



Dear Customers, Employees, and Friends of Meridian:

I recently toured Hurlburt Field, an auxiliary airport at Elgin AFB in Florida. Susan and I, along with a group of USAF Academy friends saw some Special Operations equipment like a C-130 Spectre gunship and the CV-22 Osprey. More significantly, we were briefed and met some of the USAF personnel who carry out critical Special Forces operations around the world. They are an amazingly dedicated, capable group of young men and women who operate the most sophisticated weaponry in the world.

As we approach the end of another year of growth and opportunity, we pause to give thanks to our armed forces, including the forces that won WWII seventy years ago. Our military makes it possible for us to reach for the stars, knowing that we are protected by the best.

I hope that you enjoy this issue of *The Extra Mile*. The focus, as always, is on our team of dedicated professionals who are dedicated to service beyond compare. It is especially gratifying to recognize Aida Libiran and Betsy Wines who have worked for us for 30 years, and new employees, like Chris Battaglia, who bring years of experience to our team. It's all about our people and their commitment to our customers.



All the best for the Holidays and for 2016,

Ken Forester

Meridian Breaks Ground at Hayward

On Wednesday, July 29, 2015, a ground breaking ceremony was held at the site of our future FBO and hangar facility at Hayward Executive Airport (HWD) in Hayward, CA.

The ceremony featured speakers from the local community, including dignitaries from the City of Hayward and officials from Hayward Executive Airport. Senior executives from Meridian and the architect for the project, Tectonic Design, also spoke. A ceremonial "turning of the soil" then took place, followed by a luncheon sponsored by Jet Gourmet at the recently dedicated Hayward

Airport Administrative Building.

The new facility will be completed in multiple phases, with an initial commitment of \$10 million. Phase I will feature a 6,300 sq. ft. FBO, a 30,000 sq. ft. hangar and 3.5 acres of ramp area. The hangar will be able to accommodate any corporate aircraft up to and including a Global Express and Gulfstream G650. Subsequent phases will add another 12,000 sq. ft. of terminal space, provide an additional 80,000 sq. ft. of hangar space and increase the ramp size by an additional seven acres.

"We are really excited to be breaking ground here at Hayward Executive Airport," said

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Poised for Growth



Managed Fleet Continues to Grow

Meridian's managed aircraft fleet continues to expand, with the addition of our second Bombardier Challenger 605 (N529DM). This well-appointed large cabin aircraft entered service in 2012 and seats up to nine passengers. It is based at Manchester-Boston Regional Airport (MHT), and is available for charter.

The popular Challenger 605 is an evolution of the Challenger 604, offering best-in-class cabin comfort combined with its ability to operate cost effectively. The aircraft is fully-equipped and features a variety of amenities including leather club seating, conference tables, berthable divan, full galley with sink, microwave/convection ovens, coffee machine and private lavatory with sink. It is also outfitted with the latest communication and technology equipment: Inmarsat® satellite phone, Gogo Biz® high-speed Wi-Fi, bulkhead video monitors with Airshow® (3D moving maps) and a dual multi-media player.

"We are very excited about adding a second Challenger 605 to our charter fleet," said Mike Moore, Vice President of Aviation Sales. "This aircraft is furnished with everything a business traveler would expect to find in their office-in-the-sky. With a range of 4,000 nautical miles, this late-model business jet is a great fit for our portfolio as it enhances the depth of our heavy jet offerings. We are seeing many of our customers flying longer trips more often, so this is a category of aircraft that we expect to continue to be in demand."

In addition to expanding its fleet, Meridian is also committed to keeping its aircraft in top condition and equipped with the latest amenities. The company recently completely refurbished its Citation XLS (N43HF), which is based at Hayward Executive



Above: An exterior view of Meridian's newly refurbished and repainted Citation XLS (N43HF) based at Hayward Executive Airport (HWD).

Left: A cabin view of the freshly appointed Citation XLS (N43HF).

