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Pursue Vietnam War,  
Baptist Editor Says

LOUISVILLE (BP)--The editor of the Western Recorder, official publication of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, said editorially that there seems to be "no just and honorable alternative" but to pursue the Vietnam war "to a successful end."

Editor C. R. Daley said that the United States should follow its present course in order to protect all of Southeast Asia including Australia from the domination of Communism.

Calling the present military action "the lesser of evils," Daley observed that "we have no choice but to continue to fight for the freedom of the Vietnamese and consider it (the war) as holy a war as a war can be."

"There is a tendency for us to make any war a holy war, whereas the truth is, no war probably is holy. It is just a matter of the lesser of evils," he wrote.

Daley also acknowledged that "no sincere student of the New Testament could believe such behavior as that of America in Vietnam is God's perfect will. God's will and command to his followers is to love and not hate, to feed and not kill their enemies.

"How much better it would be if we were spending as much to convert to Christianity the Viet Cong and the North Vietnamese as we are to destroy them," he added.

Daley added, however, that this is only "wishful thinking under the present circumstances. And so the ethic of love which Jesus teaches must be practiced in the situation as it actually is, not as we would like it to be."

Daley then wrote about the situation as he felt it actually is, acknowledging that he had previously been reluctant to comment on the Vietnam war because of lack of full knowledge and understanding of "this complex situation."

The Baptist editor stated that "Communism must be stopped somewhere, or this Godless darkness will cover the earth." He advocated the so-called domino theory, which says that if South Vietnam falls to Communism, other countries in Southeast Asia will fall just like a row of dominoes when the first one falls.

"Not only does the fate of the remainder of Southeast Asia depend upon stopping Communism where it now is, but Australia would surely be next and on and on," wrote Daley.

He added that freedom of America depends upon preserving freedom in the rest of the world, and that the freedom to preach the gospel depends upon containing Communism in these nations.

"The moment Communism wins in all of Southeast Asia, the hundreds of Christian missionaries, Baptist and others, will be killed, run out or silenced," he wrote, adding that Southern Baptist missionaries in Southeast Asia seem to be some of the strongest supporters of U. S. military action in Vietnam.

Daley disagreed, however, with statements made recently by the United States Navy Chief of Chaplains, Rear Admiral James W. Kelly, who said it is "both unjust and immoral to strike at American fighting men by constantly questioning the propriety and morality of their involvement."

"Not so," declared Daley. "Rather it would be immoral for one not to question the morality of American involvement in Vietnam if it is a matter of his conscience."

Daley added, however, that this does not justify the action of those "who try to hinder the war efforts of those who feel the conflict is just," nor the action of "draft dodgers, draft card burners, and ministers or others encouraging such behavior."

Oregon-Washington Area  
Given Missions Boost

ATLANTA (BP)--Three former pastors who will supervise mission work in areas of population under 50,000 in Oregon and Washington were appointed in February as career missionaries by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

The men and the cities where they will headquarter as superintendents of missions are:

Gilbert Skaar of Medford, Ore., to Shelton, Wash. (Olympic, Southwest and Mount Baker Baptist Associations); Roy Phillip Belcher of Mercer Island, Wash., to Newport, Ore. (Myrtlewood and Coast Associations) and Howard H. Ramsey of Kennewick, Wash., to Spokane, Wash., (Coulee and Inland Empire Associations).

Other appointees are Oliver Raymond Delmar of Phoenix, Ariz., who will be superintendent of missions in Casper, Wyo.; Marion Lamar Hayes of Tallahassee, Fla., pastor-director of Provident (R. I.) Baptist Church and Rebecca Martin of Huntsville, Ala., director of Christian social ministries in Huntsville (Madison Baptist Association).

In other actions of the board of directors Mr. and Mrs. Jesse R. Stogdill, who have been working with Indians in Anadarko, Okla., were elevated from associate missionary to career missionary status.

