

June 7, 1961

**Taylor Cites Needs
Of Military Youth**

ATLANTA (BP)--Youth entering military service reveal an increased knowledge about the world but not about spiritual matters in comparison to former years.

"The military is getting as fine a group of young people as ever," says Brig. Gen. Robert Taylor of Washington, deputy chief of Air Force chaplains. "They are academically stronger but religiously about the same."

Taylor, a Baptist, was in Atlanta conferring with officials of the chaplains division of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

He suggests churches do more to prepare their youth for military service and encourage them to be Christian witnesses in service. One area where he thought churches could strengthen their programs is in public worship.

"Many churches are shooting over the heads of their youngsters, especially in the adolescent ages," he says. "Our worship services are for adults, and the day has come when we need worship services pitched for youth. More of our churches should start separate services for them."

Gen. Taylor, a chaplain for 21 years, was pastor of Baptist churches in Texas where he attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. He is one of the survivors of the "Bataan death march" during World War II.

Since World War II the chaplaincy has changed to meet the needs of modern military strategy, he said. "We have passed quickly from the atomic to the space and missile age. Large concentrations of personnel are becoming a thing of the past, and we now must minister to small groups at missile sites."

The chaplain who serves these sites is called a "site chaplain." He may serve five or six small groups, some less than five people.

The large number of military dependents also has changed the chaplain's role. This has brought an emphasis on the religious education program and intensive counseling.

He cited the help of Southern Baptist leaders, along with men from other denominations, in helping establish these programs. Such men as Wayne Oates of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Keener Pharr of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, and Richard K. Young of the Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem, N. C., have conducted seminars and workshops.

-30-

Picture available on request at HMB of Gen. Taylor and group of young boys enroute to Parr's Island to join marines.

-30-

**Pulpitless Committee
Faces Two-Fold Task**

(6-7-61)

ATLANTA (BP)--The Rock Baptist Church just outside of Atlanta has lost both its pastor and its pulpit.

Harry P. Wooten Jr. moved to Cartersville, Ga., as pastor of the Tabernacle Baptist Church. The night after the pastorium was vacated thieves broke into the church and made off with the pulpit stand, plus the recording system and amplifier.

-30-

'Tally A Positive'
For Servicemen: Tobey

WASHINGTON (BP)--"Tally one on the positive side" for American servicemen overseas, says chief of Army chaplains, Major General Frank A. Tobey here.

Hitting the play on the negative influence and impression made by American servicemen abroad by both secular and ecclesiastical press, Tobey related incidents from the "other side of the story."

"Largely untold is the story of the good, the beautiful, the charitable lives and deeds of the majority of American servicemen and their families," Tobey said.

Quoting a member of the interboard committee for Christian work in Okinawa, the chief of chaplains said specifics were itemized as "consistent giving to the scholarship fund...for training church leaders, support of the Christian orphanage, financing a water system for a summer camp, visitation, donations for medical equipment and facilities, manual labor on buildings and equipment, and moral support."

Tobey asserts that maybe the words "steady" and "quietly" are the clue to the infrequent publicity on the lives of this type of military personnel overseas.

"Keep the white chalk handy to tally on the positive side," he challenges.

-30-

Alabama To Put Up
8 Highway Billboards

(6-7-61)

MONTGOMERY (BP)--Motorists entering Alabama from neighboring states will get an immediate greeting from Baptists in the state.

The Alabama Baptist State Convention announced here it will erect eight billboards on highways just inside state lines, presumably two each on main highway entrances from Florida, Georgia, Tennessee and Mississippi.

The display signs will say "Alabama Baptists Welcome You--There Is A Baptist Church Near You." An outline map of the state will carry the added information: "Alabama Baptist State Convention. 706,000 members in 2827 churches."

-30-

Wichita 'Loyalists'
Appeal For Retrial

(6-7-61)

WICHITA (BP)--Requests for retrial in Kansas District Court here has been filed by members of the First Baptist Church, Wichita, who are loyal to the American Baptist Convention.

District Court Judge Howard C. Kline held earlier the church may withdraw affiliation from the American Baptist Convention, Kansas Baptist Convention and Wichita Association of Baptist Churches. A large majority of the church had voted in favor of this move months ago.