Below: Meridian Air Charter's latest fleet addition, a Challenger 605 (N529DM) based at Manchester-Boston Regional Airport (MHT).



Airport (HWD). The 2004 model midsize business jet received a new paint job and a new interior.

The comfortable cabin features chocolate brown tones on the seats, divan, sidewalls, curtains and new carpeting. Amenities include Gogo Biz® high speed Wi-Fi, CD/DVD player, Airshow® and an Inmarsat® satellite phone system. Its large external storage compartment is convenient for trips with oversized luggage items, such as golf clubs or hockey equipment.

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Meridian Breaks Ground at Hayward continued from page 1

Ken Forester, Meridian's CEO. "We are looking forward to growing our business here on the West Coast and to creating good quality aviation jobs locally. Hayward and the greater San Francisco region were an ideal choice for us, and we are proud to be part of its future."

Meridian signed a 50-year lease with HWD on January 1, 2014, with plans of building a full-service, world-class FBO and adjoining hangar at the airport. Once fully operational, Meridian Hayward will offer fuel, maintenance services, well-appointed passenger and crew facilities, along with other amenities. Completion of the project is expected in the fall of 2016.

The location will also serve as the West Coast base for Meridian Air Charter and Meridian

The Meridian team is shown breaking ground at the site where the new facility is currently being built at Hayward Executive Airport in Hayward, CA.



Aircraft Management. The company currently has one charter aircraft based at Hayward and Greg Johnson, Director of Business Development on the West Coast, is working to add several more. Hayward is on the southeast side of the San Francisco Bay. It is centrally-located between San Francisco, San Jose and Oakland. The airport, which can accommodate most large-cabin aircraft, has no curfew and provides convenient access to a wide variety of popular destinations.

Meridian began its western expansion in September 2012, with the opening of a charter sales office at the San Jose International Airport (SJC) in San Jose, CA. A second sales office, located at the Sonoma County Airport (STS) in Santa Rosa, CA, opened in November of that year. In early 2013, Meridian added its first West Coast-based aircraft available for charter at Hayward. The mid-size Citation XLS was recently refurbished and has proven to be very popular with charter customers.



Meridian Exhibits

The second half of 2015 has been busy for Meridian, with our participation in several industry events. In May, we sent a team of five representatives to the European Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (EBACE), Europe's largest business aviation trade show. This year marked the 15th anniversary of the event, which took place May 19-21 at Geneva's Palexpo Conference Center, with the static display located at the adjacent Geneva International Airport. The event, which is jointly hosted by the National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) and the European Business Aviation Association (EBAA), drew aviation professionals and end users from around the globe.

The Meridian booth was well-located in the exhibit hall and our team had the opportunity to interact with longtime customers and industry colleagues, as well as meet new prospects. We look forward to participating in next year's event which will be held May 24-26 at the same venue.

Meridian also exhibited at the second NBAA Regional Forum of the year, held at Teterboro Airport (TEB). The one-day event, which drew more than 3,100 attendees, was held on Thursday, June 25, and brought together business aviation community members from across the country for the opportunity to network and engage in educational sessions on a variety of important topics relevant to business aviation stakeholders. During the Forum, Meridian proudly accepted the Pilots' Choice Award from FltPlan.com for being voted #1 FBO in the U.S. Meridian Teterboro has been ranked #1 US FBO by FltPlan.com five of the last six years.

On Wednesday evening prior to the Regional Forum, Meridian hosted our second-ever "New York, New York" party in the main hangar. The event followed a Five Borough theme with a classic New York-style menu, beer from Brooklyn and large projection screens throughout the hangar featuring the cultural highlights of each of the five New York City boroughs. With business aviation individuals coming to the area from all over the country to attend the NBAA Regional Forum, we wanted to take the opportunity to host our customers and other industry professionals at our home facility. Attendance at the party was well over 500 people and a good time was had by all.

