

**(BP)****BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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75-127

Home Mission Board Church  
World Service Meeting Set

ATLANTA (BP)--Officials of Church World Service (CWS) and representatives of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board will meet in New York City on August 27 to discuss their relationship in resettling Vietnamese refugees.

Home Mission Board directors passed a resolution July 23 asking the relationship be re-examined and an arrangement sought "whereby the board can be more actively and effectively involved in refugee resettlement efforts."

The resolution, offered by W. Trueman Moore, pastor of East Side Baptist Church, Fort Smith, Ark., said the new arrangement with CWS could involve a subcontract or working agreement.

Or, if a satisfactory new arrangement cannot be worked out, the resolution stated, the Home Mission Board could work to secure its own contract with the State Department or other government department.

The Home Mission Board's administration was authorized to proceed with the re-examination and take whatever course it felt proper--working out a new agreement with CWS or getting its own contract.

The board's executive director, Arthur B. Rutledge, said the administrative staff met July 27 to review the resolution and proceed with the directors' request. Oscar Romo, director of the department of language missions, contacted the CWS office in New York and said the earliest possible date all necessary representatives could get together was August 27.

"The Church World Service officials said they were eager to help in any way possible," Romo said, "even to the point of helping us get our own contract, if that is what we want. And all we want is to help the refugees."

Refugee resettlement is part of the program assignment given the department of language missions by the Southern Baptist Convention. The assignment is handled by the office of immigration and refugee service in the department. Since the Cuban crisis the office has worked in resettlement efforts with Church World Service, one of nine agencies with which the federal government contracts for refugee resettlement.

Approval of one of the nine contracting agencies is necessary before a refugee is permitted to leave camp with a sponsor.

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Alaska Baptists Battle  
'Heat Wave;' Set BudgetBaptist Press  
8/19/75

NORTH POLE, Alaska (BP)--Amidst temperatures in the mid-80's, a near record for the area, the Alaska Baptist Convention, meeting here, voted a record budget of \$524,024 and heard of a projected land sale which would net \$1 million.

Meanwhile, one "messenger" to the 30th annual meeting of the convention, one of 33 state Southern Baptist conventions covering all 50 states, suffered near collapse with heat prostration.

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While the cold-weather-oriented Alaskans battled the "heat wave," convention business proceeded. Virgil Chron, pastor of Muldoon Road Baptist Church, Anchorage, Alaska, was elected to a second term as president.

The convention's executive board reported the projected sale of 50 acres of land for \$1 million, with the proceeds to go into an endowment fund for the Alaska Baptist Family Service Center. The land, a gift to the convention, was designated for that purpose.

The convention will designate \$42,782 of its new budget for use by the national Cooperative Program unified budget for world wide missions causes.

The 1976 annual session of the Alaska Baptist Convention will meet Aug. 10-12, at First Baptist Church, Sitka, Alaska.

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46 States Send Messengers  
To Miami Beach SBC

Baptist Press  
8/19/75

NASHVILLE (BP)--Forty-six of the 50 states covered by Southern Baptist Convention-affiliated churches were represented by 16,421 elected "messengers" to the SBC annual session last June in Miami Beach, according to statistics released here.

The host state, Florida, topped the number of registrants with 1,869, followed by North Carolina, 1,649; Georgia, 1,474; South Carolina, 1,388; Tennessee 1,306; and Texas, 1,210.

Other attendance ranged from one messenger each from Nevada and Rhode Island to 947 from Kentucky. Twelve states ranged between over 100 and under 1,000--Kentucky, 947; Mississippi, 801; Virginia, 800; Missouri, 703; Louisiana, 561; Oklahoma, 443; Arkansas, 391; Illinois, 294; Ohio, 237; Maryland, 214; California, 156; and Indiana, 146. Four others sent above 50 (Kansas, 63; Michigan, 62; Arizona, 54; New Mexico, 53). Puerto Rico, a U. S. territory, sent 10, topping 14 states in registration totals and equalling Alaska's representation.

The total registration ranked third in all-time attendance behind Dallas in 1974 (18,190) and New Orleans in 1969 (16,678). It was only the fourth time in 118 conventions in 130 years of SBC history that registration topped 16,000. The Dallas convention in 1965 registered 16,053, then a record.

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Complete totals sent to state Baptist editors.