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August 9, 1973

**\$17 Million Set for USA  
Missions by Baptists**

GLORIETA, N. M. (BP)--Southern Baptists, through their Home Mission Board, will spend \$17,172,754 in 1974 for national missions, an increase of more than \$1 million over 1973.

The budget, adopted by the agency's directors during their summer session at the Glorieta Baptist Conference Center here will support a mission force of more than 2,200 working in every state, Panama, and Puerto Rico.

Executive Secretary Arthur B. Rutledge said the increased budget will allow the agency to keep its personnel at the same level despite inflation and also make possible some strengthening of its major programs.

He said some of the added funds will open new work in church extension, will meet some special mission needs and strengthen evangelism efforts, such as the denomination's new attempt at evangelism on national television, "Spring Street, U.S.A."

Major budget expenditures will go for language missions--\$3.1 million; church extension--\$2 million; social ministries--\$1.5 million; cooperative ministries with National Baptists--\$ .5 million; church loans--\$1.9 million; associational services--\$1.3 million; chaplaincy--\$234,955; and interfaith witness--\$499,677.

Rutledge said that the agency is also making special efforts to use volunteers requiring little or no funding.

"The laymen have become a key force within the three major emphases of the board. Evangelism has activated a force of more than 125,000 lay evangelists through the lay evangelism schools. Christian social ministries depend 90 per cent on volunteers for their work, and church extension enlists the lay person to lead in Bible fellowships," he added.

Such volunteers multiply Baptist mission efforts, he said, adding that the agency also places more than 1,000 student volunteers on the mission fields of the nation for 10 weeks each summer.

The agency leads Southern Baptists in implementing a single, uniform witness program in the nation, especially in developing a national missions strategy in cooperation with the Baptist state conventions.

"We seek to establish priorities for the nation and provide for long range planning and correlation of all the mission work which the SBC has assigned to us," he said.

Rutledge said the funds are provided for the most part by Baptist churches through the Cooperative Program, the unified mission offering, and through the special offerings for national missions, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

He said both sources have made possible the increase in the budget, and recent reports of the 1973 Easter offering show it to be 10.4 per cent ahead of last year with \$6,329,504 in hand.

Rutledge expects the offering to exceed the goal of \$6.6 million before the books close in December.

The balance of the \$17 million budget is provided by investments, special gifts, church loans, insurance premiums and materials that are sold.

Hinton, Gruver Named by  
Baptist Home Mission Board

GLORIETA, N. M. (BP)--The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board meeting in summer session here added a research consultant for planning national missions strategy and re-assigned another staff member to the department of interfaith witness.

Leonard O. Hinton Jr., for 10 years with the research section of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, was named research consultant in the planning and coordination section of the mission agency effective October 1.

Kate Ellen Gruver, book editor for the past 13 years, accepted a position as a specialist related to the Muslim religion and Arab language work, utilizing skills gained while serving for 12 years as a missionary in Israel.

Hinton, a native of Dacula, Ga., and a graduate of Georgia Tech, was a textile engineer before going to the Sunday School Board in 1963.

Leonard Irwin, executive assistant over the planning and coordinating section, said Hinton would provide instruments for planning a national Baptist mission strategy, work with state conventions in special projects related to their planning, and aid in the evaluation process of a national strategy.

Miss Gruver, also worked at the Baptist Sunday School Board before coming to Atlanta in 1960.

She was children's book editor with Broadman books. At the Home Mission Board she has been responsible for production of books needed for mission work.

Thomas Starkes, leader in interfaith missions, said Miss Gruver as an assistant secretary of the department will do research for special publications concerning the Muslim religion. She will also serve in a cooperative relationship with the language missions department to assist with missions in churches for Arab-speaking persons in the United States.

The new assignment for Miss Gruver is effective September 1.

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Air Force General Joins  
Stetson University Staff

8/9/73

DELAND, Fla. (BP)--A.J. Bowley, recently retired United States Air Force major general, has been named director of deferred gifts at Stetson University, according to John E. Johns, president of the Baptist institution.

Bowley, a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, was a bomber pilot during World War II with service in Europe.

He rose from second lieutenant in 1943 to major general in 1965. Command posts during his military career stretched across the United States, Guam, and Vietnam and included duties with the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

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Hodges Named Editor of  
Charity and Children

8/9/73

THOMASVILLE, N.C. (BP)--Charles F. Hodges, associate director of development for the Baptists Children's Homes of North Carolina, Inc., has been named editor of the agency's bi-monthly publication, Charity and Children, effective August 27.

Hodges is a graduate of Campbell College, Wake Forest University, and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

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