

Sheryl Howe

From: "Sheryl Howe" <sahowe@wbt.org>
To: <sahowe@wbt.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 08, 2003 3:52 AM
Subject: Week #6

Hello! I wrote an email last week, but then decided not to send it because it sounded all whine-y.

Work is improving. I didn't meet my April 1 deadline I made for myself. However I see progress (not nearly as one-step forward, two steps backward as it had been). I'll be having someone take pictures of things when it's finished. I'm sure it won't look like much to other people, but you're required to ooh and ahh over them anyway.

Since I wrote last:

- some of the counseling staff came to Entebbe from Nairobi, Kenya to meet with those of us affected by our robbery. It was so very helpful. I've never actually met with a counselor before and I was kind of nervous about this meeting. And then it turned out to be great. I highly recommended the counseling thing.

- I've learned about various insects and disgusting effects of many of them --- this from a visit to a doctor because I had this impressive looking wound (insect bite) on my foot. I didn't really think it was anything serious, but people at work starting sharing about friends bitten by spiders who waited to see a doctor and subsequently lost various appendages. So I went to a doctor --- (he said my bite, nothing to worried about and probably a caterpillar. Would not have believed biting caterpillars existed. Work people (the spider bite story group) said he may have meant centipede).

- I've begun listening to the news regularly --- BBC Focus on Africa (which is currently "Focus on Africa" plus "News of the War in Iraq"). (1) Focus on Africa has improved my African geography knowledge. I've got the basic location of most countries/names of capitals down. (2) Uganda, not the largest country or the most populous in Africa is in the news a lot more than their fair share. (3) Focus on Africa is fabulous Deciphering People's Accents practice. I need much practice seeing as how I keep not understanding people --- only fair since they don't understand my accent either.

- I'm back to being fine traveling by myself. Yesterday, I tried a new church, which required going somewhere I'd never been before. I'm riding on this road thinking there was something peculiar about the road. It took me a while to figure out I thought it was weird looking because the road had center striping (as opposed to normal roads which, if paved, have mostly potholes and no markings painted on them).

- My bug tolerance has improved to a level I wouldn't have thought I'd achieve. I've decided this is a God thing. Let's say at home, I went to wash dishes and there were a whole army of ants crawling about the kitchen counter and sink... or say I'm eating dinner and lake flies keep dying and dropping on the table, on my plate, in my drink... I'd find this gross at home, but here, I've apparently just gotten used to it because it doesn't particularly phase me. I realized this yesterday at lunch as I'm fishing lake flies and ants out of my drink. I was having lunch with a Kenyan woman and when a lake fly dropped in her drink, she dumped the whole glass out.

Trust all is well with you!

Love,
 Sheryl