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**Southeast Asia Missions
Revamp Work In "Revival"**by Jesse C. Fletcher
Baptist Press Richmond Bureau Chief

RICHMOND (BP)--A spirit of revival is sweeping Southern Baptist missions in four Southeast Asia countries, changing mission patterns and missionary attitudes, according to reports of mission meetings from the four countries.

Reports from Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam and Thailand indicate that realignment of mission priorities quickly followed confession and reconciliation among the missionaries themselves.

The renewal, which also enveloped the missionaries children, began in a prayer retreat on West Java earlier this year but reached its peak during the four meetings this summer. Each was marked by confession of sin, tears of joy, spontaneous praise and fervent testimony.

R. Keith Parks, Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board secretary for Southeast Asia and R. Cal Guy, professor of missions at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, attended all four meetings. They insisted that the common denominator was the work of the Holy Spirit.

"It was a movement, a sweeping work by God's own Spirit," said Guy.

Reexamination of traditional subsidy programs, new emphasis on partnership with national Christians, increased efforts of letting church life develop according to indigenous culture, and decreased emphasis on institutionalism were the most obvious trends manifested at the annual mission meetings.

One of the most significant recommendations emerged from Indonesia in a proposal to close their seminary in Semarang, Java, in favor of the development of training national leaders.

William M. McElrath, mission press representative in Indonesia said, "difficult decisions about evangelistic strategy grew out of a deepening awareness of divine leadership."

Charles H. Morris, press representative in Malaysia, said, "What missionaries had tried to wring out by effort was brought in by the Holy Spirit at the annual Malaysia mission meeting."

The mission in Thailand voted to reduce its policy-making role in favor of a joint relationship between nationals and missionaries. Missionary Press Representative Ronald C. Hill reported that the near unanimous acceptance of this new departure is indicative of the spirit of unity and mutual trust in the group.

Mrs. Betty Merrill, missionary reporter from Vietnam, said, "The missionaries instructed their executive committee to begin moving toward a complete study of the present structures and methods in Vietnam and to report recommended changes for quicker, more effective evangelization of the country."

The drama of the missionary children's involvement in the renewal was repeated in all four missions. The same type of spontaneous revival affecting their missionary parents and others prevailed in the missionary kids' own gatherings. Several young people made professions of faith in Christ and many others rededicated themselves to God's service.

Guy and W. Bryant Hicks, missions professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., originally went to Indonesia to share in a survey among nationals as requested by the missionaries.

Texas Pastor "Retires" By
Starting New Colorado Church

COPPERAS COVE, Tex. (BP)--When Carroll Jackson, 65, preached his retirement sermon at Fairview Baptist Church here, he allowed himself two days to be on the mission field in Colorado.

Although "retired" after 40 years in the pastorate, he plans to start the first Baptist church in Pueblo West, Colo., a planned community which ultimately will have nearly 90,000 people.

The two-year-old planned city now has only 150 homes. And as Jackson departed after his "official retirement," he quipped: "If I get moving, I can have them all visited by Sunday."

The Pueblo West Community Church, where Jackson will serve as pastor, is being built and furnished by land developer Arthur Stegall, a member of North Phoenix Baptist Church where Jackson's son is pastor.

Since Jackson qualifies for Social Security income, he will serve until the church gains sufficient membership and financial strength to support a pastor.

"I feel like I'm doing something with my retirement years rather than just fishing," Jackson said.

Not that Jackson won't be doing some fishing, for through the years, it has been one of his main means of sharing his faith.

"He'll take a guy fishing--not just for the purpose of going fishing--but to win him to the Lord," said Lester Miller, one of the first deacons ordained when Jackson organized the Fairview Baptist Church in 1959.

Jackson had been pastor of First Baptist Church in Copperas Cove, about 50 miles southwest of Waco, Tex., for four years before he felt God was leading him to begin a church in a new section of town not accessible easily to First Baptist Church's ministry. Most of the members of Fairview church are connected with the Fort Hood military base nearby.

Members of the church said one of the few times they had seen their pastor speechless was at a reception when they gave him a new car. Mayor George Leonhard had proclaimed "Carroll Jackson" day in Copperas Cove.

In his "retirement" sermon, Jackson admonished the members to "never stop giving" and to "keep on adding a per cent a year." (to missions), remembering that "the light that shines farthest out always shines brightest at home."

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With A Tongue Like That,
He Probably Is A Baptist

9/10/71

MALINGUNDE, Malawi (BP)--A language school for Southern Baptist missionaries in this West African nation has a most unusual "student."

A 15-inch long Chameleon "likes to sit on the leg of one of the chairs in the room," according to Gerald Workman, SBC missionary to Malawi.

It is harmless, but "no one wants to share a seat with it," wrote Workman in a recent newsletter.

In the Chichewa language which the missionaries are studying, the name for the Chameleon, "Chirombo," means "wild beast."

Workman did not interpret the significance of the name, or the Chirombo's qualifications to sit in on the language school classes.

He did point out that the Chameleon's tongue measures 14 inches in length. It is believed to be the longest tongue in the class.

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