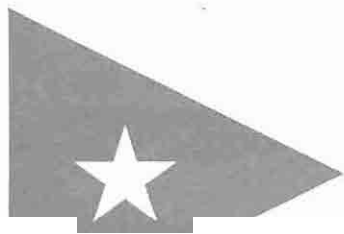


LEE SHORT
MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.

CUBA & BEYOND



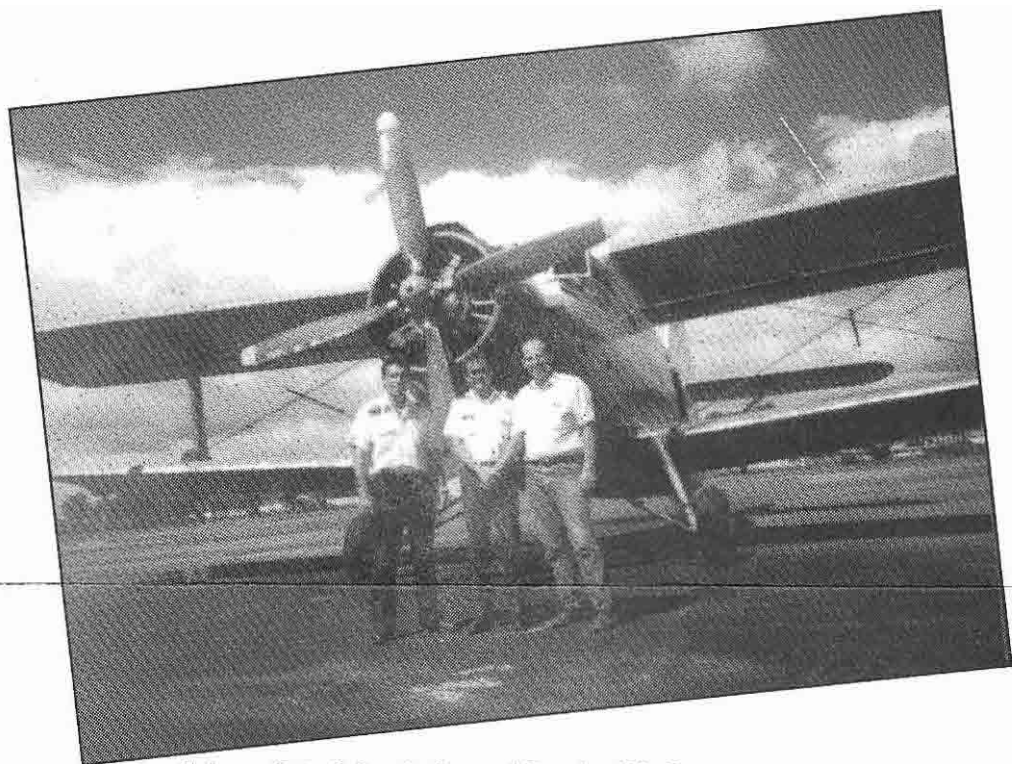
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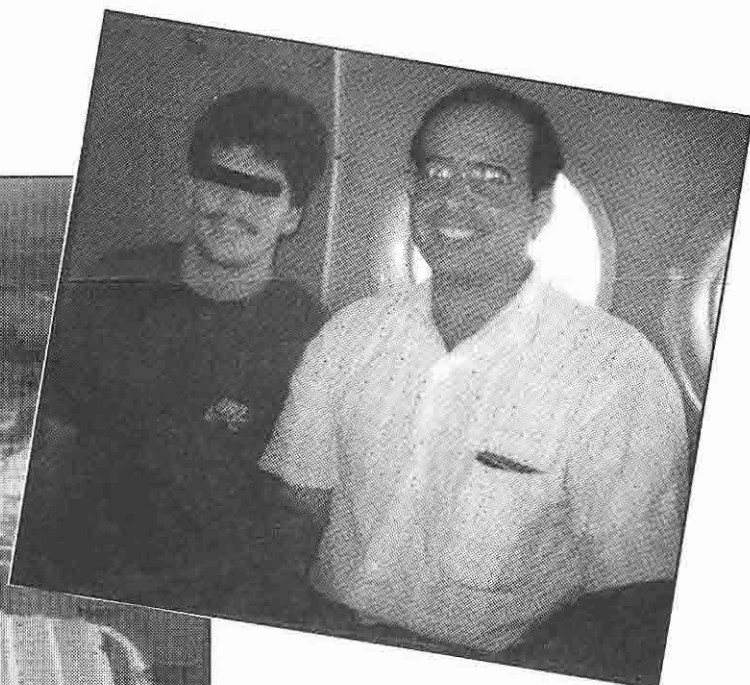


Cuban pilots & Lee in front of Russian Bi-plane

The ferry to the mainland was shut down. There were no return flights to Havana available until way past my scheduled departure date from Cuba. Michael (a Cuban national) and I, *found ourselves stranded on an Island*. The only solution to our dilemma was to fly to another city in Cuba and make our way back to the Capital city.

The Captain of a *single prop, Russian bi-plane* going to Pinar del Rio offered to postpone his take off if we chose to fly there. This would land us about two and a half hours east of Havana. We were planning to stay and minister on the island several days longer, but the airline official's counsel was *"this will be your best opportunity to get back"*. I told our taxi driver to take Michael to the hotel and get our bags. They graciously held the airplane 45 minutes.

We climbed inside the narrow 12 passenger military aircraft. Seated with our backs against the wall, we then began to wrestle with the primitive seat belt-harnessing devices. It appeared that this plane was used at one time for paratroopers. After finally figuring out how to buckle up I asked, "Where are our parachutes?" The propeller spun as the pilots prepared for take off. The engine sputtered and crackled. Then, we were off. We slowly climbed over the mountain ranges and chugged across the Caribbean Sea. Approximately 40 minutes later, we reached the mainland.



(Above Photo) Michael & Lee on board
(Left Photo) Aerial view of Pinar del Rio shortly before landing.



(Photo Above) Michael boarding Russian Bi-Plane

(Photo Left) Cuban Pilots in cockpit

To my surprise, we did not land at an airport, but believe it or not, a military base. I thanked the pilots once again and began to witness to them. Other military personnel gathered to hear my testimony. Then a commanding officer with a scowling look on his face came over to find out what was going on. He also seemed to enjoy my testimony. We took a taxi back to Havana and the Lord opened opportunities along the way to lead many to Christ. Our mission on the Island of the Pines was successful as we supplied two churches with VCR's and training materials to begin their own Bible training centers.

We want to thank all of you who contributed with your prayers and offerings for making this possible.

In Christ's Love,

Lee & Carol

Blessings and Merry Christmas!

All contributions are tax deductible, make checks payable to Lee Short Ministries International, Inc.

*...found ourselves
stranded on an Island...*

*Mission Accomplished!
But what an adventure...*



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