

November 15, 1961

Professor Lists Crises  
Before United Nations

By Gainer E. Bryan Jr.

NEW YORK (BP)--Crises facing the United Nations were reviewed at a Baptist-sponsored Seminar on United Nations and Foreign Affairs here.

John G. Stoessinger, political science professor from a New York City college, was identified as an expert on the United Nations by Mrs. George Martin, United Nations observer for the American Baptist Convention. (She is not to be confused with Southern Baptists' Mrs. George Martin from Virginia.) Mrs. Martin invited Stoessinger to the seminar and introduced him.

Stoessinger has twice been a refugee, first from the Nazis in Austria and later from the Communists in China. Coming to this country in 1947, he earned a doctor of philosophy from Harvard University. He is now on the faculty of Hunter College in New York and is the author of books on international affairs.

Stoessinger said it is impossible to judge the United Nations as a whole since it is composed of five separate organizations, each founded on a different assumption as to the cause of war. He said that each organization has a different record and different issues.

These five organizations are the Security Council, the General Assembly, the Trusteeship Council, the Economic and Social Council and the World Court.

The crisis confronting the Security Council, Stoessinger said, is the failure of most member nations in the United Nations to pay anything on the peace-keeping operations in the Suez Canal area and the Congo. As a result, the organization is going into the hole at the rate of \$10 million a month. Its future, and especially that of its peace-keeping operations, is gravely threatened by these facts, he stated.

The crisis in the General Assembly, Stoessinger said, is a crisis of understanding on our part. He said Americans do not understand why so many nations in the world body do not take sides with the United States in its struggle against Soviet domination of the world.

Stoessinger said the explanation is that emergent nations do not regard Soviet domination as the menace but Western colonialism, "even though it is dying." We need to become aware of the paradox, he said, that while we regard the non-aligned states as neutralist in our struggle, they regard us as neutralist in their struggle.

The professor gave Algeria as an example. He said Afro-Asian delegates charge: "When the French-Algerian issue comes to a vote, the United States abstains; it is neutralist." They say, "All the powers we fear are your allies; therefore you are neutralist in our struggle."

Stoessinger took up the China issue. He told the delegates there are two sides to the question of admitting Communist China to the United Nations. First, he said, this is not a question of admitting a new nation, but of determining which government is the rightful government of China.

He reviewed the arguments that are advanced against the admission of Red China:

1. There is opposition to a nation's shooting its way into the world peace organization, which many believe China, in effect, would be doing;
2. The admission of Red China might lead our allies to feel the West had appeased the communists, as the Allied Powers appeased Hitler at Munich, and thus lead to a dissolution of our system of defense alliances.

The professor then reviewed these arguments that have been advanced favoring the admission of Red China:

1. That Red China ought to be admitted in order to be within the framework of international law;

2. That the United States might earn some credit in terms of good will by giving in now on this question before we are outvoted in the United Nations and are forced to give in;

3. That China probably will get the atom bomb within the next two years and would need to be included in any international agreements on arms control.

Stoessinger said he recognized Communist China as a "war-loving nation." "The basic issue," he said, "is whether the UN is to be a club for peace-loving nations only or a universal organization for both peace-loving and war-loving nations."

In answer to a question, he expressed his opinion that Red China would be given China's seat in the general assembly within the next year by majority vote of the Assembly, that Nationalist China would retain its seat in the Security Council by using its veto there and that Nationalist China would then re-apply for Formosa's seat in the General Assembly. The UN would then be confronted with a knotty legal problem indeed, he said.

Stoessinger reviewed these other crises:

Trusteeship Council--It has done a good job of preparing the mandated areas turned over to it by the old League of Nations, but colonial powers will not turn over any new colonies to it.

World Court--It cannot forge community where none exists. For example, it has been unable to enforce its judgments in East-West cases. Where community already exists, it forges the bonds of community.

Economic and Security Council--Stoessinger said this organization has had excellent results in its technical assistance programs throughout the world and has no serious crisis at present.

Office of the Secretary-General--The idea has been voiced that a national cannot rise above his national loyalties. U Thant, the newly-elected chief executive, he noted, is only acting secretary-general until 1963.

The three-day seminar at United Nations headquarters in New York was sponsored jointly by the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, the Division of Christian Social Concerns of the American Convention and the equivalent agency of the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc. Attendance totalled 80.

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Hoosiers Want Unneeded  
Sunday Business Closed

(11-15-61)

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)--Indiana Southern Baptists went on record here opposing unessential Sunday business and violations of church-state separation in the operation of at least 14 Indiana schools.

