

# News from Malcolm Taylor – Oct 2005

## Africa Mercy...



Following my return to England, after my sabbatical in Mexico and the USA, it is all back to work here on the Africa Mercy. Over the last few months a dramatic change has taken place onboard. Cabins are now towards the final stages of construction, wiring in place, plumbing being completed, ventilation ducts being installed, and so the list goes on.

We have also reached a few milestones over the summer. The two new 2.6MW generators were run for the first time, new machinery alarm systems powered up, bridge radio & radar equipment tested and the list of classification survey items is slowly getting shorter.



On Deck 3, the old train deck, the operating rooms are starting to come together, the large CT scanner was brought onboard and tested, and what was a large open space is now beginning to look like a hospital ward.

While we have seen a great change in the ship the battle is not yet won. A number of shipyard issues have caused a slippage in the schedule and it is now unlikely that the ship will be finished by the end of the year as originally hoped. We have experienced a number of challenges over the years it has taken to complete what will become our most modern and efficient hospital ship. We ask that you keep us in your prayers and thoughts as we look to pass these last few

hurdles and get to see the Africa Mercy sail down the River Tyne and on to Africa.

## Anastasis...



Africa Mercy, a new alarm panel was designed, built and shipped to South Africa.

With only a 3 week window of opportunity to replace the system during the ship's dry dock, I flew down to East London, South Africa, and installed the new panel. It was great to see the Anastasis once again and get involved in completing this project. After correcting some wiring faults and faulty sensors, the new panel was ready for the ship to sail on to Cape Town.



## Caribbean Mercy...

Just when you think that everything is quiet and the Caribbean Mercy safely moored during her period of lay up, one of biggest hurricanes to hit the USA devastates New Orleans and the surrounding area.

The Caribbean Mercy had been moored in a sheltered berth in Chickasaw, just north of Mobile, Alabama. Before the hurricane hit the caretaking crew added extra mooring lines and then evacuated from the area. Following the hurricane the roads to the area were flooded and no one was able to access the port to see if the ship had survived. It took an



agonizing two days before a port official was able to visit the area by boat and reported that the ship appeared to be OK. A day later a plane flew overhead taking pictures that showed the ship looking good with the only damaged being to a nearby warehouse.

## Hurricane Response...



As efforts continue around the US to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina, Mercy Ships is contributing to relief efforts by collaborating with city officials, churches and other non-governmental organizations.

The Caribbean Mercy is now serving as a housing location for relief teams. The ship is in the right place at the right time, there's no housing ashore, because of damage and lots of volunteers coming in from all over the country. The ship, being completely self-sufficient with its own electricity, water, sewage and feeding capabilities makes it perfect to house people onboard and send them out.



Mercy Ships staff are also organizing relief efforts in the Gulfport, Mississippi area. Gulfport was the homeport for the Caribbean Mercy for several years, and many local businesses and churches have remained friends and loyal supporters of Mercy Ships through the years. These strong ties led Mercy Ships staff members to return to the area to help communities rebuild.

Mercy Ships is providing direction and organization in order to maximize the materials and manpower that continue to flood the area. They are also helping those devastated by the hurricane to get beyond the shock and confusion and begin moving forward. Along with thousands of volunteers from around the country, Mercy Ships is helping the Gulf Coast clean up after the storm.

God Bless

**Malcolm Taylor**

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## Praise Items

For the work completed so far on the Africa Mercy.

For the successful trip to the Anastasis in South Africa.

For the safety of the Caribbean Mercy during the hurricane season.

For the ministry we are undertaking as a response to Hurricane Katrina.

## Prayer Requests

For the displaced people as a result of the hurricane.

For the Mercy Ship teams working in the Gulf Coast.

For the completion of the Africa Mercy.

## Donation Details

As a full time volunteer, I receive no salary for my work.

If you wish to help support my work with Mercy Ships and the worldwide Christian community, that we are called to serve, you may do so through Mercy Ships who can issue a US tax receipt for your donation:

By Check: payable to Mercy Ships, with a separate piece of paper stating that it is for the support of Malcolm Taylor and mail it to: Mercy Ships, Donor Support, PO Box 2020, Garden Valley, TX 75771-2020.