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FEATURES

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76-173

'Super R v.,' He's
Chaplain to Truckers

By Celeste Loucks

ATLANTA (BP)--When Wayne Hulon joined Motor Convoy as a chaplain, many of the employees called him the "hippie preacher."

He was young---only 24---educated and accustomed to talking in high sounding psychological terms. He also had a longer-than-trucker haircut.

In addition to calling Hulon names, a few truckers threatened him physically. One backed his hostility with a punch. The trucker was 6-feet, 2-inches tall and weighed about 285 pounds, Hulon recalls.

"He was a guy who had always worked with his hands and was poor at verbalizing. As I walked through a group of men, he hauled off and clipped me.

"My response? I punched back. I don't remember where I hit him" Hulon says. "I had my eyes closed."

A large part of Hulon's chaplaincy ministry is to truckers employed by Motor Convoy, a large company specializing in transporting automobiles.

As such, Hulon ministers to the man behind the chatter on the CB radio.

The trucker's job can be hazardous, according to Hulon. It also is lonely as the trucker heads out across a long stretch of highway in his big rig loaded with cars.

"Even the driver who comes on strong," Hulon says, "needs someone,"

Hulon, whose work is featured in the November 1976 issue of Home Missions magazine, has made inroads with the men, flying about 90,000 miles per year across a seven-state area to serve as chaplain-ombudsman-confidant to the company's more than 1,000 employees.

He has counseled unhappy workers and employers, haggled during disputes between labor and management, married and buried family members of all denominations, from Baptist to Catholic to Jew.

In crisis situations and long term illness, on call--day or night, he meets with troubled employees to talk to them about anything--suicide, drug overdose, child runaway.

For example, he frequently receives calls from trucker John A. Harris of Florida.

"My wife has cancer," Harris explains. "When she gets down in the dumps, I get in touch with Wayne. He comes out and sits and talks. He has counseled my wife, helped her accept the fact that she is terminally ill. He's been right with us, ever since she came down with the illness.

"I've seen him sit down with my wife and cry right along with her...I don't know what we would have done without him," Harris notes.

Many employees express similar feelings, and today, Hulon--who has a penchant for race car driving--has earned a CB handle from the truckers. They call him "Super Rev."

Hulon earned his bachelors degree from Samford University in Birmingham and attended The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. He earned the master of divinity degree from Emory University, Methodist school in Atlanta.

Hulon is currently helping with plans to establish an industrial chaplain's institute.

A Convoy trucker says: "At first, I thought the chaplain (Hulon) was a little hippie running around. He didn't appear to be a minister.

"But, as time got by, he got into us...that's what he did" he got into us.

"Now, he's got a lot of respect."

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Celeste Loucks is assistant editor of Home Missions magazine, Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Atlanta.

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23 Appointed By
Home Mission Board

ATLANTA (BP)--Twenty-three missionary personnel were appointed by directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board during the board's October meeting here.

The total includes four missionaries, six missionary associates, one US-2 missionary, and 12 endorsed to receive pastoral aid as missionary pastors.

Named missionaries were Carolyn Mobley of Atlanta, Ga.; Ollie and Thelma Trout of Niles, Mich.; and Becky Whorton of New Orleans, La.

Margarito and Emma Barboza of Yoakum, Tex., and Charles and Viola Cress of St. Charles, Ill., were named missionary associates, and Young and Kuk Yoon of Los Angeles, Calif., were appointed missionary associates/students.

June Below of Gainesville, Fla., was appointed a US-2 missionary to serve with her husband, Ken, in language ministries among seamen in Charleston, S. C. Her husband was appointed to the two-year term in September. US-2 is a peace-corps like program for young people interested in giving two years of their lives to mission work.

Approved to receive Church Pastoral Aid (CPA) were:

Lester M. Arnold of Williston, N. D., to serve in Watertown, S. D.; Billy Bristol of Elkins, W. Va., to serve in Elkins; Arlie Carter of Lebanon, Ohio., to serve in Hillsborough, Ohio; Terry Crocker of Fort Worth, Tex., to serve in Montpelier, Vermont ;

Also, Tom Daniel of Fort Worth, to serve in the Ahwatukee area of Phoenix, Ariz.; Ralph Hall of Jefferson City, Ore., to serve in Las Vegas, Nev.; Aubrey Jones of Holly Bluff, Miss., to serve in Springfield, Vermont; Bud Kidwell of Bellwood, Ill., to serve in Oak Park, Ill.;

Also, Emmett Miller of New Orleans, La., to serve in Hagerstown, Md.; Roy Mullens of Brighton, Mich., to serve in Brighton; Douglas Pilot of Greencastle, Pa., to serve in Greencastle; and John Stair of Coraopolis, Pa., to serve in Indiana, Pa.

