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August 29, 1968

Baptist Speaker Defends .
 Limited War in Vietnam :

RIDGECREST, N. C. (BP)--A political science professor and Baptist deacon speaking at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly here defended "a policy of limited war objectives" in Vietnam as the lesser of two evils.

Daniel R. Grant, professor at Vanderbilt University in Nashville for the past 20 years, told the annual Southern Baptist Christian Life Conference that such a policy requires a war effort "strong enough to convince the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese that they can never win."

"But it also requires that it be limited, restrained, and reasonable enough to convince North Vietnam that we do not threaten her existence, and the Viet Cong that all we want is a continuing, stable, democratic government, including the participation of the Viet Cong themselves," Grant said.

Although he did not state whether he felt the current administration implementation of the "limited war" concept was good or bad, Grant said that "unfortunately, the whole concept of limited war is so misunderstood by the American people that it takes strong leadership and support to make it work. It tends to either escalate through impatience or to falter through lack of support."

In a series of lectures on "The Christian and Politics," Grant said his own "soul-searching for the Christian attitude toward the war in Vietnam began with two assumptions": (1) that nuclear war is unthinkable, and (2) that a Communist takeover of Southeast Asia is "almost (but not quite) as unthinkable."

"My preferences, therefore, are for some kind of effort which would avoid both of these undesirable alternatives," he said, explaining that the limited war concept was the result.

The political science professor listed comprehensive arguments for and against the war in Vietnam, adding that the Christian is obligated to consider all the implications of alternative policies and make choices between "the perplexing shades of gray in the world. It would be nice if all our decisions were between clear-cut black and white or good and evil, but it simply is not the case."

Asking if the Christian should be a pacifist, Grant observed that "the rejection of all war as contrary to the teachings of Christ is a very persuasive position in many ways.

"Based strongly on the admonition not to kill, and the Sermon on the Mount, the pacifist position calls for turning the other cheek, walking the extra mile, giving the cloak to one who takes the coat, and returning good for evil," Grant said.

"The position of the pacifist is not without its own ethical problems, however," he observed. "The pacifist who demands the legal right to conscientious objection seems to be asserting his rights without accepting his responsibilities to support and defend those very rights."

Grant shunned what he called "bird labels" characterizing the sharp divisions of opinion on the Vietnam war such as "hawks, doves, and eagles," but jokingly added that the cartoonist for "Miss Peach" may have described a sizable segment of American people when Marcia commented concerning Arthur's lack of knowledge of the Vietnam issues, "One thing about Arthur--he's neither a hawk nor a dove. He's a dodo."

"The dodo," observed Grant, "may be far more damaging in the long run than either the hawk or dove." He urged Christians to become informed on the complex Vietnam war and offered six practical guidelines for Christian decisions about war.

Briefly summarized, the six suggestions were: (1) beware of oversimplified good guys/bad guys analysis of problems, (2) avoid calling any war Christian, (3) beware of simple solutions, (4) consider all implications of alternative policies and support the lesser of two evils, (5) support actively practical programs and policies to build bridges rather than walls and (6) encourage ministers to assume the role of enabling laymen to relate his Christian concerns to the world.

Grant delivered nine lectures during the conference sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention Christian Life Commission at the Baptist assembly here, dealing with the theme of the Christian's role in practical politics.

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10,000 Baptists Pray
For Crusade In "Pact"

8/29/68

By Catherine Allen

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--Completed assignments in "Pact", the hemisphere-wide Baptist prayer partner project for the Crusade of the Americas, have passed the 10,000 mark.

The Pact team at Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) offices in Birmingham are clocking at least 60 woman-hours a day making the assignments.

More than 25,000 persons, groups, and churches have mailed in completed applications for prayer partners. In addition, some are still asking for application forms.

More than a million forms in English, Portuguese, and Spanish have been distributed throughout the hemisphere.

