

The natives are using every parcel of ground in Guatamala for planting, especially the flat areas on top of hills and mountains. The steep side hills also are farmed. It would seem that they would find it difficult to maintain a footing on some of the slopes. Have not seen, as yet, a place where there is not some sign of human activity. Dogs are everywhere and are camp is pregnated with odors. They urinate on the car, chair & table legs, food boxes etc. They are so starved you could tag it pin it on a board without the trouble of skinning it .

At Nebay we had not stopped over two minutes when a man from the States walked straight over to the car as tho he hadn't seen a white man for 50 years. It developed that he was from Kansas and the insignia on our car door drew him like a magnet. The more we talked the nearer home became. His brother Richard Elliott graduated in 1948 from K.U.- his wife's brother is now a junior in pre-med at K.U. and he-George Belcher, and wife are living at 1222 Mississippi. How's that for coincidence. Mr Elliott is with the Summer Institute of Linguistics-Univ of Oklohoma and is making a study of the languages of these people. His attractive wife and three children are here in the primitive village of Nebay. This area is the transition between the Spanish language to the south and the Indian languages to the north. The Natives areund Nebay have a very interesting language and it is amusing to hear them converse. It is a dignified stutter, with odd clicks and vocal sounds that I have never heard in all my travels. I do enjoy their chatter. I think their voice simulates that of the chineseese altho it has a more pure mechanical manipulation.

Ray (Elliott) insisted that i accept a gallon of white gas as the Guatamala gas was playing tricks with our stove and lamp. I will never go into the field again without testing my equipment.