Salud Juntos 2010 Eye Brigade to Punta Ocote



Sunday 3 January 2010

So where are we anyway?

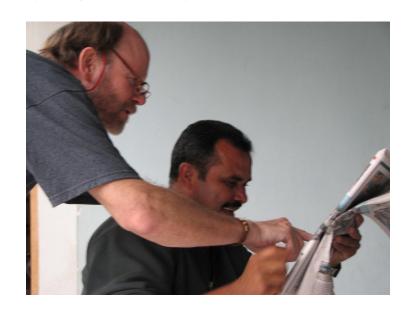


The day started with a geography lesson, with Dale showing the route from El Progresso to Punta de Ocote (see sign above). So where are we anyway? Our Host, Ramon, tells us the sign was made by somebody that doesn't know any better... That the name is Punta Ocote.

Dale initially is a little skeptical, having read many maps and guides of the area. This discussion occurred after being brought up to date on the biggest news to hit Punta (de?) Ocote in some time- the crash of a cocaine laden aircraft that ran out of fuel, and attempted to land on the main street of town and that of our hosts.



The debate on just where we are holding this eye brigade will likely continue-



for here we see Dale pointing out the dateline to the story of the plane crash-



■ Punta de Ocote, Yoro. Los pobladores de la comunidad de Punta de Ocote, Yoro, aún no se reponen del susto por la caída de una narcoavioneta en plena carretera. Además están tristes por la muerte de un joven de 18 años que pronto contraería nupcias con una muchacha del sector.

La tranquilidad de ese pequeño poblado ubicado a dos kilómetros al norte del desvío al municipio de Yorito, en la carretera entre Yoro y Morazán, fue interrumpida el pasado sábado cuando a las 6.20 de la tarde la aeronave cayó en la vía y luego fue incendiada por un grupo de hombres fuertemente armados.

En su caída, la pesada nave se llevó de encuentro a Israel Martínez Euceda, a su novia Dania Solís Zavala, 24, y a su sobrino

rando en contra de la gente que se acercaba a la escena, luego salieron corriendo por una de las estrechas calles de la aldea hasta introducirse en la zona boscosa.

De inmediato, entre diez y doce vehículos llegaron al sitio a cargar la droga y se llevaron una parte Los narcotraficantes incendiaron la nave y dejaron varios kilos e su interior.

La Policía llegó al lugar minuto después y sacó 44 kilos de un con partimiento en la parte superior o uno de los motores. Otro porce taje se quemó.

El temor se apoderó más de l habitantes y en especial del proptario de una pulpería donde que la nave, pues cuando le metier fuego se pensó en lo peor poro se temía que al explotar el apa se quemara también el inmuepor lo que a sus ocupantes no

Ramon, speaking with the authority of a physician, said "the newspaper got it wrong too!"

Some Sights on the Road from El Progreso-



We were circling El Progreso searching for an ATM when we came across this team in the fast lane of traffic.

Regular readers will recall the spectacular washouts on the road from El Progreso-



I am pleased to report that since last year, a load of sand and gravel has been delivered.



Not all the transportation has four wheels, and the most interesting addition to the scene is to

find Tuk Tuks relocated to Honduras-



Our vehicle (above) looks downright pedestrian in comparison.

We made it to Punta (de?) Ocote in time for coffee with Jessica and Ramon, and enjoyed some chance to visit. It was delightful to have two native Spanish speakers along – Carmen and Leslie are right in tune with what is going

on- and on close comparison, it looks like Jessica and Leslie might be distant relatives-**Primas?**



Some final shots from the road-



Laura was nearly decapitated after being mistaken for a zombie by Carmen;



Our missing Alcon donated supplies were found;



Joe rediscovered how good a hammock is for the lower back;



Leslie demonstrates the proper form for preparing fried plantains for eating (you have to shake the bag to get the salt back onto the chips

uniformly);



If you are worried about being mistaken for a zombie, it might be best to stay in the bus;



And fried plantains can make an attractive accessory.

Dale has loaned us two additional phones for our use down here.

Where we will be setting up shop tomorrow:





And goodnight from Yoro, known in the Lonely Planet guide as "a dusty city on the road to nowhere"- but where we know it as the city that rains fish...

All our best,

The Salud Juntos Eye Brigade 2010