

NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

460 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 244-2355

W. C. Fields, *Director*Theo Sommerkamp, *Assistant Director*

May 17, 1963

Gen. Taylor To Advise Youths At Congress

WASHINGTON, D. C. (BP)--A Southern Baptist chaplain with a war record dotted with acts of courage will make four appearances here Aug. 13-15 at the Third National Royal Ambassador Congress.

He is Maj. Gen. Robert P. Taylor, chief of chaplains for the United States Air Force and a former Southern Baptist pastor.

The general will use four sectional meetings to tell the 6,000 Baptist boys expected at the congress what they can expect when they go into military service and how they can use this opportunity to witness as Christians.

The congress, conducted under the auspices of the Southern Baptist Convention Brotherhood Commission and state Brotherhood departments, is designed to give boys a broader concept of missions and to help their spiritual growth, Edward Hurt Jr., Memphis, director, said.

The congress is open to Royal Ambassadors 12-17 years old and their adult leaders.

The Royal Ambassadors will learn that Gen. Taylor, a former Texan, doesn't try to meet the spiritual needs of thousands of Air Force men by himself. He's got help--1,140 clergymen of many faiths. And the number is increasing every month.

While he's supposed to be primarily concerned with men's spiritual problems, Gen. Taylor's service record includes accounts of unusual bravery.

Taylor earned the Silver Star for valor while on the front lines on Bataan peninsula in the Philippine Islands during World War II.

After his capture and participation in the well-known "death march," Taylor served as chaplain at a prison camp hospital where he ministered to more than 10,000 men.

During this period he spent 14 weeks in solitary confinement when the Japanese guards caught him smuggling food and medicine to starving prisoners.

Taylor's spiritual experience as a boy is similar to that of many Royal Ambassadors.

As a boy, he attended Joy Baptist Church near Sabine, Tex. He became a Christian at 16 and later taught a Sunday school class for Junior boys.

Taylor began his military career after completing his education. It included degrees from Baylor University (Baptist) at Waco, Tex., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary at Fort Worth.

-30-

Baylor Gets Air Force Space-Age Contract

(5-17-63)

WACO, Tex. (BP)--Baylor University's psychology department here has received a \$98,724 contract from the United States Air Force to make comparisons of the nervous system reactions of the Java monkey, the chimpanzee, and man.

The study could have far-reaching implications in making manned space flights safer for humans, and could bring Baylor University another step closer to becoming a major research center for the nation's space program, said Cliff Williams, psych logy chairman.

William D. Thompson of the psychology faculty will be the principal investigator in the 18-month project. He will be assisted by Williams, Roger Kirk, and 12 graduate assistants in the psychology department of this Texas Baptist college.

"We are looking for differences and similarities between man and animal in the area of automatic nervous system activity, so when an animal is sent into space we can check his reactions, and then predict how man would react under similar circumstances," said Thompson.

The automatic nervous system includes body functions that are automatic--such as heartbeat, respiration, blood pressure, blood distribution, perspiration and reflecting changes in emotion.

The Air Force is providing the monkeys and chimpanzees for the study, and some of the training equipment. Baylor's psychology department will be asking for the help of volunteer men who are in the same age range as America's astronauts.

-30-

Advice to state Baptist editors:

F., .

(5-17-63)

Through the courtesy of James O. Duncan, editor of the Capital Baptist, D. C., Baptist Press will receive from Detroit stories on the major actions of the American Baptist Convention May 15-19. These will be mailed you as they are received. We are grateful to Editor Duncan for sharing these stories with us. He will attend the Detroit meeting.

Theo Sommerkamp, Baptist Press

Flying Parsons from throughout the nation, especially those from the eastern half of the country, will meet at Adams Field in Little Rock, Ark., and then fly in formation to Dallas.

Flying Parsons President Lewis E. Clark of Smackover, Ark., said the group plans a "fly-in breakfast" at Dallas Love Field about 8:00 a.m. on July 2.

At least 18 persons from Pompano, Fla., will fly in light planes to the meeting, which is expected to attract 15,000 Baptists from throughout the nation, said SBC Evangelistic Conference Director C. Y. Dossey.

One of the speakers for the Evangelistic Conference, Jimmy Karam of Little Rock, will be in the lead plane in the formation. He will fly in a twinengine plane with Flying Parson President Clarke, pastor of Maple Avenue Baptist Church in Smackover, Ark.

The Flying Parsons of the SBC, organized this year, cites as its objectives "to use aviation in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to fly missionaries to their speaking engagements." Karam, a men's clothing store owner in Little Rock, is not exactly a missionary, said Clarke, but his purpose at the Evangelistic Conference will be "spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

** 1 × 6