

# Transcript

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## Olaf Storaasli started transcription



So we have Tony here to talk about New Zealand and he has a lot of pictures and he also has some videos which we great to see.

And so Tony came to NASA in 1979 working in Aero elasticity, and he also.

Worked on TDT.

And did research in that and he came up with a method and I'm gonna read this one a method that computed the largest Gus loads in aircraft structures obtainable from standard atmospheric turbulence.

And so with all of that research, he was recruited by NASA to help with four mishap investigations.

So definitely helped out when we had.

Hear problems at at NASA. One of the things that.

Tony loves to do during the day is he takes care of over 100.

Azalea, rhododendrons, camellias and hydrangeas that are in his yard.

My gosh, I have to go past that one and loves to walk and jog and go to the YMCA and then he's also involved in tornado modelling.

So definitely a wide group. And then at the end, he said that he also kind of dabbles.

A little bit on studying investments and financial strategies. So I think he's all over the place, all different things, all different things.

So with that, he also has incorporated travel into his after Langley life.

So with that, New Zealand, let's hear it.

Thank you.

Well.

Let's see.

Oh, OK, listen.

Yeah, it did.

You.

Here we go. OK, this is my.

This is my New Zealand tour.

And I we went to New Zealand with my son and my myself.

I.

It was a long flight.

It was 16 hours to get over there and.

I I'll tell you this much.

Or Ray is saying is that?

If you go on a long flight like that, it's try to get.

You know.

Grade upgrade on it like a business class because it it is, it is torturous and but it was it was comfortable it it wasn't too bad anyway.

When we got.

Got there this the tour that they a Tour Company.  
It's New Zealand coach Tours is a company that we use.  
I I use to set up the tour.  
And this is the tour.  
If you I don't know if I can.  
Use a pointer on this thing.  
OK.  
It's coming up over there on the screen, OK.  
Yeah. So we what we did, we landed in.  
Auckland in north and then we flew.  
Over to.  
Christchurch, over here and that's where we started our tour.  
In the South Island that, that's the South S island. And then we.  
This is the outline of the tour basically.  
On the first part of the tour, we went from the East Coast to the West  
Coast with a train to and then the rest of the tour was by buses and by  
drivers.  
So what? What they.  
Just I'll. I'll talk about that later, but it basically I didn't have to drive at  
all and I I feel a little bit different in terms of my neighbors about 3, three  
of my neighbors were.  
They all picked to drive a vehicle over there, but it's on the wrong side of  
the road unfortunately, so I didn't.  
I didn't my my son and I didn't wanna do that.  
So anyway, took the bus route anyway.  
So this what they did is after we landed the the the plane went West  
Coast all the way down to the South Part S part of New Zealand and then  
they came, came up to Christchurch.  
I thought it was a little bit strange, but then I I figured that they have a  
circuit from Christchurch.  
They replied directly up to.  
Auckland so that.  
I think that's that was the idea.  
So this is where we landed in Christchurch.  
It was a pretty.  
Ordinary landing except one thing I should say is that we went when we  
went, got there. It was one of the hottest days that they had over there.  
It went up to 88°.  
So when we went to the hotel, my son was, you know.  
Want to take a rest after long trip?  
And it was hot in A room.  
And it turns out that in New Zealand it's generally stays pretty cool.  
And so they don't have air conditioners in the room.  
In fact, none of the hotels my understanding have air conditioners in your  
room.  
So anyway I I got a couple of fans and we we slept OK with the fans in

the room.

So anyway, that was a kind of strange thing that happened.

So next morning.

We took our train to the West Coast of New Zealand and that's the strange train station that they that a driver took us over there from the hotel to take the train and then we boarded the train.

And there's me sitting.

It's pretty comfortable. The trains that they have over there is very comfortable and and the.

So.

So we went to the oops.

Let me get that off of there and.

Unfortunately, this picture is a little bit.

I.

I I wanna take a picture on the way over there to the West Coast.

Unfortunately, the window was all fogged up that early in the morning, so that's why it's a little bit hazy, OK, and that.

That's still on the way towards the mountain and East Coast is pretty fairly flat, but on the West Coast it.

And they have also lakes over there, a lot, lot of mountains and lakes and. And so that's that's another scene over there.

So that's where we.

Stepped out of the train in a Gray mouth.

That's on the West West Coast of New Zealand on A and then.

The driver picked us up and drove us, drove us several miles.

And we ended up.

So this some of the sceneries we've seen is waterfalls and whatnot.

And then we ended up in France, Joseph Glacier area and this is one shot of the glacier.

And then.

This another shot of the glacier.

And the the little bit that you see?

Here.

Is all that's left of the glacier.

If you wanna go over there and look at glaciers in New Zealand, you better go quick because it's going fast.

So that's what's left of the glacier.

Is that that that was a afternoon trip to to see all of that.

And this is a picture of where a bus stopped and a bus driver asked us to. You know we're stopping over there and told us that there's a spring over here in, in, in the.