The 1961 State Convention of Baptists in Indiana adopted a budget goal for the coming year, through the Cooperative Program, of \$128,500. One-fourth of these receipts will go to the Southern Baptist Convention.

The messengers reelected Walter R. Davis of Hammond, Ind., president. They had already selected Lafayette, Ind., as site for the 1962 convention (Nov. 8-10) and this year picked the 1963 time and place. The 1963 meeting will be Nov. 7-9 in Evansville.

The convention reported a gain of 18 cooperating churches during the year. There are now 158 churches with 27,885 total members. These churches sponsor 42 missions.

A goal for 1962 is establishment of 30 new churches and 62 new mission stations.

The convention opposed non-essential Sunday sales. It pointed out the moral, ethical and theological principles involved. It asked its members of affiliated churches to oppose such businesses in their own communities.

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After a speaker for a national religious liberty group cited what he called breaches of church-state separation in Indiana, the convention adopted a resolution on this topic. The alleged violations included schools being listed as public schools by one group and as Roman Catholic parochial schools by another.

A third resolution urged prayer and repentance "in these perilous times."

The fourth commended the state executive secretary and executive committee of the convention for their stand on buying a Baptist office site in suburban Indianapolis. The land-owner, before selling to the Baptists, would have required a pledge the Baptists would not interfere in granting of liquor licenses to nearby businesses. The Baptists refused. As a result, plans for a new state convention office location have been delayed.

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Seminar Delegates Get  
Better World Picture

(11-15-61)

NEW YORK (BP)--Southern Baptist delegates to a Baptist-sponsored Seminar on the United Nations and Foreign Policy here returned home impressed that church people need better to understand international issues and developments.

This reflected the recurring emphasis of speakers that the Christian gospel must be preached and applied with an awareness of the world environment.

The Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention was one of three sponsors of the three-day seminar. Other sponsors were agencies of the American Baptist Convention and the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc. Of 80 registrants, 25 were Southern Baptists.

J. H. Avery, pastor of First Baptist Church, Panama City, Fla., was one of the delegates to the seminar. "I think we should have several of these a year," he said. "I think the more people we can have familiar with what's going on in the world, the better. I think this would be the best panacea to these extreme Rightists who are becoming so vocal."

R. B. Culbreth, pastor of Metropolitan Baptist Church, Washington, D. C., said, "I'm more sold on the work of the UN than I was before. I think Baptists should plan seminars of this kind more often."

Robert L. McCan, pastor of First Baptist Church, Danville, Va., said he hadn't changed his mind about anything as a result of attending the seminar, "but some impressions that I had before have been deepened."

He continued, "I was impressed by the tremendous drive against colonialism in the UN. The fact that the great issue in the minds of Afro-Asian delegates is not communism, but colonialism."

Principal speakers were Brooks Hays of the U. S. State Department; Frank Graham, former governor of North Carolina; and Paul Geren, deputy director of the Peace Corps.

Foy Valentine, executive secretary of the Christian Life Commission, presided at one of the sessions.

Brooks Hays told the all-Baptist audience the United States has a world mission "to find and keep in the path to justice, freedom and righteousness." He declared, "The extreme Right in America is threatening the world mission of the United States. There is a deterioration of faith in the American system of government and a distrust of its leadership that is frightening." He cited, for example, "the idea that the State Department is infiltrated with subversives." This, he said, is "nonsense."

Hays is assistant secretary of state and a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Contrary to what these critics believe, Hays said, "America is morally solvent. Too many people are standing at the wailing wall when they ought to be out preaching our moral solvency and faith in our government."

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He appealed to the assembled ministers and others "to meet the challenge that this ultra right-wing group is creating in this country" by action on the local level.

Hays made it clear he was exempting true conservatives from his attack on extremists. The extreme Rightists, he charged, "are betraying the conservative tradition itself because they distort and misapply conservatism."

Hays said the South is tending to become more isolationist. "This is a retreat from the high idealism of Cordell Hull--but this can be arrested."

Hays urged support of the United Nations, the Peace Corps and the foreign aid programs of our government and the United Nations.

Ross Coggins, new associate secretary in the Christian Life Commission, Nashville, and former missionary to Indonesia, advised: "Make people aware of the issues....Do more than simply react."

Robert E. H. Hardmond, United Nations observer for the National Baptists, stressed the need of more such seminars in New York City for people from the grass roots.

The seminar learned that The Methodist Church holds 150 such meetings a year at United Nations headquarters through its General Board of Christian Social Concerns. The Methodist Church plans to erect a 12-story building in the immediate vicinity of United Nations for use by all church groups in their contacts with the world peace organization.