

Dear Friends,

I have no idea why this internet came up today but we are on line for a bit from our house!!!

It's hard to remember what I have written and what I haven't. It's hard to even say what's going on!! It feels like we've been in solitary confinement for a while now...no internet, we ran out of cards for our phone so only had incoming calls. We do have the radio but there just hasn't been a lot of news.

I want to write this quickly just in case this isn't going to stay on for very long. Basically the country is shut down. The president declared martial law two days ago and we have all of 4 hours a day when cars are allowed on the road. Yesterday a flight took off with some family members from the American Embassy. The airport is not functioning as normal, though. We did hear there was an Air France flight that came in last night and was going out as well but was totally full. There may be another coming in tonight but we're not sure. Otherwise flights are not going in or out. The gunfire has slowed down considerably which makes it a lot easier. Last night when curfew ended things almost looked normal. Cars were on the road, people were out of the house (including us!!). That's when Tim made the dash to the CMA to get our mail out. It is getting a bit discouraging in that many have left now. Several missions were able to get some of their own people on the US plane that went out but we don't have those connections. Just a few families left now. We're to the point that we wish it would either break or finish. Just sitting here not knowing and not being able to do anything is frustrating. If we leave we will probably head to Dakar where everyone else is headed, since Katie is there. Also, Tim was supposed to leave for teaching in Togo tomorrow. That doesn't look possible anymore.

So what to pray for?? I guess just that everything finishes one way or another. At least if there is trouble we'll get out. If not then we can get back to some kind of normalcy. Thanks for all your prayers. We do continue to trust that God is in control of all this and that He is our protection. Thanks too for all the notes of support. We appreciate all the prayers for us here. The Nortons and Andrea are fine too, up in Bamako, but also anxious to see this end. Will continue to keep in touch as we can!!

Love,

beth for all