put these children in our schools, the only chance to see them change and be accepted again in society, which would reduce the degree of their wickedness, a danger to all. We have put these children in the midst of others and we have raised in them the love of God; love for themselves and the love of others; respect for common property such as schools, benches, books, dispensaries, hospitals, churches, water springs, respect for parents, the property of others. We are showing them that the war does not build. Although it takes a lot of time and effort, we are seeing a change and hope that with the help of God and the help of their respective families, we will succeed in transforming these children.

We continue to conduct our own case-by-case fight against causal agents of disputes among people such as: rape, theft, embezzlement, lack of loan repayment, fraud or adultery with a married woman. In each case, we insist on the truth, the protection of life and the notion of tolerance, forgiveness, the culture of peace and reconciliation in the image of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Right to the inheritance for widows and orphans

We live in a province where the patrimonial regime reigns. That means that all the children and the property belong to the family of the daddy after the death of dad, especially if this marriage was not registered in the Civil Registry. Meanwhile, many people, relatives, neighbors and friends have died. Butoke has spent a lot of energy to protect the rights of orphans and widows at the time of mourning against humiliation as a witch, torture, and loss of life. The people are becoming more aware of the legal rights of widows and orphans even though the marriage has not been registered. Dad's family members have for the most part understood and agreed to see their wives and children treated in the same way that the wives and children of their deceased brothers are treated.

Health

Two full-time doctors and two part-time doctors are added. We have a total of six doctors including two full-time doctors, four part-time doctors and nine nurses at the center in Tshikaji and the one in Kananga, including the mobile clinic which was responsible for recovering the wounded and forwarding them to one of our two centers before forwarding them to the appropriate centers according to the degree of damage caused. Our team welcomes the quality of the work done and the work we continue to do in the population.

All cases that are not under the jurisdiction of this health center are transferred to the Tshikaji hospital and are paid at Butoke's expense, because over 90% of the rural population cannot afford services to the clinic, hospital or even elsewhere. This center is more used by our students and sometimes emergencies that receive first aid and transfer them to the appropriate care units.

Tshikaji Nutritional Rehabilitation Center

This center has missed a real name for the complexity of the activities carried out during this period of war in addition to its role of nutritional rehabilitation, and the table below gives us the details, it is advisable to stay at least 45 days for the complete rehabilitation, but during this time three weeks were enough to release the cases.

We also take care of all diseases that can occur, especially with cases of acute malnutrition.

Admissions to the nutrition center from January to December 2017

Age	< 11cm		Marasmus		Kwashiorkor		Dwarfism		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
0-3 years	29	26	22	17	39	33	25	19	210
03-May	30	32	44	31	66	60	62	56	381
0-8 years	48	50	57	53	24	23	60	51	366
8 + years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	107	108	123	101	129	116	147	126	957

Musue Bantu Reference Health Center in Kananga

This reference health center Musue Bantu became a reception center-nutrition- medical care and accommodation during this period of the war.

All the war refugees and the usual vulnerable and the unusual vulnerable all went to the center where they hoped to find not only refuge but also to be served free of charge in food, medical care, they and their families. The medical care of any kind would happen at the center because at one point no one could agree to go out for a transfer to another center and our doctors proved they were able to save all the cases that arose, especially the real bullet wounds with abundant bleeding, reduction of fractures with multiple transfusions and several large and small surgeries, including general surgery. The pediatric ward became the business of everyone, including any medical profession, because more than ten children in foster care could come to the center in less than an hour with high fever, diarrhea and sometimes convulsions explained by the absence of mosquito nets, the polluted water, the food they were taking and also the lack of adequate care.

Maternity did not wait for the end of the war to come either, and some women were able to give birth under the stars because of fear of leaving their homes in time while the bullets still sounded.

The cold, fatigue, hunger and fear of being slaughtered made internal medicine full of young adults and adults who had real problems of health.

The systematic health education of the community was and is the only weapon to prevent epidemics and continues to be done through village associations.