Mrs. R. L. Mathis, WMU promotion division director and coordinator for Pact, predicted a landslide of applications closer to the December 31 deadline. "We wish more of those million forms would return right away in order to save a jam at the end of the year," she said.

Mrs. Mathis estimated the influx of applications to be a thousand a week, with a steadily increasing rate. All applications must be received before 1969 so that partners can pray together throughout the year of the Crusade, she said.

Assignment of partnerships began late in June. The first assignments involved a bloc of 34 individuals in Ripley, Miss., and 34 in Barranquilla, Colombia. These partners were selected through the cooperation of Mrs. Roy McGlamery of Ripley, a former Southern Baptist missionary in Colombia.

From then on, the Pact workers have plowed through the files with as much speed as possible. Every WMU employee with a spare moment contributes to the assignment effort.

They match individuals with individuals approximately the same age, churches with churches approximately the same size, groups with groups of the same type, and families with families. Whenever possible they assign partners who will have no language problem, because partners are encouraged to correspond and share prayer requests.

"Everybody wants a prayer partner from another country," Mrs. Mathis said. "We comply with requests when we can, but United States applications--even Southern Baptist ones--greatly outnumber the others."

Pact workers try at least to assign partners from different state conventions.

Officials of organizations of other North American Baptist groups have given valuable support to Pact. Woman's Missionary Union of the North American Baptist General Conference, for example, listed 400 missionary societies who wanted Southern Baptist societies as partners.

Even though the Pact rules say that special requests cannot be considered due to the volume of mail and the limited staff, the officials still have a heart.

They just couldn't ignore the 73-year-old widow who wanted a Baptist deacon for a partner, or the batch of servicemen who preferred single girls. They tried to help the 16-year-old boy who wanted a blonde girl of the same age. But none of the girls had indicated hair color.

They couldn't help the family who requested President and Mrs. Lyndon Johnson for partners, but were happy to pair two families with seven children each.

And to liven up the routine of picking up cards off the stack, typing labels, and stuffing envelopes, the clerks matched Mr. Cook with Mr. Spoon, Mrs. Poole with Mrs. Diver, and Mrs. Salmon with Mrs. Bay.

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"Be patient," was Mrs. Mathis' plea to the thousands of applicants who have not received their assignment. A few dozen assignments have failed to reach the partners because they have moved. Mrs. Mathis urged applicants who have changed address to let the Pact office know.

Several of the early partners have already struck up friendships via mail. Now Pact personnel enjoy reading thank-you notes with such statements as, "I understand why I couldn't have a partner from South America. Anyway, I always wanted to have a friend from Alabama."

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Springfield Recommended
For Illinois Headquarters

8/29/68

ZION, Ill. (BP)--The Illinois Baptist State Association meeting here Oct. 30-Nov. 1 will consider a recommendation that the state Baptist offices be moved from Carbondale to Springfield, Ill.

A committee appointed by the state Baptist group last year will recommend the new location. The state Baptist association voted last fall to move its headquarters offices, but delayed until 1968 the selection of a place.

Springfield, a city of about 90,000 is located in the heart of the state, about equal distance from the northern and southern tips.

LaVerne Butler of West Frankfort, Ill., chairman of the nine-man committee, said that the committee approached the study with the premise that the state offices should be within a four-hour drive of any church in the state, enabling state employees to visit any church or association and return home the same day.

"With these guidelines," Butler said, "we soon narrowed our choice to five cities: Peoria, Bloomington, Decatur, Champaign, and Springfield.

"Each city had some advantages and each city had some disadvantages," he added. "In fairness to all, we feel that Springfield comes closest to meeting our needs."

Since 1930, the state offices have been located in Carbondale, a city of about 20,000 in the southern tip of Illinois about 50 miles from the southernmost point. Illinois Baptists occupied their first permanent building in Carbondale in 1953.

