

October 5, 1965

**Missionaries Unaffected  
By Recent Cuban Decree**

ATLANTA (BP)--Fidel Castro's decision to allow on Oct. 10 additional immigration of Cubans to the United States will not affect Southern Baptists' imprisoned missionaries.

This is the opinion of a missions official here who said Castro's decision, if carried into action, may allow some Baptist pastors to come to the United States, but not the missionaries.

Lloyd Corder of Atlanta said Herbert Caudill and David Fite, the imprisoned missionaries, would need other arrangements in order to return to the United States.

Corder is secretary of the language missions department for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and director of the agency's Cuban work.

He said the U. S. State Department has continued to press for the release of the missionaries, who were arrested April 8 and have spent nearly seven months in prison.

Caudill, 62, is under a 10-year sentence and David Fite, 31, is under a six-year sentence. Both were charged with espionage, subversive activities and illegal currency transactions.

The wives of both missionaries continue to live and do missions work in Havana. Mrs. Fite is the daughter of the Caudills.

Mrs. Caudill, in a letter following their last monthly visit, reported both men "looked better and seemed to have gained a little and had good color."

"They manage to keep in good spirits and keep the others (there were 51 Baptists arrested with them) in good spirits," she wrote.

Commenting on the family, she added, "Margaret's (Mrs. Fite's) children keep well. The baby is plump and cheerful, and the boys are fine. They have started back to school."

Earlier in a telephone interview with the Georgia Christian Index, Mrs. Caudill had said the missionaries were holding daily prayer meetings in their cell block.

She reported 28 students enrolled in the Baptist Theological Institute in Havana, and most pastors were serving two churches since the arrest of the other ministers.

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**Lottie Moon Trains  
Voluntary Workers**

10-4-65

(Editor's Note: Gainer E. Bryan, Jr., editor of the "The Maryland Baptist," weekly newspaper of the Baptist Convention of Maryland, spent two weeks in Rome reporting the Vatican Council for Americans United and his own paper. For one week while there he occupied a guest room at the Armstrong Memorial Training School.)

**By Gainer E. Bryan Jr.  
For Baptist Press**

ROME--The women who operate the Armstrong Memorial Training School here in Monte Sacro, a suburb of Rome, are hoping for a bountiful Lottie Moon Offering again this year. It will mean more funds with which to train women for voluntary church work in Italian-speaking areas.

Marylu Morr, assistant directress, native of Washington, D. C., explained that the school is owned and operated by the Southern Baptist Convention Foreign Mission Board. It was built and continues to be financed from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Its faculty is proud of the biblically trained graduates now serving God in so-called secular, as well as church vocations.

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Miss Moore is the oldest daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Dewey Moore, veteran Southern Baptist missionaries to Italy. The Foreign Mission Board made an exception in her case when they gave her an appointment to serve in her adopted country in April, 1963.

The directress of the school, Miss Virginia Wingo, from Louisiana, was away when this reporter visited Monte Sacro. She was visiting Italian Baptist churches, recruiting and interviewing prospective students.

Since the fall term had not yet begun, Miss Moore and Miss Edda Corai, one of the teachers, were able to provide a guest room for a travel-weary American editor, seeking refuge from high-priced downtown hotels.

Armstrong Training School is a memorial to Mrs. Laura Armstrong of Missouri, who was president of Woman's Mission Union of the SBC. It was established, at the present location, in 1950. The school's chapel, where services are held for the students twice daily, also houses a community Baptist church.

Completion of the eighth grade is a prerequisite for admission. Enrolment this year was expected to be 18-20. Comfortable capacity is 23. Last year there were 17 students. Of these, Miss Moore said six were students at the Bible school. The others boarded there and went to public schools in Rome.

Those who merely board receive religious orientation by participating in all activities of the community church and the daily chapel exercises. They pay a small sum, less than the cost of their room and board. They also pay all of their school expenses outside.

The school offers scholarships, provided by various state Woman's Missionary Unions, for its ex-students to continue their education. "A diploma from our school is worth nothing in the eyes of the Italian government," Miss Moore said. "It is not accredited."

Of the 11 girls who boarded last year, one is studying this year on an Armstrong scholarship to be a teacher in the public schools. Another graduate, trained on a scholarship from here, is now teaching in the public schools.

Of three students to be graduated this year, two are going into kindergarten training and one into nurse's training--all on scholarships.

The school has home and foreign missionaries and pastors' wives among its graduates. One young woman from Toronto, Canada, is now training to go back and do mission work among that city's 150,000 people of Italian background. Two graduates from Italy went to Canada this year to do mission work.

"We need a Tentmaker type of program whereby our graduates go out to work and earn their living but also do church work," Miss Moore said. "Italian Baptists in general cannot yet fully support their pastors. Therefore they cannot support other full-time church workers." There are only 5,258 Italian Baptists.

The school is located off the main street in an ultra-modern apartment district of Monte Sacro, which numbers 400,000 inhabitants. It shares a plot of more than an acre with the Italian Baptist Publishing House. The five-story steel and concrete building of the school is surrounded by beautiful cedars and evergreens, and the school has a large vegetable garden.