Guests were sent Metro Card-style invitations and treated as VIPs as they entered the hangar on a red carpet and were led to a step & repeat backdrop for a photo op. From there, they walked through a subway turnstile (no tokens required) before entering the gala event. Guests were also treated to an interactive exhibit by Dassault Falcon Jet, which included a Falcon 900LX on static display. Our guests were able to satisfy their hunger with a New York-style menu created and sponsored by Rudy's Inflight Catering. The hangar was decorated to create the feel of a Manhattan-style lounge with special lighting effects and music typically heard in a New York dance club. Throughout the evening, a professional photographer roamed the crowd taking pictures, which

Above left: The Meridian team at EBACE2015 in Geneva, Switzerland.

Above right: Meridian hosted a packed house during its New York, New York Reception, held the evening prior to the NBAA Regional Forum at Teterboro Airport.

Above: Victor Seda accepts the FltPlan.com award for the entire Meridian team at the NBAA Regional Forum in Teterboro, NJ.

were then posted on the Meridian Facebook page. Guests were given gift bags as they left the event. The following day at our booth at the Forum, the photos were shown in a continuous loop on a big screen HDTV, which was then raffled off to a lucky winner at the end of the day.

The final NBAA Regional Forum of 2015 was held at St. Louis Downtown Airport (CPS) in St. Louis, MO, on Thursday, September 17. Meridian was on hand with an exhibit booth and three company representatives. The Forum, held for the first time at this location, hosted 130 exhibitors and 25 aircraft on static display, and drew more than 1,200 attendees.

NBAA hosts several one-day Regional Forums each year, designed to bring local owners, operators, manufacturers, customers and other industry personnel together. In addition to company exhibits and an aircraft static display, the events are a great venue for exchanging information about specific airport policies, environmental protocols, safety and security proposals, taxation and other key issues facing the industry.

Meridian participated in the first Forum of the year held in February at Palm Beach International Airport (PBI) in West Palm Beach, FL. NBAA is continuing its Regional Forums in 2016 and we plan to be a part of them.

Our last big event of the year was the annual NBAA Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (NBAA 2015). This year's Convention was held November 17-19 in Las Vegas, NV. We again had our 20 x 20 booth featuring the company's key business areas including Aircraft Management, Air Charter, Maintenance and our FBO services. We hope that you were able to visit our booth #N4925 in the North Hall of the Convention Center!



PLANE FOLK

John Frangipani

Senior Flight Coordinator

Every day is different says John Frangipani, Meridian's Senior Flight Coordinator. "I love my job. It is very challenging and rewarding and I like the opportunity to think outside the box. We have to be ready to make adjustments and adapt as

trip plans or other conditions, such as weather, change."

John joined Meridian 11 years ago from Japan Airlines where he had been a dispatcher based at JFK airport. Prior to that, he had spent 12 years in the financial industry. John says Meridian is a "great place to work" and really appreciates the family environment.

Flight operations is a 24/7 department, and all activities are handled in-house. As a flight coordinator, John is responsible for the planning and execution needed to make sure charter and owner flown trips go smoothly. John's responsibilities include organizing cost-effective and tactical planning of all flight activities, ensuring all crews meet flight qualification requirements, monitoring their schedules, which includes crew flight, duty and rest time limitations, fuel budget preparation, and initiating and maintaining global relationships with other FBOs and fuel vendors. John also serves as flight operations' liaison to Senior Management and other departments of the company.

Another important aspect of his job is being on top of and handling the operations and procedures required for international operations. "Our crews and aircraft travel worldwide," John says. "We take care of all the planning, paperwork and documentation, as well as additional details that may be unique to the particular destination."

One of the things John said he enjoyed the most about this past year was his trip with the team to the EBACE convention in Geneva. "It was a great trip and a chance to build and strengthen relationships with vendors, partners and customers."

Meridian customers can be assured that wherever their travels may take them, John and the flight operations team will make sure the flight planning and trip coordination are done right.

Meridian Celebrates

Promotions/Awards/Achievements

In every issue of *The Extra Mile*, we proudly acknowledge anniversary milestones of our employees. This year, we have two members of our Executive Team, Betsy Wines and Aida Libiran, celebrating 30 years at Meridian.

