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'Will No Longer Compromise  
On Civil Rights;' Buchanan

By Jim Newton

WASHINGTON (BP)--Congressman John Buchanan Jr., a Republican representing suburban Birmingham, elected to the U.S. House of Representatives during the Goldwater sweep of 1964, took a stand on the race issue this year that could conceivably cost him his job.

"I will not any longer compromise on civil rights," Buchanan, a Baptist minister and former Birmingham pastor, stated in a widely quoted story appearing in the Washington Post in late March.

"I'm at the point in my political career where I'd rather lose than fail to do what I think is right," he declared.

The Alabama congressman was referring to a stand he took in seeking to lead Congress to adopt a constitutional amendment which would give congressional representation to the 800,000 residents of the District of Columbia.

The Buchanan amendment failed to pass Congress by 45 votes, since a two-thirds margin is required for a constitutional amendment. But Buchanan isn't giving up on it.

The Alabama representative has teamed up with a black Baptist minister from the District of Columbia, Walter E. Fauntroy, to lead the continuing fight for full congressional representation for the people of the District of Columbia.

Fauntroy is the district's only "delegate" to Congress, a status afforded to territories such as Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The District of Columbia is not a state and therefore does not have two senators and the two representatives a state would have.

Both the conservative Republic representative from Alabama and the black delegate from the district see it largely as a racial issue.

"Nobody will say it, but it's the doggone truth," Buchanan said. "The fact that this city is overwhelmingly black has been and is part of the problem." He added there is an "underlying prejudice working against the amendment."

The issue, however, is much deeper, Buchanan said in an interview at his office in the Rayburn Building adjacent to the Capitol.

It is a question of taxation without representation, and this was the major issue which led our forefathers to start the American Revolution 200 years ago, the Congressman said. The fact is, almost 800,000 American citizens in D.C. cannot vote for a representative in Congress, he said.

Buchanan, like most congressmen, does not live in the district, but in suburban Maryland. But he is deeply concerned and involved in the city itself.

For several months, he was interim pastor of a bi-racial, inner-city church in the southwestern part of the city--Riverside Baptist Church.

An active member of the congregation, the Alabama congressman worships there almost every Sunday, and his wife is the church's paid music director.

But Buchanan said his concern for black people did not come from getting involved in a bi-racial church in Washington. Rather, he said, it came from being reared in a Christian home in Birmingham.

Buchanan is the son of a Baptist pastor, the late John Buchanan Sr., who for 20 years was pastor of Birmingham's Southside Baptist Church. The senior Buchanan died May 17, 1976, after an extended illness.

Buchanan followed in his father's footsteps as minister of education for the Southside congregation, and later was pastor of Centercrest Baptist Church in Birmingham.

Evan as a pastor, Buchanan was a vocal Republican. He became concerned about national issues, especially foreign policies and the role of the federal government in trying to solve national problems.

One weekend while they were talking in the kitchen, Buchanan told his wife Betty, "Honey, sometimes I think I ought to run for Congress myself to try to straighten out what's wrong with the country."

Betty mentioned her husband's comment to a Republican party leader in Alabama. The next day Buchanan received a phone call asking him to consider the Republican nomination as a candidate for Congress.

"Betty and I prayed about it for three weeks, and felt this was what I ought to do," he recalled. He resigned as pastor of the Centercrest church in 1962 to campaign for Congress during the next six months.

Buchanan lost the election and was without a job. He couldn't seem to find a church that was interested in an ex-pastor and defeated political candidate.

He was committed, however, to politics as his ministry. For the next two years, he served as interim pastor of several Alabama churches, did some public relations work and helped organize the Republican Party in Alabama.

In November 1964, he was elected to Congress on the Republican ticket as part of the Goldwater sweep.

Buchanan, however, does not feel that he left the ministry to run for political office. Rather, he feels he was entering a different kind of ministry that would give him a broader witness than before.