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Nelson Elected President  
Of Foundation Secretaries

2/13/68

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. (BP)--Thomas E. Nelson, executive secretary of the Missouri Baptist Foundation with offices in Jefferson City, Mo., has been elected president of the Association of Baptist Foundation Executives meeting here.

Nelson succeeds W. C. Ribble of Albuquerque, executive officer of the New Mexico Baptist Foundation, and will serve as president of the group for one year.

Elected vice president was Frank Denton of Dallas, secretary of the endowment and capital giving department of the Baptist Foundation of Texas; and elected secretary was Vernon Yearby, executive secretary of the Alabama Baptist Foundation.

Representatives of foundations from 20 Baptist state conventions attended the two-day meeting here. They will meet next year in Jackson, Miss., Feb. 25-27.

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Billy Graham Decides  
No College At Present

2/13/68

By Jim Newton

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (BP)--Evangelist Billy Graham has decided against building a Christian college bearing his name at the present time.

Graham said here he made the decision because it would be too great a diversion from his evangelistic crusade work, and involve too much of his time, money, personnel and efforts.

"I would almost have to give up my crusade work," Graham said. "And I feel that I should continue these crusades."

Graham, in a telephone interview with the Baptist Press, said that he felt one of the reasons he got sick and had to cancel all engagements through April "was because the Lord was trying to knock me over the head to tell me that I shouldn't build any institution at this particular phase of my ministry."

Graham also said that an editorial he read in the Biblical Recorder, official publication of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention, had influenced him in the decision. The editorial cautioned Graham against the perils of building such a college.

The Baptist evangelist pointed out he was giving up the idea of an institution anywhere. He said he had considered 17 different sites for a Christian college which earlier he described as the future "West Point of Christian education."

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In November, the Florida Baptist Convention had voted to hold in abeyance plans to build a Baptist college at the site in Palm Beach Gardens until after Graham had made a decision on whether he would build his school there.

A recommendation to the convention from trustees of the proposed Florida Baptist College offered two alternatives: giving the property and pledges of \$837,000 for the Florida Baptist College to Graham if he decided to build a college; or proceeding with plans for a two-year institution offering courses on the junior and senior level.

Graham, however, told the Baptist Press he would not have accepted the \$837,000 in pledges for the Baptist college, because he did not want "any kind of obligation to any particular group or particular person."

The chairman of the Florida Baptist College board of trustees, Jess Moody of West Palm Beach, said immediately after learning of Graham's decision not to build a college that "this means that we will simply proceed on the building of a Baptist college here."

Moody, pastor of the First Baptist Church of West Palm Beach, said that Graham's decision leaves the convention with its previous action to build a Baptist college in South Florida, and if the convention has other plans, this previous action will have to be rescinded in November when the convention next meets.

Moody said that the college does not plan to take any major steps until the Florida Baptist Convention takes further action next November to "augment" the previous decision "with further recommendations to put this thing into gear again."

"We can envision a great institution here," Moody said, "but we must really consider the BEST (Baptist Education Study Task) reports that have come to us, and we must come to grips with reality. We are exploring other possibilities," he added.

The Baptist Education Study Task Findings Committee, in its final report after a two-year depth study of problems facing Baptist higher education, stated "It was generally agreed that at least \$20 million would be required to establish a four-year liberal arts college and bring it into full operation as an institution of acceptable academic excellence."

"In view of these considerations, there was general consensus that the proliferation of colleges without adequate support is unwise, and is a betrayal of our youth," declared the BEST report.

There has been much discussion in the Florida Baptist convention questioning the wisdom of establishing a new Baptist college in the light of the fact that the school to date has only \$837,000 in pledges, plus the gift of 200 acres of land in Palm Beach Gardens from Florida Developer John D. MacArthur.

Some observers saw the Graham college proposal as a way out of building a Baptist school with inadequate financial backing.

Now, however, the situation is back where it was last September before Graham announced that he was considering the possibility of building a college to train ministers and other religion specialists.