Aida is currently Vice President of Accounting. She began her career in 1985 as bookkeeper. In 2002, Aida was promoted to her current position. She earned a degree in Business Administration, with a major in Accounting, from University of the East in Manila, Philippines.

Betsy Wines also began her career here at Meridian in 1985. She joined the company as a flight school dispatcher and was promoted to Customer Service manager shortly thereafter. Since then, she has risen to her current position as Vice President of Customer Service & Human Resources. She is currently an FBO Advisor to the Corporate Aircraft Association (CAA) Board. Betsy has been recognized over the years for outstanding service by both the annual *Aviation International News* FBO Survey and the *Professional Pilot* PRASE Survey, including ranking as the #1 CSR in the PRASE survey 16 times.

Congratulations to both Betsy and Aida on their 30th anniversary with Meridian! They both have been an instrumental part of our growth and we sincerely thank them for their hard work and dedication.



Left: Aida Libiran and Betsy Wines celebrate 30 years together at Meridian.

Above: Chris Battaglia joins Meridian as the new Director of Charter Sales.

Meridian also welcomes a new employee to our team. Chris Battaglia joined Meridian in August as Director of Charter Sales. Chris is a seasoned business aviation veteran with 13 years of charter sales experience and six years of financial management experience. He is responsible for executing the long-term sales strategy of Meridian Air Charter, managing the daily operations of charter sales and developing the West Coast charter business, which will be based at Hayward Executive Airport (HWD) once the FBO and hangar facilities are completed in 2016.

"Chris brings a wealth of charter experience and knowledge to our company," says Dennis O'Connell, President of Meridian Air Charter. "He joins us during an exciting period of growth as we continue to expand our fleet and build our operation in California. We are very happy to have him on our team."

Chris began his aviation career in 2002 as a Charter Services Representative with TAG Aviation. Over the years, he held positions with increasingly more responsibility at the company. In 2009, he continued his aviation career at TWC Aviation, eventually serving as Vice President of Charter Sales where he was responsible for all charter activities in both the wholesale and retail sales areas. He also managed a large team of charter sales directors and representatives. Chris is a graduate of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Aircraft Detailing

One of the many services Meridian Jet Center offers customers is professional aircraft detailing. Our Detailing Team is highly-skilled in the use of specialized cleaners, equipment and other products used to deliver the best possible results. Our trained technicians are solely dedicated to cleaning the entire aircraft, both interior and exterior. We work closely with the OEMs and cleaning supply companies to ensure that the safest products are used for a thorough cleaning. Our goal is to make your aircraft sparkle! We provide detailing for transient customers as well as our Teterboro-based Meridian fleet.

For aircraft interiors, we offer a **Quick Turn Cleaning**, designed to quickly provide cleaning and polishing before your next trip. Our crew will wipe down all leather/vinyl areas as well as polish all wood/laminate surfaces, clean and sanitize the lavatory, vacuum and generally straighten up the aircraft.

When you need a deeper cleaning, our **Full Service Detailing** provides comprehensive services for the entire interior.

Cockpit: We clean all instrument panels and screens, all windows and sun visors, vacuum all seats and floors and sanitize the oxygen masks

Cabin: Our crew cleans and polishes service ledges and tables, cleans/organizes magazine racks, cleans and polishes all leather/vinyl and applies leather protector. We wipe off fingerprints on all windows, monitors, and seatbelts and then spot clean stains and vacuum the entire cabin, including the galley area.

We also clean and sanitize the ice bins, ovens, catering drawers and trash bins, as well as clean the coffee areas and wipe down and polish wood/laminate surfaces.



Above: Nick Karlsson performs a Quick Turn Cleaning on the exterior of an aircraft, one of the many services offered by the Meridian Detailing team.



Right: Anthony Lanzone, Detail Supervisor, is shown buffing a leading edge.

Lavatory: We completely sanitize the lavatory area then clean/polish all wood/laminate surfaces, clean windows and mirrors and empty and clean the trash dispenser.

