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460 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219  
Telephone (615) 244-2355  
W. C. Fields, Director  
Jim Newton, Assistant Director

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Baptist World Alliance  
Requests Aid for India

WASHINGTON (BP)--Baptists of the world are being challenged to help relieve the acute food shortage in India.

The Baptist World Alliance relief committee here has sent out an appeal for Baptists around the world to come to the aid of the starving people of India.

The situation in India is "desperate," with an estimated 100 million people there suffering from famine, said R. Dean Goodwin of Valley Forge, Pa., chairman of the relief committee of the Baptist World Alliance. There has been no harvest in some areas of India for two years, he said.

Goodwin encouraged Baptist groups around the world to contribute funds to deliver grain to the central part of India where the drought is taking its greatest toll in human life.

The appeal came following return of Adolfs Klaupiks, relief coordinator for the Baptist World Alliance, from a trip to this and other trouble spots in South Asia.

Food shortage has long been a chronic problem in India because of that country's enormous population increase, reported Klaupiks. Severe drought during the past two years in the country's wheat-producing area has increased the shortage to an acute status reaching famine proportions.

Goodwin said that governments and relief organizations of the United States and other countries have responded to the need, but the famine is so vast that every available source of supply must be tapped.

The Baptist World Alliance has sent \$6000 from its contingency fund to leaders of the Baptist Union of India for administration in the most destitute areas.

Baptists in Denmark, Sweden and other European countries plus some American groups have initiated fund-raising programs.

Money, not food, is being solicited by the Alliance. Rice and wheat are already available at India's ports of entry, Klaupiks said. Money is needed to provide transportation to the inland areas where the famine is acute.

Roland G. Metzger, a representative of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Societies, wrote from South India that some twenty pastors in the Madira area are "literally facing death in the next six months" unless help comes.

Their lives and the lives of the people in their churches can be saved for a minimum of \$5 per man per month, he wrote.

Josef Nordenhaug, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, cited the Indian famine as a case where Baptists of all the world can participate in the relief of human suffering.

"The Alliance," he said, "is a channel whereby all our people can contribute as much as they are able, knowing it will be administered through national Baptist leaders in the name of Christ."

There are 482,000 Baptists in India, organized into several unions which, are ready to use all available relief funds in the wisest way, Nordenhaug said.

Money sent to the Alliance, either directly by donors or through the mission boards of the various Baptist conventions, will be transmitted to these Indian leaders for such use.

Dehoney Back From Orient  
Launches Missions Effort

By Al Shackleford

CLARENDON HILLS, Ill. (BP)--The president of the Southern Baptist Convention told a four-state Baptist rally in the Lake Michigan area that he saw in Viet Nam "American youth in its finest hour."

Wayne Dehoney, president of the convention and pastor of the First Baptist Church in Jackson, Tenn., flew directly to the rally from London on completion of a six-weeks preaching tour in the Orient, including a visit to Viet Nam.

More than 2,500 Baptists, an over-flow crowd, attended the rally in this Chicago suburb to launch the Lake Michigan "Operation Penetration" missions effort.

"I was encouraged by the physical aspects of the war in Viet Nam," Dehoney said, "but even more thrilling was the spiritual climate there."

Dehoney, who saw some of the fighting from the air, noted that American servicemen are involved in efforts to help the people of Viet Nam, not only handing out candy to the children, but building schools and churches.

"They are using their own money and spare time for these projects," he added. In Viet Nam we see "American youth in its finest hour."

The Southern Baptist Convention president conferred with Gen. William Westmoreland, chief of the military forces in Viet Nam, during his trip to the Orient.

Of the 66 Southern Baptist chaplains in Viet Nam, Dehoney saw all but six. "I found a high degree of dedication in these men that I would match against any of our pastors and missionaries," he said.

The mission rally here launched the intensive five-month campaign in the Lake Michigan area of northern Indiana, northern Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

More than 190 Baptist churches in the highly-populated area will conduct Sunday School witnessing campaigns and simultaneous evangelistic campaigns during March and April.

The missions effort is a joint project of the State Convention of Baptist in Indiana, the Illinois Baptist State Association, the Baptist General Convention of Texas with which Baptist churches in Wisconsin and Minnesota are affiliated, the Baptist Sunday School Board, and the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Lake Michigan Operation Penetration grew out of a phrase and challenge issued by Dehoney during his presidential address to the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas last year. He said that Southern Baptists must reach the highly populated metropolitan centers of the north and east.

According to the 1960 census, 21 million people live in the four states on the southern and western edges of Lake Michigan. About 210,000 people are members of Southern Baptist churches in the four-state area.

Dehoney told the rally that a Christian must go to the world where he lives and share his experience with others.

"Lake Michigan Operation Penetration is not waiting for better plans, more money, or more buildings, but only our complete surrender to God," he said.

"God has given us all the equipment we need for revival; the experience of grace, and the Word of God. We need to determine that we will be an instrument in the hand of God to show forth his grace."

In his first address in this country in six weeks, Dehoney referred to revivals in other parts of the world which he has noted in recent trips to Africa, South America, and the Orient.

In the Orient, Dehoney spoke to servicemen in Japan and Korea on a preaching mission for the U. S. Air Force Chaplaincy. Then he toured Baptist mission work in Asia and the Near East for a month.

