



# INTERNATIONAL

Yes a month has already passed since our last letter. And since we really do want to keep in touch with you . . . here's the July edition of **Our Life as Missionaries Who Still Don't Know Where We're Going But Sure Know What We Want To Do When We Get There.** (It's kind of a long title for a monthly periodical . . . but, hey, the subscription is FREE.)

When I imagine you getting these more-or-less monthly letters, a fear-inducing image keeps popping into my mind. I can see you opening up the form-letter looking envelope with "A Letter From Your Missionary" stamped on the outside. You say to yourself, "Surely those Gulicks have chosen a country and started converting the masses by now!" Then I imagine your opening up the envelope, discarding the extra stuff inside, reading this letter with growing incredulity, and finally, as you draw mustaches and horns on the little photo of us, you vow never again to have contact with such missionaries.

OK, so maybe I have an overactive imagination . . . but you get a sense of Annette's and my concern.

Quite a few of our friends have expressed amazement at the length of time it takes to raise support, be approved for a particular country, and go there. We are also amazed. But I guess we shouldn't be so surprised. During our initial orientation with OC they told us that the average time between orientation and arrival on the field is 18 months. We've been at it eight months. Our goal is to bring down the average, but it will probably be November or so before we're out of here. So when you think of us, especially if you're thinking "aren't they gone yet?" remember to pray that decisions (like what country) and paperwork (like visas) and finances will be expedited.

As you read this Annette and I are in the middle of a five-week Internship in Colorado Springs. We're together with a group of 25 others who are also preparing to do missions work with OC International. Some of what we are learning about is how to work as part of a team, spiritual warfare, keeping true to your mate, living in another culture, and how to do and use research as a basis for ministry.

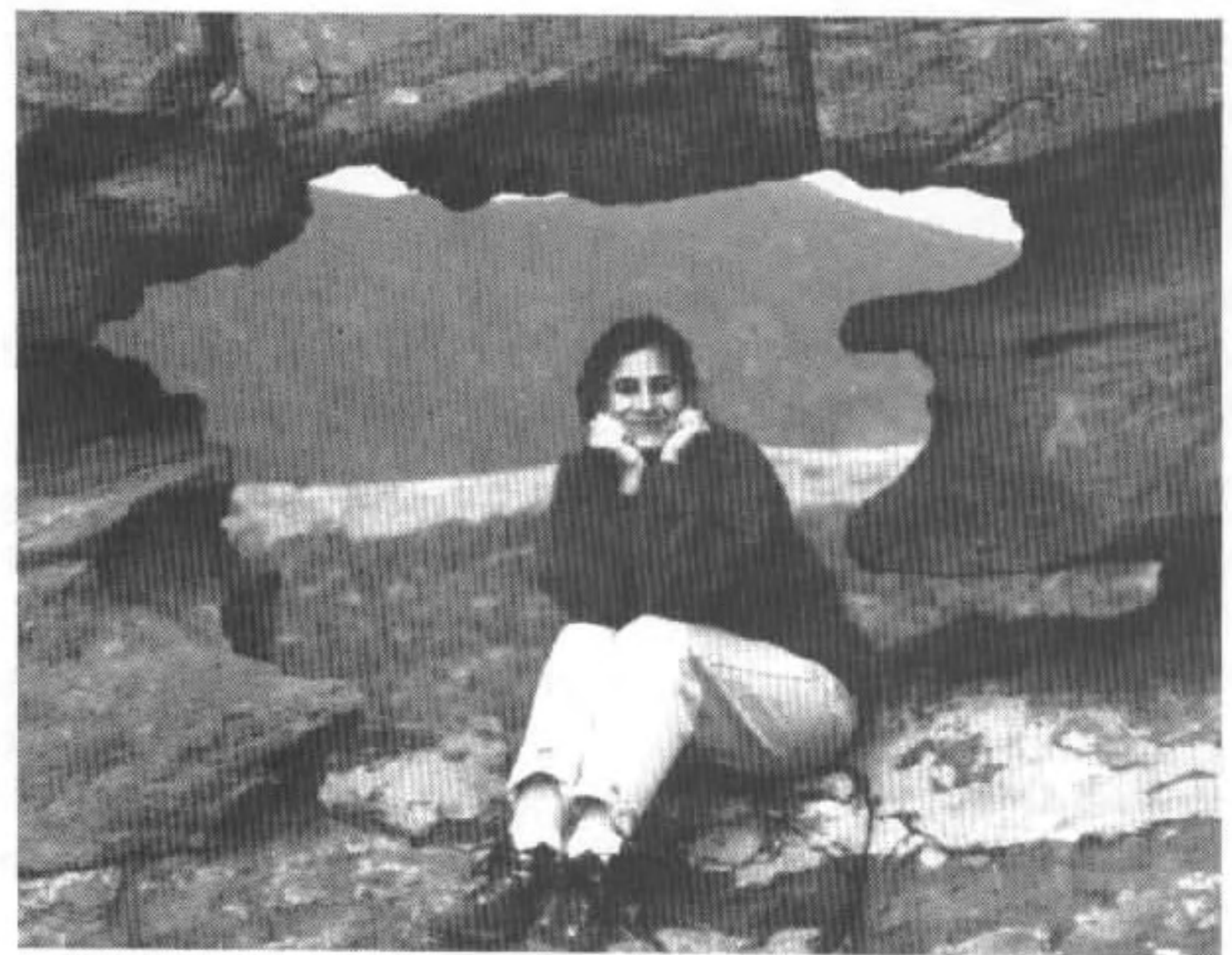
We finish our internship at the end of July. In August we will go to Brazil and Mexico for face-to-face interviews and firsthand experience with both teams. (This visit is required by the Brazil team before they will approve any new team members.) After we make our decision between the countries, we will wait for approval from headquarters and begin applying for visas. Since missionaries in Mexico are there on tourist visas that process should not take too long, but from what we have heard getting a visa for Brazil can take two to four months. UGH.

If you get stuck in traffic or waiting in a slow line and feel impatient, you could take that time to pray for us. We'll probably be feeling the same way. But don't worry, we haven't forgotten that God's timing is perfect for His children. In fact we're counting on it.

For Christ and His Kingdom,

*Tim & Annette*

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*Annette enjoying the "Garden of the Gods" -- one of the many beautiful places we go on our study breaks.*