

Norman Backman  
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#### A LAYMAN WITH A BURNING MESSAGE

Mr. and Mrs. Backman were sent out to New Hope Leprosy Mission as laymen where Mr. Backman was in charge of maintenance and building. He supervised the building of a road with all bridges, etc., through 16 miles of dense jungle. This new road now allows supplies to be brought in to New Hope at a fraction of the former cost.

Brother Backman also helped in the building of 30 4-family dwellings to house lepers and their families in New Hope Town.

MISSIONARY PILOT. During the last 8 months of his term, he served as the Speed-the-Light pilot for the Liberia field.

#### A SPIRITUAL MINISTRY

The Backmans had not been on the field long before doors opened for a spiritual ministry. They spent weekends trekking back into villages that had asked for help. In some cases they ministered where missionaries had never been before. The Backmans enjoyed ministering with their Speed-the-Light boat, taking the message to some who had never heard, along the Cavalla River, which flows between Liberia and Ivory Coast.

Mrs. Backman served as principal of the Elementary Leper School, which is a Bible-centered school with an enrollment of 150 students. She also was in charge of the distribution of surplus foods and W.M.C. supplies sent to the colony and assisted the nurses.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Backman taught in the New Hope Bible School where 140 were enrolled. Every effort is made in this school to train the lepers so that when they are released they can carry the message back to their own people.

