

## Guatemalans' Life Settling Down Again After the Earthquake

Franette Palmer Roschuni

May 1976



*Guatemala's 1976 Earthquake*

Things are settling down now. The tremors, although continuing every day, are very mild. Also, we have access to a "champa" (little makeshift house) if we ever run out in the middle of the night because of a strong shake, but I'm sure that won't happen. Oscar made the "champa" for the lady across the street. Her house really is bad. It's scary to visit because the walls are cracked about one or two inches open.

But our house seems to be pretty much O. K. except for a few cracked windows and a hole in one window made yesterday I think by a slingshot! Oscar did a really good job on the champa; actually he had a little help but he did almost all of it himself. It has a corrugated metal roof, wooden frame, and blanket and cardboard walls. It's quite big -- about eight or nine feet square. Anyway, there is always room for us if we get scared in the house, which Gisela is anyway!