



**BAPTIST PRESS**  
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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March 10, 1971

**Supreme Court Denies Co  
Status in Specific Wars**

WASHINGTON (BP)--The U.S. Supreme Court here denied that conscientious objection to participation in a particular war is required by the First Amendment to the Constitution or by the provisions of the Military Selective Service Act of 1967.

The court's decision came as a result of an appeal by two conscientious objectors to particular wars' (specifically the Vietnam War) but who are not objectors to all wars.

Guy Porter Gillette, a professed humanist, earlier had been convicted for wilful failure to report for induction into the armed forces.

Gillette had stated his willingness to participate in a war of national defense or a war sponsored by the United Nations as a peacekeeping measure. He declared, however, his opposition to American military operations in Vietnam, which he characterized as "unjust."

Louis A. Negre, a devout Roman Catholic, after induction into the Army, completion of basic training, and receipt of orders for Vietnam duty, sought discharge as a conscientious objector to war. He did not claim objection to all wars.

There was no question in the opinion of the court concerning the sincerity or religious quality of the views of either of these men.

In its decision the court upheld the validity of the provision for conscientious objection to all war as set forth in the Selective Service Act, but it did not extend this right to objection to particular wars.

In addition, the court held that the Selective Service Act does not violate either the "establishment clause" or the "free exercise clause" of the First Amendment to the Constitution.

These two provisions of the First Amendment provide: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

The section of the Selective Service Act that was under consideration by the court provides that no person shall be subject to "service in the armed forces of the United States who, by reason of religious training and belief, is conscientiously opposed to participation in war in any form."

The Selective Service Act also provides civilian duty for those who claim conscientious objection to participation in war.

The court decision was on an 8-1 vote, with Justice William O. Douglas dissenting. Justice Hugo Black concurred with the decision of the court, but did not agree with all of its reasoning in arriving at its conclusion.

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Belgian Baptist Approve  
"Interior Mission" Plans

3/10/71

BRUSSELS (BP)--During its 1971 General Assembly here, the Belgian Baptist Union approved plans for an "interior mission structure," and rejected a proposal that women be accepted as delegates to its annual meetings.

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Stated purposes of the interior mission are "to aid churches of the Union in evangelization and church development" and "to create new mission posts for evangelization in the various regions of the country, either directly or in cooperation with one or several churches."

Initially the interior mission program will be dependent upon outside sources for financial support, according to Rudolph M. Wood, Southern Baptist missionary press representative here. Local churches will be encouraged to pick up more responsibility for the program as soon as possible.

It was pointed out that no church in the Union is now able to be self-sufficient, and there are few resources for any outreach beyond the local church, Wood said.

A committee named by the European Baptist Federation and approved by the Union will direct the mission program. Wood is committee chairman; Maurice Entwistle is secretary, and Jean Desy, union representative.

Wood is pastor of the English-speaking Baptist congregation in Brussels and the Southern Baptist representative to the Union. Entwistle is the representative of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, and Desy is president of the Union and pastor of two churches in Liege, Belgium.

One project, which Wood said has been attempted for several years with little success, is the operation of a mission in Brussels. Responsibility for this has been delegated to the interior mission, and a more concentrated effort in this city of more than a million people is planned, Wood said. Robert Catinus is pastor of the city mission.

A second project, one which shows evidence of potential growth, is a mission station begun by the church of Peruwelz in the nearby town of Leuze, Wood said. Brian Goodall, recent graduate of Spurgeon's College in London, is pastor.

In other actions, the Union proposed an inspirational rally of all its churches, to be held May 31 at Eupen, Belgium. Also, it recommended that churches take a special offering for the building fund of the International Baptist Church, which recently bought property near NATO headquarters in Casteau, Belgium.

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Pastors' Conference Program  
Features 12 Speakers, One Day

3/10/71

ST. LOUIS, Mo. (BP) -- The Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference, scheduled here for a one-day session on Monday, May 31, will feature 12 major speakers and will carry out the general theme, "God's Preacher, a Flame of Fire."

Program details for the conference, to be held the day preceding the opening of the Southern Baptist Convention here, were released by the president of the organization, Landrum P. Leavell III, pastor of First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Tex.

Sessions at Kiel Auditorium will begin at 9:00 a.m., Monday, and conclude at about 10:00 p.m. Monday evening.

Closing speaker for the meeting will be W. A. Criswell, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Dallas, and immediate past president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Criswell will address the pastors on the subject, "God's Preacher and His Mandate."

Two other former Southern Baptist Convention Presidents will bring closing addresses at morning and afternoon sessions--J. D. Grey, pastor of First Baptist Church, New Orleans, and H. Franklin Paschall, pastor of First Baptist Church, Nashville.

Leavell said that the three sessions would emphasize the responsibility of "God's preacher as a prophet, as a person, and as a preacher."