Lastly the crew will thoroughly clean the entrance steps and railings of the aircraft.

For those times when you need extra attention to the interior, Meridian also offers carpet shampooing, leather cleaning and conditioning, and repair services for leather and fabric.

Meridian Jet Center also provides Quick Turn Cleaning and Full Service Detailing for aircraft exteriors.

The Quick Turn Cleaning is a partial exterior wipe down designed for those "in-between" washes. Areas cleaned include the nose, windows, leading edges, tail cone, engines, and the landing gear and rims.

Our Full Service Detailing includes the above services, but the crew also cleans the fuselage, vertical and horizontal stabilizers, the top of the wings, engine pylons and nacelles and the aircraft's underbelly.

Other exterior services we offer are a Full Exterior Wash and specialized detailing work such as cleaning, stripping and polishing the de-icer boots and brightwork polishing. This service includes revitalizing the oxidized leading edges and the aircraft's paint.

Whatever your specific needs are for your aircraft, our well-trained team of professionals will do the job right. We look forward to serving you soon!

Meridian Milestones

20 Years

Pete Rawson

15 Years

Kanhai Nelson

10 Years

Samir Varela
Bryan Lazewski
Francisco Cabrera
Jeff Prescott
Howard Abdul
Estrella Reynoso

5 Years

Pete Kyriakos
Susan Forester
Kelby Barbour

Mike Kasica, Jr.
Nora Jacob
Tom March
Patti Perez
Kelly Manzo
Eric Stephenson
Kirk Stephen

1 Year

Greg Johnson
Chet Hansra
Matthew Fagan
Roberto Villada
Patrick Renninger
Brian Nuss
Danny Guerra
Jose Borges
Joy Glassman
Grant Flintoft
Scott Jordan
Angelo Gilces

Karl Granchalek
Matt Hinz
Marko Koski
Travis Vaughan
Adrian Bravo
Jesus Rivera
Juan Ortiz
Chris Zapata
Nicholas Stratakis
Joanna Brinkerhoff
Roland Wattenbach
Jose Navarro
Matthew Grega
James Covington
Daphne Smith-Jackson
David Allen
Steven Giangrande
Xavier Ventura
Miles Jones

New Comers

Julian Brito
Lisette Mejia
Marvin Stein
Sean Caravaglia
Taylor Carlyle
Francisco Acevedo
Cristian Cuzco
Michael Kaplan
Kevin Ortega
Chris Battaglia
Ashley Bochman
Alex Mikhailovsky
Nelfi Marte
Christian Veras
Ismael Irizarry
Francisco Martinez
Celine Martinez

Kelvin Espinal
Tammy Vinas
Ken Brickett
Daniel Vargas
Brian Czifra
Shante Cooper
Brian Potter
MaKayla Hambek
Pedro Vargas
David Garcia
Ken Smalls
Lindsey Berkel

"We are committed to providing our clientele with an outstanding charter experience, said Chris Battaglia, Director of Charter Sales. "Continuing to invest in our assets will help us achieve that objective."

Teterboro Update

Progress continues on the Meridian North hangar project. The RFP was issued earlier this year and the construction contract has been awarded to Fitzpatrick and Associates Inc. of Eatontown, NJ.

"This is the same Contractor who built our existing terminal and hangar," said Steve Chandoha, President of Meridian Teterboro. "Meridian was quite happy with their workmanship and we were pleased they provided the most competitive bid."

Initial plan submissions, including building demolition and site engineering, have been forwarded to the Port Authority of NY/NJ for review. When complete, a new 40,000 sq. ft. hangar will replace the current Hangar 12. The new hangar will have a two-story support building and will effectively double the size of the existing facility. The project is targeted for completion by December 2016.

Meridian Jet Center Expands Sales Network

Meridian Jet Center has named Manion Aviation as an authorized sales representative to provide MRO



service sales for a wide variety of business aircraft makes and models. Manion Aviation represents corporate jet owners and operators who are seeking the best MRO

service solutions for their aircraft.