Grass grass that you have over in a background.

And he said that you should try to drink it.

So he went over there and drank, drank the water from the spray.

So all of people over there went over there also to drink the water.

From the spring, I've never done that, but it it was very good.

OK.

So this is my the the first video.

This is back on the West Coast on the beach.

And it's just give you a idea what it looks like on the beaches over there.

One thing that Anthony was complaining about.

There's lots of flies this thing, so you have to be careful with that.

Unfortunately, what happens so with these?

I don't know how to get out of this thing.

Oh, there we go. OK.

Thanks. I think I got it alright, thank you.

OK.

So this next thing is is a VAT that.

Were they grow salmon, they have several of these things there and this next to a restaurant stop over there. And the restaurant had all kinds of salmon meal, sandwiches, steaks.

Smoked salmon, so.

It it was pretty interesting to stop and we stopped there for about 1/2 an hour and I think that was in to try to get a breakfast there.

So.

Then we ended up in Queenstown.

This is a. This is not a picture that we took it.

It was.

It's a picture that had had to get Anthony my my son took some pictures, but they were black and a white.

Now they wanna show those pictures.

So this is what Queen Queen styles looks like, which is on the southern part of New Zealand.

OK this.

I'm not gonna show this whole video. It's pretty long, but.

So, so there there, this video shows that the tour that we took on malford sound. I don't know if you all sound it's a pure that's in New Zealand.

So I'm gonna cut it off a little bit and.

OK. And and this, this, this what we saw on a boat?

Does. If you see on a right over here, the delphin swimming next to the boat.

That was kinda interesting.

Should I think I'll. I'm gonna go back just a bit over here and.

So that's the way it looks like in the fjord.

It's it's got waterfalls on the side. It's just.

It's just a wonderful place to to see these kind of sceneries.

So I'm gonna go to the next.

Sleep will be able to go forwards on this thing after the videos.

Don't seem to be able to go forward on the same.

You just keep clicking until the end of the video, OK?

I keep hitting escape.

Oh, is escape escape OK?

This is the next scene, this one of the waterfall scenes.  
So that that that was it for me.  
Sound Tour, part of the tour. So next we went up to Mount Cook or  
Key, which is the tallest mountain in in New Zealand and.  
The only thing about this mountain is always covered with.  
With clouds so.  
You can never see it fully.  
All right.  
So here is the interesting thing about this mountain is is. This is where.  
Ed Edmund Hillary practices climb up to to go up the Mount Everest in  
1953.  
So instead of.  
Practicing on all the mothers he came over here to practice the climb.  
There's a there's a hotel called the Heritage over there and and there's.  
A.  
There's a historical gallery of Sir Edmund Hill.  
Hillary on on his expedition to Mount Everest.  
My if you ever go over there, it might be worth looking at.  
So around this area is also very there's not much city light that you have  
and you can see the stars really well at this location, so.  
This is example what what you can see.  
This is at St.  
Joseph. Excuse me at Mount Johns Observatory.  
Near the hotel.  
OK, I have to explain couple of things over here.  
Stop halfway point between the big towns, the, the, the buses that they.  
Had.  
Which we wrote a board in what what they did is they exchanged drivers  
from 1 bus to another and we basically.  
The drivers wanted to go back to their hometown at the halfway point, so  
that's why they did that.  
So this is one of the stops that we did that at and in one case they  
actually.  
Made us take all the luggage off of 1 bus and put it on another on the  
other bus which was going going to the other way and.  
But this this it was just kind of.  
Interesting episode.  
And all right, that was the end of the South S Island tour.  
Next we went back to Christchurch and.  
We went essentially north.  
North.  
On on this road over here and then we crossed the straight over here into  
the North Island.  
Well, when?  
When we went, there's there was actually a hurricane that was coming  
down into New Zealand.

And it started raining and they cancelled the train train tour up to Pecten, which is on a north north part of the South Island.

And then they also canceled.

The the ferry ride that we were gonna go across the Strait so.

What we had to do is take a bus up there and which which was OK, because a bus essentially went the same route as the train.

So we we didn't miss it out on any scenery, but when we got up to Pecten to take take the go, go across to Wellington, they put us on a small plane that had capacity of 14 passengers and.

And they they flew us across.

To Wellington.

Except we flew in through a hurricane. Believe or not.

Which which was.

A little bit annoying. And then when we landed.

My son's, my son said.

I never want to take a flight like this again.

I.

I I have to take a worse flights than that, but I mean it was. It was pretty bad anyway.

One interesting thing that we flew across the Captain Cook straight, which is a place where I don't know if you know anything about Captain James Cook.

He he had a circumvented.

Earth, I think 2 three times.

Three times and and each time he circumvented the Earth he always.

Stopped in New Zealand at this place is Cook straight and replenishes ships at that point so.

I mean, I didn't know that until after the after the airplane trip that that that was the case.