-30-

Folks and Facts.....

(6-7-61)

.....The Wingate College (Baptist) tennis team from Wingate, N. C., won the national doubles championship in competition among 600 junior colleges in the National Junior College Athletic Association invitational tennis tournament at Rochester, Minn. (BP)

-30-

BAPTIST FEATURES

PRODUCED BY BAPTIST PRESS
NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

127 NINTH AVE., N., NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE AL 4-1631

W. C. Fields, *Director*

Theo Sommerkamp, *Assistant Director*

Editor's Note: This article by Kendall Berry of Blytheville, Ark., expresses his feelings after visiting several Oriental countries this year. The past chairman of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, Layman Berry took part in mission conferences and visits to mission stations while in these countries.

Filipinos, Thais Show
East-West Influences

By Kendall Berry

Thailand is one of the most unusual countries in the world. The way of life in this country has been affected less by outside influences than most other sections, especially is this true out in the country away from the main city of Bangkok, a rather modern metropolis in many ways.

This is not to say Thailand has not been influenced by western ways, as several European, Chinese and American cultures are quite evident today among the Thais. Our missionaries, including American Baptists, American Presbyterians, Southern Baptists and others have greatly influenced many prominent citizens of Thailand. The country can by no means be called a Christian nation, as the vast majority of its citizens still cling to age-old Buddhism.

Thailand has had an upturn in recent years, but it is still far below that of the United States in standard of living. Rice, the principal agricultural crop, is produced in abundance and is the main source of revenue as a good portion of the country's crop is exported. Most of the rice crop is still cultivated with the lazy old water buffalo by tenant farmers for landlords who live in the city or the government which controls or owns a large portion of the farm lands.

Other crops are produced to give a well-balanced diet of all kinds of tropical fruits, meats, fish and small grains to keep most of the Thais healthy and happy and rather independent.

The floating market up the river was possibly the most revealing trip one could make to see how many thousands make a living right on the river, swimming like fish, waving and smiling as every boat passes, and showing a friendly attitude toward all who invade their private sanctuary.

Our missionaries are finding good response to their messages, but it may be years before much impression is made among the populace. The opposition, or more or less indifference of the officials of the country to Christianity is the main obstacle at present, according to some of our missionaries. However, there are several active churches throughout the country, and the enthusiasm and sincerity is very real.

The Philippines are made up of 7107 islands, over 25 million people, 53 provinces speaking 87 dialects in one distinct, indivisible nation.

As the travel folder says, "It is at once 1500, 1890 and 1961; Christian, Muslim and primitive cultures crowded into little more than 100,000 square miles; basically Christian civilization sustained by Orientals in an enduringly Oriental setting. Geographically, the Philippines lie in the Pacific Ocean; culturally, it floats on the cross-stream of varied influences: Eastern and Western, old and new.

"It is a land of vivid contrasts, of natural and man-made wonders. It is a land of light and color, of lush greenery, sparkling waters, brilliant flowers, the shadowy splendor of sunsets. It is a land of music and poetry, a land of people who in every way match the varied spirit of the landscape, a land that inspires description and defies definition.

"The country was named after King Philip II of Spain. On July 4, 1946, the Philippines became a republic with a president as head of state and a bicameral legislature."

Manila, the capital and known as the "pearl of the Orient," is a booming metropolis of some 2 million population, definitely influenced by our western culture and military occupation during and after World War II. Gen. Douglas MacArthur is still their hero; and even though few scars still remain of the war, it's hard to look out

over Manila Bay across to Bataan and Corregidor without thinking of the bloody conflict and death march that occurred there some two decades ago.

Some of the best work done by Southern Baptist missionaries has been accomplished in the Philippines, but there is still unlimited possibilities for Christianity here, as all over the Orient.

If all Americans throughout the world would live and practice their Christianity while visiting and touring other countries, it would have more effect, possibly, on the people of any given country than all the millions of dollars that our government is spending in helping the rest of the world raise its standard of living and increase its production.

The help we are giving other nations would be more effective if those nations knew it was coming from us because of our Christian feeling of brotherly love and not because they may think that we want something from them or are trying to save our skin from some dictatorial power.