



BAPTIST PRESS
News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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Grenade Slightly Injures
Colorado Baptist Leader

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JERUSALEM (BP)--The executive secretary of the Colorado Baptist General Convention, Glen E. Braswell of Denver and two independent Baptist preachers were slightly injured here when a grenade apparently tossed by a terrorist exploded.

A five-year-old Arab girl was killed by the blast. Five other Arab children and seven American tourists were injured.

None of the Americans was seriously injured. One of the Arab children was reportedly blinded.

Two independent Baptist ministers, both from Corpus Christi, Tex., were among the seven American tourists injured.

They were Joe Boyd, an independent Baptist evangelist based in Corpus Christi, and Buddy Murphy, pastor of South Crest Baptist Church in Corpus Christi. Mrs. Murphy was also slightly injured, along with a member of Murphy's church, 17-year-old Dana Pitman.

Israeli authorities charged that Arab guerrilla groups were behind the attack in an effort to hurt the Israeli tourist trade, according to a report from United Press International.

Braswell, in a telephone conversation with his son in Denver, said that he believed the attack was directed against the tourists specifically.

Braswell said he and a group of 18 tourists were headed for the Via Dolorosa--the way of the Cross, which traditionally is the route Christ took to his crucifixion--when the incident occurred.

He said he saw the little Arab girl double over and look at them with a pained expression on her face. Then he saw the grenade fall to the street after apparently hitting her in the stomach. A split second later, it exploded.

Two fragments hit Braswell--one scratching his left arm above the wrist and the other lodging in his chest about two inches from the center.

Braswell and the other Americans were admitted to a Jerusalem hospital, treated and then dismissed. The Colorado Baptist leader talked to his son, Glen E. Braswell Jr., from his hotel room, assuring the family he was not seriously injured.

Braswell added that the physicians in Israel did not remove the shrapnel from his chest, but that his own physician would do it upon his return to Denver.

Mrs. Braswell said she was not sure whether the shrapnel was so minor that it might work out by itself, or whether it was near his heart and Israeli physicians did not want to take a chance on removing it.

Braswell had planned to return from his Holy Land tour via Nashville to attend sessions of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, but Mrs. Braswell was not sure if he would return direct for Denver, or stop in Nashville for the meetings.

The incident occurred Sunday, Sept. 19, Braswell and the other tour members were returning late Monday, Sept. 20, to the United States.

The group of 18 American tourists had been to Greece, Egypt and Lebanon and were in Jerusalem on the last leg of the Holy Land tour. Braswell was one of three tour leaders in the group, sponsored under the Wholesale Tour plan.

Both Boyd and Murphy formerly were Southern Baptists before becoming "independent" Baptist ministers, according to W. H. Colson, superintendent of missions for the Corpus Christi Baptist Association.

Boyd is a former All-American football player for Texas A&M University, College Station, Tex., and was for several years a Southern Baptist evangelist. Murphy once attended the University of Corpus Christi, a Southern Baptist school in that city.

Braswell, executive secretary of the Colorado Baptist General Convention for the past nine years, formerly was pastor of South Denver Baptist Church. He previously was pastor of churches in Billings, Mont.; Weatherford and Amber, Okla.; and Fort Worth and Merkel, Tex.

A graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Braswell is a member of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

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Midwestern Seminary Group
Seeks President Candidate

9/20/71

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)--A seven-member committee appointed to consider nominations for a new president for Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary met here, deciding they would consider only persons formally nominated for the position.

Earlier this year, President Millard J. Berquist announced plans to retire effective July 30, 1972.

Francis E. Wright, president of Jackson State College, Jackson, Tenn., was named chairman of the seven-member committee to nominate a new president for election by the full board of trustees.

Wright said that the committee had decided not to consider any person who had not been formally nominated, in writing with accompanying biographical material. Oral "suggestions" that the committee consider a candidate will not be followed up, he said.

Wright said he hoped his committee would have a recommendation to make to the full board of trustees when it meets here April 10-11, 1972.

He added that the committee will welcome letters nominating candidates for the position, requesting that such nominations include pertinent biographical material.

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Baptist Mission Uses Horse
Trough For Baptism Service

9/20/71

CALDWELL, Ohio (BP)--A new Baptist mission recently organized here did not have a baptistry, so it used the handiest thing available for a baptism service for four new converts--a horse trough.

Pastor-Missionary Terrell Moore borrowed the horse trough from a nearby farm, placed it in front of the pulpit where the communion table stands, surrounded it with curtains on temporary frames, and filled it with water.

During the service, he knelt behind the trough, seated each candidates inside, and "buried them in baptism," Baptist-style.

The baptism took place in a 110-year-old Methodist church building, unused for 10 years.

The service climaxed eight months of Baptist witnessing in this county where there previously was no Baptist church. The efforts to start a new church began with home Bible studies, followed by a revival in a rented miner's hall.

The congregation has now rented the old Barry's Ridge M.E. Church, three miles north of Caldwell.

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Moore did not indicate if the congregation has approved plans to build a baptistry, or if it would continue to borrow a horse trough in which to baptize any future converts.

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Franzen Elected President
Of Swedish Baptist Seminary

9/20/71

BROMMA, Sweden (BP)--Bert Franzen, pastor of the Baptist church of Uppsala, Sweden, has been elected president of Bethel Seminary, theological school of the Baptist Union of Sweden located here.

He will assume the new position Jan. 1, 1972, when David Lagergren, current president of the seminary, becomes general secretary of the Baptist Union of Sweden.

Bromma, a suburb of Stockholm, is the location of both the seminary and the offices of the Baptist Union.

Franzen studied at Bethel Seminary, the European Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, at the Faculty of Theology in Zurich, and at the University of Uppsala.

Before going to the pastorate in Uppsala, he was for two years editor of Veckoposten, weekly newspaper of the Baptist Union of Sweden.

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European Baptist Unions
Support 690 Missionaries

9/20/71

RUSCHLIKON, Switzerland (BP)--Baptist unions of Europe currently support about 690 missionaries who work outside Europe, according to a bulletin prepared by the European Baptist Missionary Society and reported by European Baptist Press here.

Ten countries in Europe which cooperate in mission work through the European Baptist Missionary Society have 60 workers abroad. The British Baptist Missionary Society supports 252.

German Baptist churches support 80 missionaries in cooperation with other missionary societies, and the Swedish Baptist Union supports 84 missionaries. The Baptist Union of Norway reports 33 missionaries.

The Oerebro Mission (Baptist) of Sweden has the highest number of missionaries in relation to its total membership. With about 19,500 members, the Swedish Baptist group supports 150 foreign missionaries.

In addition, the Baptist Union of Denmark has 19 missionaries, the Portuguese Baptist Convention has four, and the Baptist Union of Ireland, eight.

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