According to Manion Aviation CEO, Jeff Manion, the agreement is a great fit for the company. "Meridian Jet Center provides high quality, factory-authorized service for many types of aircraft that

we know very well," says Manion. "With our extensive sales network and customer base, we will be able to provide Meridian with solid sales support to help increase their aircraft service activity at both Teterboro and its future location at Hayward Executive Airport (HWD) in Hayward, California."

"Our aircraft maintenance facility and staff of technicians are among the best in the business," says John Langschultz, Vice President of Meridian Jet Center. "Our biggest challenge has been to spread the word to let people know that we are here and ready to serve their maintenance needs. With Manion Aviation's contacts with owners and corporate aircraft operators, we have effectively added a national sales force to work on our behalf. It's not only a win-win for both of our companies, but it's also a benefit for our future customers who would not otherwise be aware of us and our capabilities."

Around the World in a G550

In October, our G550 completed a true circumnavigation of the globe, flying a total of 29.8 hours from Teterboro to Tokyo, Japan, and then continuing eastward for the return back to Teterboro.

A lot of planning and coordination on very short notice went into making this trip come together. We are very proud of our flight coordination team and the crew members that made the trip for showing that Meridian "can do" spirit.

The airplane departed from Teterboro and headed to Bermuda, where they overnights. Next stop was Helsinki, Finland, where there was a pre-positioned Meridian crew ready to make the last leg of the trip to Tokyo.

"It was a very cool experience," said Keith Carlyle, one of the pilots for the trip who was onboard for the duration. "I have flown all over the world, but this is the first time I have truly flown 'around the world.' Carlyle has over 14,000 flight hours and has worked at Meridian for eight years.



A view of Tokyo and Mt. Fuji on a clear day.

Meridian Air Charter Earns NetJets Award

Meridian Air Charter is very pleased to announce that it has been named the top subcontract provider for NetJets in the Northeast region for the third quarter of 2015. NetJets is a private aviation company that specializes in fractional ownership of business jets. While the company operates its own fleet of aircraft, sometimes it may require additional lift from third party operators. NetJets, like Meridian, will only select available aircraft from a trusted network of business jet operators with a proven safety record. Meridian Air Charter has worked diligently to meet the rigorous requirements of the industry's highest standards, including ARG/US Platinum, Wyvern Wingman, and IS-BAO Stage 2.

Chris Battaglia, Director of Charter Sales for Meridian Air Charter, says, "This award is a testament to the hard work and dedication that our

team has for not only servicing our customers, but for also supporting our charter partners in the industry. Sometimes it's hard to appreciate the challenges that go into planning a successful charter trip and then making it happen, but our charter sales team of experienced professionals meticulously runs through all phases of the process until the trip is completed. We are honored to be recognized by NetJets and we are looking forward to continuing the trend into 2016."

The Meridian Air Charter sales team proudly displays its award from NetJets. (Left to Right: Pedro Cardona, Delia Roldan, Maria Bochman, Lisa Lilliebladh, Amber Salvatore, Brian Potter, and Chris Battaglia.)





Giving Back

Meridian actively supports local humanitarian organizations as well as charitable giving to worthy causes and those in need. We're pleased to share some of our activities in recent months.

In July, a Meridian team of 19 participated in the 18th Annual PSE&G Teterboro Airport 5K. The event benefits The Bergen County United Way, which is one of the largest charitable organizations in the community.

The race is very unique in that it is located at one of the busiest general aviation airports in the country. Each year it attracts nearly 1,000 runners and hundreds of spectators. The course, which takes place mostly on one of the two airport runways, is flat with only five turns, two water stops and mile clocks. While the course itself may not seem challenging to a seasoned runner, the summer heat reflecting from the sun-drenched tarmac is often the biggest challenge. The event was certified and sanctioned by the USATF-NJ.