"You would be proud of our missionaries in Indonesia," he said. In Djakarta where martial law has brought tanks in the streets and strict curfews, more than 60 Southern Baptist missionaries remain. They are the only Westerners left in the city.

When Dehoney asked why they stayed in an area where 200,000 people have been executed since October, one missionary replied, "The safest place in the world is the center of God's will."

Dehoney also told of revival efforts in Africa, and in Brazil where he visited during the past year. The 250,000 Baptists in Brazil had 100,000 conversions last year, said Dehoney.

"If Southern Baptists could do as well, there would be 4½ million professions of faith this year" in SBC churches.

The 1800-seat high school auditorium was filled long before time for the rally. More than 300 extra chairs were placed on the stage and in the aisles. Many stood around the walls and in the lobby during the two and one-half hour meeting.

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SBC President Supports  
U.S. Policy in Viet Nam

3-14-66

By Roy Jennings

MEMPHIS (BP)--Wayne Dehoney, globe-circling president of the Southern Baptist Convention, endorsed the United States policy in Viet Nam without reservation and praised the humanitarian acts of American servicemen there.

"I supported the United States policy before I left for Viet Nam. But I am returning even more convinced this nation is doing the right thing," Dehoney said at a press conference here on return from a six weeks mission tour of the Orient.

He described this country's role as two-fold: to save the Vietnamese from communism and to help them start on the road to a free life.

"I was particularly impressed by the tremendous amount of time soldiers and Marines are spending in building hospitals, orphanages and in developing other humanitarian projects."

Dehoney told of military units helping the Vietnamese raise hogs, ducks and fish. They're at least another thousand projects underway, he estimated.

"As a chaplain said, this is merely an extension of our Christian philosophy of helping people find a way of life which we have believed in for more than 2,000 years."

Dehoney, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Jackson, Tenn., in addition to his denominational assignment, said he conferred with top American military leaders in Viet Nam about the morale and commitment of troops there.

"One general told me we are seeing American youth in their finest hour, young dedicated men who have a purpose in life.

"Now all of the men aren't candidates for the ministry. Don't get me wrong. There still are instances of gross immorality and other evidences of men under tension."

Dehoney said he found the six Southern Baptist missionary couples in good spirits, carrying out their assignments but on a restricted travel basis.

The missionaries aren't targets of the Viet Cong at the present but they could be if communism overruns the country, he said.

Dehoney's trip to the Far East, which included preaching engagements in Japan and Korea, was financed by the United State Air Force and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

"The bank at Jackson paid my wife's way (through a loan)," Dehoney explained. Mrs. Dehoney stayed in Japan during her husband's three-day trip to Viet Nam.

The denominational leader, who will travel 250,000 miles in 1965-66 to four continents (equivalent of 10 trips around the world), said he's convinced Southern Baptists have the right strategy--missions abroad and evangelism at home.

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"I'm going to reemphasize at the Southern Baptist Convention in Detroit in May that it's time for Southern Baptists to launch an even greater program of outreach," he said.

Dehoney lauded the Peace Corps as the outstanding program of helping people that he's seen in his world travels.

While Southern Baptists can't carry on such a program in Viet Nam at present, we can in Thailand and in other countries," Dehoney said.

The Baptist leader said he would spend about five weeks in this country before leaving again. His next trip will take him to Russia for a meeting of a Baptist World Alliance group.

At the press conference and tea arranged by the Shelby Baptist Association, Dehoney received messages of welcome from Tennessee Governor Frank Clement and Memphis Mayor William B. Ingram.

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Arizona Baptists Elect  
Two Staffers, Vote Budget

3-14-66

PHOENIX, Ariz. (BP)--The Executive Board of the Arizona Southern Baptist Convention elected two Arizona pastors to fill staff positions and voted to recommend a Cooperative Program budget goal of \$375,000 for 1967.

Named to fill vacancies on the convention's staff were:

Jess L. Canafax, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church in Glendale, Ariz., as secretary of the convention's Sunday School department; and

Irving Childress, superintendent of city missions for Baptists in Tuscon, Ariz., as secretary of evangelism and stewardship for Arizona Southern Baptists.

The board also set a proposed goal of \$375,000 for Cooperative Program contributions among Baptist churches in Arizona for 1967. The actual budget will not be determined until late in the year. Both the goal and budget must be approved by the convention meeting next fall.

The board voted to combine the work of the convention's Brotherhood department with the present Training Union department, directed by C. E. Archer. In the past, Baptist Brotherhood work with laymen and boys had been combined with the evangelism department.

Childress, the new secretary of evangelism and stewardship, is a native of Virginia and former pastor of three Baptist churches in Kentucky.

He is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Canafax, the new Sunday School secretary, is a native of Ardmore, Okla., and was pastor of several churches in Oklahoma before coming to Glendale, Ariz., in 1961. He is a graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

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CORRECTION:

On BP story mailed March 11, page 1, headlined "Baptist Editorial Says Viet Nam Policy 'Just'" (concerning editorial in The Maryland Baptist), please change word "intimate" in paragraph 8, line 5 to the correct word, "ultimate". Line 5, graph 8, should correctly read: "nations but is in the ultimate interest of the United States."

Thanks, Baptist Press