So this is Wellington and our hotel was off to the left a little bit and this is not my picture, but a picture that I took off the Internet.

I don't.

I didn't have any pictures and then in Wellington we went to the.

Workshop.

Which was a all day tour.

We couldn't take any pictures there inside the workshop, so I again I took.

The liberty of getting a picture off the Internet and that's that's what they do is they make props for the movies that you know like.

Lord of Rings and all of those movies, and.

They make the props at this. This it is a huge place.

It encompasses 2 huge buildings about.

2.

I think it was a two city blocks that they took and we toured this whole whole place one day and that that was very interesting.

Basically, it was my son's sake that I included that tour.

So next we went to Rotondro.  
And this this is what you see there this is.  
Steam bubbling out of the Earth basically.  
And it is.  
It's it's just wild to see all of this.  
Again.  
OK.  
Alright.  
Alright, there we go.  
Alright, next we went to this.  
Geyser I and this was in the same park that we were that you saw the  
video in and this is the lady.  
Knocks Geyser and this is this is a show actually.  
So what they did is they talked about the geyser, how they found it, and  
what.  
You know what the explorers did when they found it? And then at the  
near the end of the hour that they talked about it, they they actually.  
Put all kinds of clothes into the the top of the geyser.  
Let's see if I can.  
I hear.  
This this is a actual video of the so that that's the. So if you see the  
smoke coming out of it, they put in that little hole in there, all kinds of  
clothes and all you know everything.  
And then that's how they got the geyser to erupt.  
So they put this all this stuff in there and then you heard this big gurgling  
noise.  
And then all this stuff shot out with the water coming out there.  
I don't know. It was.  
It was interesting.  
It was interesting show.  
OK, then then we took a tour from the top of this valley down into the  
bottom, and this is the scenery that we saw.  
It's it's just beautiful. Green green all over the place.  
For me. OK, alright, I I should be it done OK, now we went to Hobbiton  
and this village was set up for as a movie set originally. And so it's a Mata  
Mata village. Is the name of a village. And that's my son over there to the  
left.  
Of the sign.  
So these are what they call Hobbit holes.  
So we we saw all of this.  
And it was.  
It was pretty interesting it.  
They had a little tour on it and there's my son in one of The Hobbit holes.  
And.  
And one other interesting thing was was a tree this tree?  
That you see here that was built.

Built for the movie set.

Built that tree and put plastic leaves on it.

Believe it or not.

For the for the, for the movie, and it's it was left there for the for the park.

OK, finally went to this green Green Dragon pub.

And we had a wonderful meal there and.

One at the gift shop.

That's where I got this hat.

So if you want to wear while I'm wearing it, that's that's. I just wanted to share that with y'all.

Oh, OK, next thing, the this is one of the last things we did on a tour is that we went to a cave.

Wat.

Cave and.

In The Cave.

We went down about maybe two stories down into the water that you see on the bottom over there and then the the guide asks us to get into the boat and then he pulled us around The Cave and that's that's when you saw.

Glow glow worms on a on a ceiling over there in a cave.

It's not this I could take.

We couldn't take any pictures inside of there, so we just this is a picture.

From the Internet again.

And that's that's just to show you give me an idea of what what you see and that's that's the end of the tour that's.

That was in.

Auckland.

Auckland and then we flew back. It only took us 15 hours instead of 16 hours of flying back.

So anyway.

Well, that's that's the end of the tour.

It one one thing I I should mention that's kind of funny at the end of this tour as we were landing in in.

In Dallas, TX, we flew from Auckland to Dallas, TX.

And and as we were landing, there was a lady sitting next to me and we started talking.

And then all of a sudden.

I heard something that she said that made me think this lady is a Hungarian so so I asked her in Hungarian.

Is myarrou mean saying that you speak Hungarian?

Sure enough, she answered Egan. Yes.

Yes, I speak Hungarian. So on the on during the time that we were landed, I talked to her in Hungary and all that time.

So anyway that's that's it.

You have any questions?



Like to do is our NASA LA mug wanna give? I have one for each of you guys and to say thank you very much for your for your tips and for everything else and it was great to see your adventures.

So thank you very much.

Good. Thank you guys.

See.

Olaf, over to you.



**Olaf Storaasli** 1:20:40

OK.

Thank you very much.

Am I muted or can you hear me?



**Friz, Jessica S {She,Her} (LARC-D107)** 1:20:48

I can hear you all off.



**Olaf Storaasli** 1:20:49

Well, OK.

Well, thank you to Ray and Tony for interesting talks. I've never been to either place but I guess Ray has been to many other sites too, including up in Scandinavia.

Well, I think that's all we have for our general meeting and we'll return in about 7 minutes for our Board meeting. You're welcome to attend the board meeting even if you're not a board member.

OK.

Thank you very much and.



**Friz, Jessica S {She,Her} (LARC-D107)** 1:21:30

Thanks everybody.



**Olaf Storaasli** stopped transcription