During the opening session, major addresses will center on the motives, methods, and message of "God's Prophet," he said. Speakers will be Howard H. Aultman, pastor of First Baptist Church, Columbus, Miss.; James Coggin, pastor of Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Worth; and Grey.

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The afternoon session will feature messages on the manner, morality, money and mate (wife) of a preacher, with addresses by W. Fred Swank, pastor, Sagamore Hill Baptist Church, Fort Worth; Grady C. Cothen, president, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; John F. Gibson, pastor, Wesleyan Drive Baptist Church, Macon, Ga.; and Paschall.

During the closing Monday night session, Jon F. Meek Jr., missions division director for the Baptist Convention of New York, will speak on "God's Preacher and the Metropolis," and James Hester, associate director of the Evangelism Division for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, will speak on "God's Preacher and Missions." Hester is a former missionary to Italy.

Personal testimonies will be given by Leandro Castro, evangelist from Wichita Falls, Tex., and former gang leader from Corpus Christi, Tex.; and by Walter Ayers, evangelist from Arlington, Tex.

Special music is scheduled by Sidney L. Buckley, music professor at Furman University, Greenville, S.C.; Billy S. Hilbun, president of Crescendo Music Co., Dallas; and Miss Joe Ann Shelton, concert soloist from Fort Worth and former director of program music for the SBC Radio-Television Commission.

D. Neil Darnell, minister of music for First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, will direct the music for the meeting, and will join with other guest soloists in bringing special music.

Program Outline  
SOUTHERN BAPTIST PASTORS' CONFERENCE  
Kiel Auditorium  
St. Louis, Mo.  
Monday, May 31, 1971

THEME: "God's Preacher, a Flame of Fire"

PRESIDENT: Landrum P. Leavell, III, pastor, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Tex.

VICE PRESIDENT: James Pleitz, pastor, First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Fla.

SECRETARY: Charles Jolly, pastor, Madison Baptist Church, Madison, N.J.

MONDAY MORNING May 31

THEME: "God's Preacher as a Prophet"

- 9:00 Music, directed by D. Neil Darnell, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Tex.  
9:10 Bible Study--Eddie Lieberman, evangelist, Greenville, S.C.  
9:35 Special music--Sidney L. Buckley, associate professor of music, Furman University, Greenville, S.C.  
9:40 "God's Prophet and His Motive"--Howard H. Aultman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Columbus, Miss.  
10:10 Announcements and music--Sidney L. Buckley, Furman University, Greenville, S.C.  
10:20 "God's Prophet and His Methods"--James Coggin, pastor, Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Tex.  
10:50 Offering  
11:00 Personal testimony--Leandro Castro, evangelist, Wichita Falls, Tex.  
11:20 Music--D. Neil Darnell and Sidney L. Buckley  
11:30 "God's Prophet and His Message"--J. D. Grey, pastor, First Baptist Church, New Orleans, La.  
12:00 Benediction

MONDAY AFTERNOON, May 31

THEME: "God's Preacher as a Person"

- 2:00 Music, directed by D. Neil Darnell  
2:10 Bible Study--Eddie Lieberman, evangelist, Greenville, S.C.  
2:30 Music--Billy S. Hilbun, president, Crescendo Music Co., Dallas, Tex.  
2:40 "God's Preacher and His Manners"--W. Fred Swank, pastor, Sagamore Hill Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Tex.  
3:10 Music--D. Neil Darnell and Billy S. Hilbun  
3:20 "God's Preacher and His Morality"--Grady C. Cothen, president, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, La.  
3:50 Election of Officers  
4:00 "God's Preacher and His Money"--John F. Gibson, pastor, Wesleyan Drive Baptist Church, Macon, Ga.  
4:25 Offering  
4:30 Music--Billy S. Hilbun  
4:35 "God's Preacher and His Mate"--H. Franklin Paschall, First Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn.  
5:05 Benediction

MONDAY EVENING, May 31

THEME: "God's Preacher as a Preacher"

- 7:00 Music, directed by D. Neil Darnell  
7:10 Bible study--Eddie Lieberman, evangelist, Greenville, S.C.  
7:30 Music--Miss Joe Ann Shelton, concert soloist, Fort Worth, Tex.  
7:40 "God's Preacher and the Metropolis"--Jon F. Meek Jr., director, Missions Division, Baptist Convention of New York, Syracuse, N.Y.  
8:10 Music, directed by D. Neil Darnell and Joe Ann Shelton  
8:20 "God's Preacher and Missions"--James Hester, associate director, Division of Evangelism, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas, Tex.  
8:50 Offering  
9:00 Personal testimony--Walter Ayers, evangelist, Arlington, Tex.  
9:20 Music--Joe Ann Shelton, Fort Worth, Tex.  
9:30 "God's Preacher and His Mandate"--W. A. Criswell, pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex.  
10:00 Presentation of new officers  
Benediction  
ADJOURN



**BAPTIST PRESS**

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