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October 10, 1973

FMB Adopts Record Budget;  
Appoints 23 Missionaries

**RICHMOND (BP)**--The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, meeting here, approved a record \$42,425,284 budget and appointed 23 new missionaries.

The board also honored Baker J. Cauthen during a luncheon recognizing his 20th anniversary as executive secretary.

In other action, the board elected a new slate of officers and selected a new radio-tv representative for Africa.

The 1974 budget exceeds that of 1973 by \$3,533,287. "This budget is made necessary by the realities of projecting mission work in 77 countries with a staff of more than 2,500 missionaries amid escalating inflation and dollar devaluation," Cauthen said.

He told board members that over \$19 million of the budget will be used to send and support missionaries, over \$12 million will provide for work on the field, while over \$5 million will be available for building projects.

Cauthen emphasized that all home-base expenses combined amount to less than nine per cent of the total budget. "We thank God for the long-standing record of low home-base administrative costs which enables such a large amount of the mission funds to be used directly on the fields," he said.

Speaking of the two main channels of foreign missions giving, Cauthen said, "the Cooperative Program is the lifeline of all missionary effort, both at home and throughout the world. It is the basic money upon which we rely for the projection of worldwide missionary labor.

"Gifts through the Cooperative Program are reinforced by the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering which enables us to go twice as far in world outreach as otherwise would be possible," he stated.

Twenty-three new missionaries were appointed to serve in 10 countries.

Appointed as missionaries were Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Batson of Miss. to South America; Mr. and Mrs. P. Frank Crosby of Tex. to Mexico; Mr. and Mrs. R. Kenneth Gaskin of Fla. to Dahomey; Miss Jeni Hester of Tex. to Colombia; and Mr. and Mrs. George R. Holder of Tex. to Colombia.

Also, Dr. and Mrs. Gerald H. Holt Jr. of Tex. to Colombia; Mr. and Mrs. Clayton K. Hulet of Okla. to North Brazil; Mr. and Mrs. W. Ward Nicholson of Tex. to Nigeria; Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Purtle of Ark. to Dominican Republic; Mr. and Mrs. Wilson R. Tatum of Tex. to Lebanon; and Mr. and Mrs. Jere A. Wilson, formerly of Ga. and Miss., to Brazil.

Employed as a missionary associate to Liberia was Miss Rachel Dubard of Miss.

The board also selected Zebedee V. Moss, missionary to Zambia, as the board's new radio-tv representative for Africa.

Moss will coordinate the use of mass communications and serve as a consultant to the various missions of Africa, south of the Sahara. He will initially live somewhere in Eastern or Southern Africa, but will also serve the missions in West Africa, a board spokesman said. Moss was appointed by the board in 1959.

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W. Douglas Hudgins of Jackson, Miss., was reelected to his second term as president of the board. Hudgins is executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Other new officers elected by the board are Eldred M. Taylor of Somerset, Ky., as first vice president; Robert B. Bass of Richmond, as second vice president; and Mrs. Thomas C. Womble Jr. of Clemmons, N. C., as recording secretary. Miss Elizabeth Minshew of the board's executive staff was reelected assistant recording secretary.

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### News Commentary

10/10/73

#### Missions Official Evaluates Middle Eastern Conflict

By John D. Hughey

RICHMOND (BP)--Southern Baptist missionaries in the Middle East, surrounded by the fourth outbreak of war between the Arabs and Jews in the past 25 years, apparently have no intention of using the option given them by their Foreign Mission Board to leave the area.

Millions of people in the Middle East have never know peace, as distrust and hatred permeate the area like dark and dirty fog.

Southern Baptists have 27 missionaries to Israel now in that country and 12 more in the states. A recent cable from Israel reported "everyone fine." A cable from the Gaza Baptist Mission said, "Life is almost normal. (Gaza Baptist) Hospital on emergency standby. All are safe and well."

The Foreign Mission Board has cabled "love, concern and prayerful support" to missionaries in Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Jordan, Yemen, Libya and Morocco.

Of course, some danger exists in any war area, and the danger would increase if Israel became a battlefield.

Sixty-five of the 84 Southern Baptist missionaries to Arab lands now live on the field. Southern Baptists have no missionaries in Egypt or Syria. Those who serve in other Arab countries are in a difficult position because of America's friendship for Israel.

Also, theologically-inspired statements of a political nature made by some Christians embarrass and perhaps endanger them.

Missionary Paul Smith, in a telephone conversation from Amman, Jordan, said, "Please ask Baptists in America to refrain from making political statements on the Middle East."

He explained that a group in Pennsylvania made a statement that has been broadcast in Arabic every hour from across the border. Jordan is quiet, but political statements on the Middle East at this time could cause trouble, Smith said.

The contradictory reports that come from the two sides of the conflict are difficult to evaluate. The fighting seems bloodier than in 1967, and it will probably continue longer.

The announced objective of the Syrians and Egyptians is to reclaim land they lost six years ago--the Golan Heights and the Sinai Peninsula. The announced Israeli intention is to drive the Syrians and Egyptians back to the cease-fire lines of 1967.

Most of the nations of the world, with the exception of the United States, maintain that a restoration of the status quo following the Six-day War would contribute little to peace in the Middle East. If either side wins a decisive victory, professed objectives may be forgotten.

Southern Baptist missionaries in the Middle East are trying to create islands of love in a sea of hatred. Nowhere are such islands needed more. Love abides--and will increase.

To Jews and Arabs, we would say, "God loves you. See the love of God demonstrated in the life and death of Christ. Accept it; accept Him. Then you, whether Jew or Arab, will belong to 'a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, that you may declare the wonderful deeds of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.'"

Editor's Note: John D. Hughey is the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's area secretary for Europe and the Middle East.

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Anonymous Donor Gives  
\$1 Million to University

10/10/73

RICHMOND (BP)--University of Richmond President E. Bruce Heilman surprised a fund raisers' gathering here with an announcement of a \$1 million anonymous gift to the Southern Baptist school.

The contribution brings to \$18,426,389 the amount raised in the university's present \$50 million campaign, launched in March 1972 to provide future resources for the university.

Chairman of the fund-raising campaign, F. Carlyle Tiller, said the Baptist university has completed the most successful fund-raising year in its history, receiving an estimated \$5 million.

"The University of Richmond is definitely in the big leagues of philanthropy," Tiller said. In 1969 the university received a gift of \$50 million, the largest individual gift ever made to a Southern Baptist college or university, according to the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. It is also one of the largest ever made to any institution of higher learning in the United States.

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