Musue-Bantu Statistics from January to December 2017

	Hospitalizations		Outpatient		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Malaria	364	289	144	173	508	462
Typhoid	89	104	382	401	471	505
Transfusion	209	328	400	410	609	738
Gastro enteritis	238	388	299	267	537	655
Bronchitis	117	77	22	12	139	89
Fracture	75	13	0	0	75	13
Wound/hemorrhage	351	111	82	29	433	140
AIDS	41	18	25		66	18
HTA	33	27	41	36	74	63
Hypotension	11	6	24	21	35	27
Total	1528	1361	1419	1349	2947	2710

Surgery

	Hospitalization		Ambulatory		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Appendicitis	157	95	0	0	157	95
Hernie Scrotale	73	0	0	0	73	0
Ovarian cyst	0	66	0	0	0	66
Dermoid cyst	6	11	16	10	22	21
Lipoméctomie	14	17	44	32	58	49
Hernia Inguinale	23	0	0	0	23	0
Total					333	231

Maternity

	Hospitalization		Total
	M	F	
Eutocic Acc	58	44	102
Acc Dystocic	33	24	57
Caesarean	21	31	52
Women CPN	0	438	438
Children CPS	93	540	633
Abortion (threats)	0	20	20
Total			1302

Agriculture

We managed to organize the peasants in association of 20 - 25 members and we integrated the women in the management committees of each association to the same number as the men. We encouraged the integration of widows, widowers, physically disabled, Albinos and daughter's mother. We managed to reorganize 26 out of the 40 associations in our non-government organization and in accessible environments.

The distribution of tools according to our capacity was carried out and the works resumed timidly with fear of being attacked in the field, which is why we asked every member of the association to be able to go and return to the fields at the same time to avoid being isolated with all risks of seeing oneself in the hands of enemies and aggressors. The big problem is that the 2016 B season and the 2017 A season are spent without anybody doing the field work and all those who lived in the field culture are in unmeasured suffering. To rebuild life becomes a very serious problem for a large part of our population or more with two-thirds of the population with large families who live only from agriculture. Butoke had just opened its own agricultural field with a twofold objective: to have the field of fruit trees of various varieties used to supply vitamins to the population and the fight against global warming and erosion control. Agroforestry and reforestation have just changed the microclimate of our environment and are the pride of our concession of our 11 hectares being covered in its entirety. Every year, in December, we always harvested pineapples in our 4-hectare pineapple field, which at every moment asks us for weeding and maintenance, pest and pest monitoring, and a field of improved corn together with the high-protein 7-hectare beans that came into our dealership.

We use our agricultural technical school students for their expertise during their internship and for the local labor force, and this work teaches them scientific techniques and to work in cooperation; this work also gives them a daily bonus in meals and fraternal communion.

Fish culture

Our 12 fish ponds were maintained and the fish fed. A few isolated storms have shown the need for strengthening of canals and dikes. It seems that the system works well. The harvest is made in mid-December for the six ponds and the other ponds will follow as soon as possible. Small fish will be distributed in large numbers in the various associations and with this, the complete meal in qualitative and quantitative terms will be offered to our families and our population.

Breeding

Concerned about good human health and to provide the vitamins and vegetable proteins to our community in the associations, we wanted to bring them also the animal proteins at low cost to arrive at complete meals, aiming at a complete improvement of the health and also and, especially, to learn to our members how to be self-sufficient at a lower cost with the local products of breeding and agriculture and fish farming.

Cecile DeSweemer
Report 2018 Butoke



Dear Friends,

As we celebrate Easter here at home, may our hearts be aware of those around the world as they too celebrate this season of rebirth.

*Dr. Cecile and Dr. Jean are grateful for your support . Think of them and their ongoing need for your gifts and prayers as they continue to struggle to help those whose needs are much greater than our own.
(Gifts should be sent to the address at the bottom of this page.)*

May the joy of Easter fill your spirits

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Joyce Kruse