The committee listed six other factors in deciding to relocate in Springfield: (1) it is the most heavily populated area (2.3 million within 100 mile radius) of the five cities considered; (2) a "strip city" is developing along U. S. Highway 66 from East St. Louis to Chicago which includes Springfield; (3) its central location is related to all parts of the state; (4) transportation, mail and news media outlets are adequate; (5) Springfield is the state capital; and (6) it is more likely for Baptists to visit the city, both the capital and "Lincoln center" of the state.

Although the committee voted at its last meeting to recommend the Springfield location, it had not yet determined the exact site in Springfield, costs, and a time-table for the move. Butler said the committee hopes to have some of these recommendations ready for the convention in Zion.

He added that the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention has given a tentative commitment to assist with financing a new Baptist building in exchange for a long-term Book Store lease.

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James Burleson Joins
Sunday School Board

8/29/68

NASHVILLE (BP)--James Burleson, former minister of music at Rosen Heights Baptist Church, Fort Worth, has joined the church music department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board as youth consultant.

A native of Arkansas, Burleson holds a bachelor of arts degree in music from Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark. He has done graduate study at the University of Missouri and at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

As youth consultant, Burleson will work with churches across the convention in their youth music programs.

Burleson is married to the former Shirley Duvall, also of Arkansas. They have two children, Jimmy, 10, and Marcy, 5.

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California, Oklahoma Students
Get Radio-TV Scholarships

8/29/68

FORT WORTH (BP)--The Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission here has presented its two annual \$500 scholarships to students planning careers in radio and television to California and Oklahoma students.

Miss Cheryl Ann Yarchin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Yarchin of Torrance, Calif., was chosen to receive the Robert Sarnoff Communications Scholarship. A graduate of S. R. Butler High School, Huntsville, Ala., Miss Yarchin is specializing in radio-television and history at Baylor University, Waco, Tex.

The Bill Moyers Communications Scholarship was awarded to George English Morgan, a radio-television major at Oklahoma State University. Morgan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul F. Morgan of Midwest City, Okla., is a graduate of Murphy High School, Mobile, Ala.

The scholarships are awarded each year to Southern Baptist students committed to careers in radio and television.

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Oklahoma Baptists Name
Brotherhood Associate

8/29/68

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP)--Henry Chennault, director of National Baptist work for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, has been named associate secretary in the convention's department of brotherhood.

Chennault came to work for the Missions Department of the Baptist General Convention, Jan. 1, 1967, after serving three years as pastor of the First Baptist Church, Davis, Okla.

The native of Dalhart, Tex., Chennault is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, the University of Oklahoma, Norman, and has studied at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

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William Jewell President,
Guy Moore, Sets Retirement

8/29/68

LIBERTY, Mo. (BP)--H. Guy Moore, president of William Jewell College (Baptist) here since 1962, said he would retire effective Aug. 31, and the college trustees elected B. G. Olson, executive vice president, as acting president.

Moore, 59, said he would like to return to the service of pastoral ministry or some related vocation, but was not prepared to announce his immediate plans. He said he hopes to have time to write, lecture and travel.

He and Mrs. Moore returned recently from a month-long tour of Europe, Moore said, when he had time to consider his future.

Before coming to the Baptist college here, Moore was for 15 years pastor of Broadway Baptist Church, Fort Worth. Previously he was pastor of Baptist churches in Kansas City and St. Louis, Mo.

A native of Illinois, he is a graduate of William Jewell and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville. William Jewell awarded him an honorary doctor of divinity degree in 1945.

Olson, the acting president, has been executive vice president at William Jewell since December of 1967, coming here after being assistant to the president of the University of Alaska.

Olson, 39, taught at the University of Alaska for six years while publishing a newspaper and magazine, and operating a public relations and fund-raising firm. He established the University of Alaska Press and has been author or editor of 11 books.

He is a graduate of the University of Wichita and the University of Alaska (master of arts) and has done further graduate work at two other universities.

William Jewell, a four-year coeducational college, enrolls 1,100 students from 30 states. It is located about 15 miles from Kansas City.

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