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Hardin-Simmons Honors  
Benefactor Carr Collins

10-5-65

ABILENE, Tex. (BP)--Hardin-Simmons University here honored a Dallas insurance executive, Carr P. Collins Sr., at a luncheon that kicked off an endowment fund campaign to raise \$2 million for the Baptist school.

More than 250 supporters, faculty members and alumni paid tribute to Collins, who has offered Hardin-Simmons \$500,000 if the university raises an additional \$1.5 million.

School officials hope to raise \$750,000 by Jan. 1, and another \$750,000 by the end of 1966.

"This is a rare opportunity for us and we can, with hard work and interest, meet the challenge," said Sam Waldrop of Abilene, chairman of the endowment campaign steering committee.

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Waldrop said \$362,000 has already been donated or pledged, and the university lacks only \$1,130,000 to meet Collins' challenge.

Hardin-Simmons President James H. Landes said Collins' offer "is as exciting as any news that has ever come to my ears."

Landes presented to Collins a Hardin-Simmons "medal of honor" for distinction in Christian service.

Collins, in response, told 250 Hardin-Simmons supporters that all Baptist programs revolve around the core of Christian education.

Collins, chairman of the board for Fidelity Union Life Insurance Co. of Dallas, is a long-time benefactor of Baptist schools in Texas.

Hardin-Simmons, a four-year Baptist university with 1,700 students, currently has an endowment of \$3 million. Authorities in higher education have estimated private institutions need at least \$10,000 of endowment for each student enrolled.

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Texas Convention Leader  
Returns To Pastorate

10-5-65

PORT NECHES, Tex. (BP)--Roy A. Lambert of Dallas, secretary of the direct missions department for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, has resigned his state Baptist post to become pastor of the First Baptist Church of Port Neches, Tex.

Lambert has held the convention post for the past five years. He assumed the pastorate Oct. 11.

He is former pastor of Southside Baptist Church in Pine Bluff, Ark.; South Baptist Church of Fort Worth; First Baptist Church, Elvins, Mo.; and First Baptist Church, Santa Rosa, Tex.

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Bill Haggard Takes  
Oklahoma State Post

10-5-65

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--Bill Haggard, pastor of the Highland Hills Baptist Church here, has been named state Training Union director for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

Haggard, 36, will fill the vacancy created when Fred Williams resigned the post in June to join the Stewardship Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention in Nashville, Tenn.

In his new position, Haggard will be responsible for promoting on a statewide basis the work of Southern Baptists' major training organization for church members. More than 1,100 of the 1,339 Baptist churches in Oklahoma have a Training Union organization.

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Kansas City Pastor  
Takes Evangelism Post

10-5-65

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (BP)--A Kansas City, Mo., pastor has been chosen to be the director of evangelism for the Missouri Baptist Convention, with offices here.

He is Luther B. Dyer, 41, pastor of Bethany Baptist Church there since January, 1962. A native of Oklahoma, Dyer is a graduate of the University of Tulsa (Okla.) and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City.

Dyer succeeds Eugene T. Pratt who died last April of a heart attack.

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### Furman Called On To Justify Grant

COLUMBIA, S.C. (BP)--Furman University officials and trustees were called on during a special meeting here to justify the university's accepting \$611,898 in federal aid to complete its \$2.2 million science building.

The general board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention called this special session at the insistence, it explained, of a "concerned group" of pastors and laymen. The "concerned group," whose spokesman was R. Cort Flint, said acceptance of the federal grant violated the principle of church-state separation.

Flint is pastor of First Baptist Church, Anderson, S. C.

After a four-hour open hearing, the general board went into executive session. At the end of the executive session, the board said its executive committee would "study and refine" suggested solutions on federal aid to South Carolina Baptist colleges. The committee would report back to the full board in 12 days.

The South Carolina convention operates four colleges, of which Furman is largest and best known. Each of the four colleges was invited to attend the meeting, but only Furman was discussed.

The other colleges--the new Baptist College at Charleston, Anderson College, and North Greenville Junior College--have not participated in the federal aid program.

Eugene C. Proctor, Conway, S. C., dentist who is chairman of Furman trustees, restated an earlier formal stand by the trustees that the grant "is for services rendered" and "in no way violates the principle of separation of church and state."

Furman President Gordon W. Blackwell of Greenville told the general board during the past 30 years Furman has received \$7 million from the South Carolina Baptist Convention for operations and capital needs.

During the same time, it received an equal amount from Duke Endowment and another \$7 million from the federal government in various loans and grants.

The president read the prepared statement pointing out the university had been asked to report to the meeting funds it had received from the federal government. He said this amount does not include purchase of surplus government property, nor support for the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) unit at Furman. Neither is support for students under the G. I. Bill included.

Both Blackwell and Dr. Proctor expressed their "strong desire" that Furman not be in conflict with the wishes of the state convention. Proctor said trustees felt they were expected to set policy for the university.

In conducting the hearing, the South Carolina general board allowed Furman's trustees and administration 45 minutes for their report. During the next 45 minutes, objectors to federal aid spoke. Then, the hearing was opened to others to speak, with a time limit of five minutes per person.

22 persons spoke during the four-hour hearing. About 350 people attended the special hearing. Each of the 43 district associations of churches in South Carolina was invited to send five representatives.