"My concept of the call to ministry is that all Christians are called both to salvation and service, and that Christianity is our full-time vocation. I feel a very clear calling to the ministry of government and politics. This is my ministry here," he said, waving toward the halls of Congress.

Soon after he was elected to Congress, Buchanan was named to the House Committee on UnAmerican Activities, then investigating the Ku Klux Klan. Outspoken in his views, Buchanan was described by an Associated Press reporter as "the sharpest tongued dragon baiter on the committee."

During his earlier years in Congress, Buchanan confessed, he "voted wrong on a number of civil rights issues, but I went as far as I felt I could at the time.

"The most important thing, we must do as citizens is to assure that every person in this country, regardless of race, color, or economic status, will have every opportunity to fulfill the gifts and rights God has given him."

Buchanan recently introduced a "Sense of Congress Resolution" urging the Soviet Union to release from prison Georgi Vins, a dissident Baptist minister in Russia. At last report the resolution was still pending in the House.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Rep. Buchanan will speak both at the Woman's Missionary Union and the Southern Baptist Religious Education annual meetings, on Monday, June 14, in Norfolk, Va.

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### Ford to Speak at SBC White House Confirms

NORFOLK (BP)--President Gerald Ford will address "messengers" to the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) here on June 15, the White House has confirmed.

The President will speak at the Norfolk Scope at 3:20 p.m., during the Tuesday (June 15) afternoon session of the SBC and "will probably leave immediately," according to R. G. Puckett, chairman of the SBC Committee on Order of Business.

Puckett said he received the confirmation via a phone call from Richard Brannon, an ordained Baptist minister and associate director of the Office of Presidential Personnel.

Ford's address before the annual meeting of the 12.7-million member evangelical denomination will be the first time a U. S. President in office has spoken to the convention in session.

President Harry Truman was on the platform in Kansas City, Mo., in 1963 but had been retired 11 years. He spoke briefly and made only token remarks, according to reports. The Convention sang "Happy Birthday" to President Truman as it was his 79th birthday, according to the 1963 SBC Annual.

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### Seminary Drive Tops \$25,000 Goal to Fund Lectureship

Baptist Press  
6/4/76

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)--Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here exceeded a goal of \$25,000 set two months ago in a drive to establish a Burlan A. Sizemore Jr., Memorial Lectureship in Biblical Studies, it was announced here.

Sizemore was professor of Old Testament and Hebrew at Midwestern when he was killed Mar. 21 in a head-on auto accident.

The fund raising was a "family affair" and "low-key" without benefit of professional fund raising consultation or aid, said Morris Ashcraft, professor of theology at the seminary.

Ashcraft was chairman of an ad hoc funding committee, appointed by Midwestern President Milton Ferguson, on which students, faculty, alumni and church friends were represented.

The lectureship was announced as reality at a memorial service in late May, during which the school's senior class presented the seminary with a grand piano they helped purchase in Sizemore's honor.

"There is no way in which a memorial takes the place of a man," Ferguson said. But, "it is hoped the beautiful notes from a grand piano and the serious study of the Bible . . . will become a vital support to the student's search for truth and meaning . . ."

The lectureship will bring outstanding biblical scholars from other institutions to Midwestern's campus, a spokesman said.

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Porter Routh Receives  
E. Y. Mullins Award

LOUISVILLE (BP)--Porter W. Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), received the E. Y. Mullins Denominational Service Award during commencement ceremonies at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

The award, presented by seminary president Duke K. McCall, is the highest honor bestowed by the seminary. It is named for the former president and professor of Southern Seminary, who also served as president of the Baptist World Alliance and of the SBC.

Routh, a native of Lockhart, Tex., has served as the convention's central administrative staff officer since 1951. He is a Southern Seminary alumnus and has filled many areas of denominational service, including editor of the Baptist Messenger, Oklahoma Baptists' newsmagazine, and as secretary of research, statistics and information for the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Criteria for the award, McCall said, is the example of "far-ranging Christian leadership rooted in commitment to the lordship of Christ."