The event featured over \$10,000 in random prizes, a \$1,000 grand prize, ChronoTrack B-Tag scoring, United Way mini-flyer dashes, refreshments and a DJ. Proceeds collected from the run help the United Way provide direct services to the most vulnerable residents in the community and to develop programs and financial resources to address unmet needs.

Every October is the annual "Bag a Lunch, Help a Bunch" campaign, sponsored by Table to Table. Meridian again was pleased to support Table to Table, which is a community-based food rescue program that collects prepared

and perishable food that would otherwise be thrown out or wasted and delivers it to organizations serving the hungry in Northern New Jersey. During the Bag a Lunch campaign, Meridian employees were asked to voluntarily donate the amount they would normally spend on lunch for a day; the actual amount was of each individual's choosing. After the donations were tallied, the company made a matching gift at 100%, effectively doubling the contribution.

This year's program resulted in over \$750 in contributions from Meridian employees. With company matching added to that amount, the total donation from Meridian was over \$1,500.

In November, Meridian sponsored a Thanksgiving Food Drive to benefit Eva's Village, an organization dedicated to helping feed the hungry and poor. Employees were asked to donate canned or non-perishable food items from their pantries at home.

Eva's Village was founded in 1982 and is located in Paterson, NJ. They provide hot meals for up to 400 homeless and working poor per day, 365 days a year. In addition to these lunches, they serve breakfast, lunch and dinner to those staying in their outpatient recovery and sheltering programs. The total output of their kitchen is 1,200 hot meals per day with more than 438,000 hot meals served annually.

As you read this, Meridian employees will be involved with the annual Teterboro Airport Holiday Toy Drive to benefit the Center for Hope and Safety. The organization, which was founded in 1976, works to better the lives of women and children in Bergen County, NJ, who are victims of domestic violence. This is the 22nd year that Teterboro Airport Operations has sponsored the drive, and it is always well-supported by Meridian and other companies located at TEB.

Meridian employees continue to be very generous with both their time and money, and we are proud of the support we are able to give to those in need. Thank you Meridian employees for generously Giving Back!

485 Industrial Avenue
Teterboro, New Jersey 07608



MILE MARKERS: Gambia, Africa

Gambia, located in West Africa, is mainland Africa's smallest country. It is bordered by Senegal on all sides except the west, which is the Atlantic coast. At its widest point, the country is 30 miles wide. Gambia's borders mirror the Gambia River, which empties into the Atlantic Ocean. With a population of 1,925,527, the country is slightly less than twice the size of Delaware.

The capital of Gambia, Banjul, is located on St. Mary's Island, at the mouth of the Gambia River. Meridian recently flew a VIP charter trip to the city aboard a Gulfstream G550. The aircraft departed Washington Dulles and flew non-stop to the Banjul airport in eight hours. The airport has an 11,800 foot runway, and has the distinction of being designated an emergency landing site for the space shuttle.

With miles of coastal beaches and the Gambia River running through the country's entirety, Gambia is one of the most beautiful and peaceful lands in Africa. Typical tourist activities include strolling through the Albert Market in the capital city or staying oceanside at a hotel in Fajara. Fishing safaris along the tributaries of the Gambia River and a visit to Abuko Nature Reserve to see the wildlife are also popular.

Gambia was granted independence from the U.K. on February 18, 1965, and it became part of the British Commonwealth.



Fishing boats on Sanyang Beach in Gambia.

The official language of Gambia is English. Indigenous languages include Wolof, Fula and Mandinka. The Portuguese first settled the area and were followed by the British. There has been relative stability since independence.

Music and dancing are well-known Gambian cultural products. Without natural barriers, the country is home to most of the ethnic groups found in western Africa.

Meridian / 485 Industrial Ave / Teterboro, NJ 07608

FBO 201.288.5040

CHARTER 201.288.5459 / 800.882.2333

JET CENTER 201.288.3880

www.meridian.aero



PROUD SUPPORTERS OF:

Table to Table, a community based food rescue program that delivers excess fresh food from restaurants and supermarkets to soup kitchens and shelters. www.tabletotable.org

