

## Larakers in Position to Clearly See Island Needs

Sitting on the WISH front porch and looking out toward the sea today, there was a scene of tranquility--blue sea, blue sky, and a few white clouds. Because of the haze, there was no indication that the mountains of "Grand Ter", the mainland, were even out there. Yet, on a clear day, they are plainly visible from our front porch. The reality is that they are always there, but not always seen.

There are other realities that are plainly evident to us as we direct the work of WISH in Haiti. One is that nothing we do here could be done without the financial and prayer support of faithful folk back home. Another one (and it's a bit frustrating at times) is that things easily obtained in the States are just not available here. Of course, some things do not matter much, like McDonald's hamburgers, or Tastee Freeze ice cream. We can do our work well without them (some would say even better!). But other things truly are necessities, like Yelowmine PVC pipe for repairing the water line, or plastic bags for the ice machines.

Another unpleasant reality is that, even though some items are available in Port-au-Prince, they often cost considerably more than in the States. For instance, the new 80KW generator that we need costs about \$14,000 in the States; but in PAP the same generator is \$23,000!

Items (like pipe) ordered in small quantities usually cost more, plus the shipping costs are now an additional 90 cents per pound. We recently received a small emergency shipment of Yelowmine pipe because we were completely out, and before the week was up, much of it was needed to repair a major waterline break.

The WISH Board feels that it is imperative, if we are to be good stewards of God's money, that we purchase a large supply of needed items and ship those items using an overseas container which would reduce our shipping costs to only 15 cents per pound. Obviously though, purchasing ample supplies and shipping a large container costs considerably more money--money that we do not presently have on hand. Would you pray about what part God might have you play in helping us meet this need?

We have a promise that the Yelowmine pipe will be allowed into Haiti without customs charges because it is used solely for the Haitian people's need. (Of course, this is true of almost everything we bring in, but the waterpipe is far more obvious.) Please join us as we pray that the government will make good on this promise when we are able to send this container, and that customs charges on the remainder will be minimal.

Thank you so much for your continued concern and support.

Pastor Joe & Pat Larakers