

March 5, 2010

Hi Pops & Mom,

Just a quick note...

Unfortunately the engine is still not installed in the boat but Colin (the mechanic) expects to put it in tomorrow (Saturday). I sure hope so! The parts took a long while to get here but they finally arrived. Some were purchased in England, shipped to the supplier in Arizona, and then shipped to a friend's house in San Diego. My friends took them to the Tijuana bus station to put them on the bus to La Paz. They were supposed to be here the next day but for some reason the shipper in Tijuana held them and put them on a truck about 4 days later. I thought I would explode waiting for them but they did finally arrive. Four shiny new pistons, four piston sleeves, rings and bearings. Everyone is teasing me because I would rather have shiny new pistons than jewelry.



In the mean time Colin had the engine block professionally cleaned, painted it, had the crankshaft turned and checked, had the fuel injection pump rebuilt, made gaskets, replaced the camshaft, had the injectors rebuilt, had the freshwater pump rebuilt (new impeller, shaft, bearings and seal), repaired the crankshaft pulley, modified the worn out lift pump, and probably a gazillion other things I don't even know about. He is closing the engine up today and running it in his shop. Then on Saturday it will be time for the installation entertainment. When he took the engine out it was piece by piece. Now he is putting the whole huge thing in all at once. I think it is too big, and too heavy, and have no idea how he thinks he will get it off the dock, in the boat, down the steps, over to the engine compartment, and in... but he has done this before... and knows best.

This is a picture of *Talion* on the way back to Mexico in November. This picture is keeping me going!

Love,
Patsy