In presenting the award, McCall cited Routh as "a big man with a big heart, who across the years has handled big jobs with delicate skill." Routh addressed the seminary's graduating class of more than 230.

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BWA Commission on Church Life  
Includes 9 Southern Baptists

Baptist Press  
6/4/76

WASHINGTON (BP)--Carl H. Lundquist, president of Bethel Baptist Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., is chairman of the Baptist World Alliance's new 37-member international Study Commission on Church Life, which includes nine Southern Baptists.

Commission secretary is Emanuel A. Dahunsi, general secretary of the Nigerian Baptist Convention, according to Robert S. Denny, BWA general secretary who made the announcement.

Southern Baptists on the Commission include: Larry G. Rohrman of Jackson, Miss.; Findley B. Edge of Louisville; Inez Fletcher of McLean, Va.; Elias Gomes of Rutherford, N. J.; Warren C. Hultgren of Tulsa, Okla.; Lee B. Satterfield of Altavista, Va.; Pat Baughman of Hilton Head Island, S. C.; Howard B. Foshee of Nashville; and Julian H. Pentecost of Richmond.

Despite the importance of the local congregation in Baptist thought and practice, Denny said, there has been little opportunity for exchange of ideas on how to nurture and help the local congregation until now. The commission is expected to provide such an interchange between scholars and practitioners from various cultures and conventions, Denny noted.

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New Chairman, Record-Budget  
For Stewardship Commission

Baptist Press  
6/4/76

NASHVILLE (BP)--Members of the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission here approved a record 1976-77 budget of \$1,032,568, named a new chairman and approved a concept of calling for a national emphasis on biblical stewardship development and increased Cooperative Program (CP) unified budget support.

The latter is a positive response to a 65-page report by a 21-person Missions Challenge Committee, mandated by Southern Baptists in 1974 to study the potential of the 12.7 million-member denomination's world-wide missions advance in the last 25 years of the 20th Century. The committee's report will be presented to Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) "messengers" in Norfolk, Va., on Wednesday evening, June 16.

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The new Stewardship Commission budget is \$162,406 above the current budget and was arrived at through a new budgeting process which listed the cost of each ministry of the commission as it relates to program statements, according to A. Rudolph Fagan, the commission's executive director-treasurer.

The commission's new chairman is Lyle Garlow, assistant executive secretary and director of public relations for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma. Garlow succeeds Paul Faircloth, pastor of Central Baptist Church, Bladensburg, Md. Vice chairman is David C. (Bill) Bates, a layman from Pineville, La., and Eugene Fleming, pastor of First Baptist Church, Franklin, Ky., is secretary.

The proposed biblical stewardship development and increased CP support emphasis, in keeping with the Missions Challenge Committee report, would be designed "to teach the biblical revelation of Christian stewardship challenging every church member to a new level of sacrificial giving," Fagan said. The emphasis "would call on the churches to take a bold step forward in increased mission support through the Cooperative Program," he said.

"Such emphasis should cause us to reach a new level of giving that would be commensurate with our denominational commitment to double our mission force," Fagan noted.

Two program committee chairmen were re-elected and one new chairman named. James M. Tyler, III, a layman of Richmond, Va., was re-elected to head the Cooperative Program promotion committee; Charles E. Peterson of Jacksonville, Fla., and director of promotion for the Florida Baptist Convention, again heads the endowment and capital giving committee. Robert H. Botts, a layman from Wichita, Kan., was elected as the new chairman of the stewardship development committee. The officers and committee chairmen make up the commission's executive committee.

In other action, the commission promoted two staff members and approved the adding of a new employee. Kenneth Mullins and Bill R. Wilson were both promoted from assistant director to associate director, church funding promotion.

The new employee, to be named, will serve in the position of assistant director, stewardship development.