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REGIONAL OFFICES

ATLANTA Walker L. Knight, Editor, 1350 Spring Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30309, Telephone (404) 873-4041
DALLAS Billy Keith, Editor, 103 Baptist Building, Dallas, Texas 75201, Telephone (214) RI 1-1996
WASHINGTON W. Barry Garrett, Editor, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

BUREAU

BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD Lynn M. Davis, Jr., Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37203,
Telephone (615) 254-1631

Baptist VIEWpoll

Moderate Policies Preferred
For Handling Student Unrest

A 78

By Martin B. Bradley

The overwhelming choice of a representative group of Southern Baptist pastors and Sunday School teachers in a poll concerning student unrest on Baptist college campuses was in favor of "moderate" policies to handle such problems.

In the latest Baptist VIEWpoll survey of Baptist pastors and Sunday School teachers, the panel was given four alternative policies for dealing with student unrest on Baptist campuses. Two choices were "moderate" in tone, and two were "soft."

The most preferred approach--a policy in which student demands are heard but the final decision(s) is rendered by school administrators--received the approval of 61.9% of the pastors and 62.8% of the Sunday School teachers.

A policy which is determined upon the merits of each situation which develops on the campus received the nod of 32.2% of the pastors and 24.7% of the Sunday School teachers.

The "soft" alternate choices received relatively little support from the VIEWpoll panel. A policy in which negotiations are conducted with demanding student groups and an attempt to reach mutual agreement is sought was acceptable to only 4.0% of the pastors and 10.8% of the Sunday School teachers on the panel.

Another policy in which student demands are accepted without negotiation and carried out by administrators was acceptable to only 0.4% of the pastors and 0.3% of the Sunday School teachers.

The remaining 1.4% of both pastors and Sunday School teachers had no opinion as to policies.

Both political liberals and conservatives on the panel find "moderate" policies toward student unrest on Baptist college campuses more acceptable to their taste.

Despite the popular feeling that the political liberal takes a "soft" attitude toward student unrest, those VIEWpoll panel members who consider themselves on the liberal end of the political continuum did not lean heavily toward the "soft" choices presented. Interestingly, no panel member who considers himself politically "quite liberal" found either of the "soft" choices acceptable.

Education may be a factor in determining how one approaches a policy for dealing with student unrest. For pastors, preferred policy was slightly associated with education--all of those choosing a "soft" policy have had at least some college training. However, for teachers, no association between education and policy choice was evident.

Based on these results, it would appear that if Baptist administrators take a moderate approach in dealing with student unrest they will find widespread support among fellow Baptists.

The results are based upon a 91% response by the Baptist VIEWpoll panel members.

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Baptist, Catholic GI's Go
AWOL, Seek Episcopal Refuge

356

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (BP)--Two runaway American soldiers, one a Southern Baptist and the other a Roman Catholic, sought sanctuary at the Episcopal Church Convention here, declaring their refusal to serve in the Vietnam war.

"I can no longer take part in this inhumane and unjust war," stated Marine Cpl. Louis Jones, 23, a Southern Baptist from Charleston, S. C.

-more-

Jones asked the Episcopal Church to uphold his "Christian stand, and help make this a Christian nation again."

His companion, Louis Perry, 21, a Catholic, of Mountain View, Calif., said he would rather go to jail than to "compromise my values and the dictates of my conscience for a military machine that has set out to destroy the people of Vietnam."

Both were AWOL (absent without official leave) from stations in Hawaii, reportedly having flown secretly from Hawaii to Detroit and driven under assumed names to the Episcopal Church Convention.

At the convention meeting at the University of Notre Dame, hundreds of delegates demonstrated support for the stand taken by the youth. Many others, however, did not and there was no assurance the two would not be arrested.

A group of delegates carrying crosses, branches and anti-war placards escorted the pair into the Convocation Hall.

After their arrival, Bishop George Barrett of Rochester, N.Y., urged the convention to support the men's rights of individual conscience, saying this was in accord with long Christian tradition.

A press officer for the Episcopal Church, Rudolph Devik, told Baptist Press that there had been a real swell of support for the two lads at the convention.

He added that Jones talked as if he had received sound Christian training in his youth. Both used Christian rehtoric in what they said, and did not use Marxist phrases often typical of conscientious objectors Devik said he had counseled on the West Coast.

The two said they would not attempt to avoid arrest if it came, but wanted it to be under circumstances where their stand would make an impact.

Most of the time, they remained seated in a side gallery surrounded by sympathizers or in the corridors of the convention talking to the delegates.

Associated Press Religion Writer George W. Cornell reported that the FBI here said it had received no requests from the military to take the two men into custody. "If we receive a request, we may possibly pick them up," Cornell quoted FBI Agent Bob Radde as saying.

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Eddleman Takes Sabbatic
As Seminary President

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NEW ORLEANS (BP)--H. Leo Eddleman, president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, will begin a sabbatical of several months starting Sept. 25, 1969, returning to the campus once a month for board meetings and other important events.

Dean James D. Mostler has been asked to serve as "first administrative officer" while Eddleman is absent from the campus, the seminary's public relations office reported.

Eddleman plans to audit a course at the University of Chicago in the area of curriculum building, and has accepted an invitation to lecture three days a week at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Ill.

His schedule will also allow for continuing fund-raising meetings scheduled by the seminary in Texas. The fund campaign will be continued in Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina by Stan Hardee, former assistant to the president at the seminary; and in Tennessee by Doug Chatham, newly-elected assistant to the president.

In announcing his sabbatical to the seminary faculty, Eddleman mentioned his wife's recent major surgery, and requested prayer for her speedy and complete recovery.

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SBC Gifts Continue Increase
Despite Drop During August

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NASHVILLE (BP)--Southern Baptists' 1969 contributions to world missions through the denomination's Cooperative Program unified budget continued a steady increase over gifts for the same period last year, despite a slight decrease during the month of August.

A report from the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee for the first eight months of the year showed a 5.78 per cent increase in giving through the Cooperative Program for 1969 compared to a similar period in 1968.

Cooperative Program contributions hit \$18,549,409 for the first eight months of 1969, an increase of \$1 million over 1968 contributions.

During the month of August, however, Cooperative Program gifts totaled \$2.18 million, a decrease of \$23,165 compared to the August, 1968 gifts.

John H. Williams, financial planning secretary of the SBC Executive Committee, explained the decrease by pointing out that two big checks from the Tennessee Baptist Convention came during the month of July, one of which normally would have been posted in August.

Williams added that he usually feels good if the increase is more than five per cent over the previous year's gifts, and that the increase so far has been 5.78 per cent.

In addition to the \$18½ million in Cooperative Program contributions, Southern Baptists have given \$21.1 million so far during 1969 to designated, specific mission causes. The \$21.1 million is an increase of \$853,924 or 4.20 per cent over designated gifts during 1968.

The combined grand total of Cooperative Program and designated gifts to world missions reached \$39.7 million in August, an increase of \$4.93 per cent or \$1.8 million.

Most of the total, both in Cooperative Program and designated categories, went to support foreign missions efforts--a total of \$25.7 million. More than \$8½ million has gone to home missions during the year.

The Cooperative Program supplies funds to 19 agencies and organizations of the Southern Baptist Convention, including the two mission boards, six seminaries, and other related agencies and institutions.

Amounts included in the monthly report reflect only contributions to world and nationwide Southern Baptist mission efforts, and do not include amounts given to support state and local Baptist mission efforts.



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News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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

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HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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