Miss Mobley will be director of weekday ministries at the West End Baptist Center in Atlanta. Previously, she was director of weekday activities at Browns Mills Park in Atlanta. She is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Tex., and of the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta.

The Trouts will serve in Niles, where he will be director of missions for the Southeastern and Lindale Baptist Associations. Prior to his appointment, he was pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Niles. He is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark., and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City. He also attended Michigan State University, East Lansing, and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Miss Whorton will be associate day care director at Friendship House in New Orleans. She is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., Auburn University, Auburn, Ala., and Gadsden State Junior College, Gadsden, Ala.

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The Barbozas will serve in Yoakum, where he will be a mission pastor. Both are graduates of Mexican Baptist Bible Institute in San Antonio, Tex.

The Cresses will serve in the Fox Valley Baptist Association in St. Charles, Ill., where he will be church extension director. He is a graduate of Hannibal-LaGrange College, Hannibal, Mo., Northeast Missouri State College, Kirksville, Mo., and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

The Yoons will serve in San Francisco, where he will be pastor of a Korean congregation. He is a graduate of Korea Baptist Seminary, and will attend Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.

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Hill To Coordinate Foreign
Board Communications Dept.

Baptist Press
10/14/76

RICHMOND (BP)--Thomas W. Hill, director of the Baptist Spanish Publishing House in El Paso, Tex., has been elected as secretary of the newly created department of communications for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Hill, 47, elected at the board's October meeting, will assume his new position Jan. 1, 1977. He will coordinate the department of communications, which combines all communications functions of the board. It includes information and editorial services, press relations, publications and resources and services.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill were appointed as missionaries in 1956. He has served as director of the publishing house since 1970. Hill has also been the book editor of the publishing house, which produced literature for more than 100,000 Spanish-speaking Baptists in more than 40 countries.

Before transferring to El Paso in 1964, he directed the Costa Rican Baptist Theological Institute in San Jose.

A native of Lamar, S. C., he received the associate of arts degree from North Greenville Junior College, Tigerville, S. C., the bachelor of arts degree from Furman University, Greenville, S. C., and the bachelor of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

He was pastor of Woolmarket Baptist Church, Biloxi, Miss., for nearly four years, and during a brief furlough from his work in 1968, was guest professor at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.

He is married to the former Cornice Winter of Grenada County, Miss. They have two grown daughters.

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Richardson Fills Foreign
Board Treasury Post

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RICHMOND (BP)--Harold D. Richardson, controller and assistant treasurer of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, has been elected by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board here as senior assistant treasurer.

He will work directly under Everett L. Deane, board treasurer. Ralph A. Magee, the current senior assistant treasurer, is retiring in December.

Richardson, 41, has been with the Texas convention since December 1975. Previously, he was vice president for business affairs at Letourneau College in Longview, Tex., for more than seven years. He has also been employed with several accounting firms in Longview and Midland, Tex.

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A native of Texas, he was graduated from high school in Hawkins. He attended Tyler (Tex.) Junior College and was graduated from North Texas State University, Denton, with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He became a certified public accountant (CPA) in 1960.

Richardson is married to the former Martha Doyle. They have three children.

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John E. Mills Named Area
Secretary By Foreign Board

Baptist Press
10/14/76

RICHMOND (BP)-- John E. Mills, Southern Baptist missionary to West Africa for 29 years, has been elected area secretary for West Africa for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

He will assume his new duties Jan. 1, 1977, replacing H. Cornell Goerner, who will retire Dec. 31, 1976, after 19 years of service.

West Africa is one of eight areas into which the board divides its overseas administration. As area secretary, the 54-year-old Mills will serve as a liaison between the missionaries and the board. He will be responsible for about 300 missionaries in nine countries--Niger Republic, Nigeria, Benin, Togo, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Senegal, Ghana, and Upper Volta.

Mills and his wife, the former Virginia Miller of Galveston, Tex., have been missionaries since 1947. In 1969, he became field representative for West Africa, providing a personal link between the area secretary and the missionaries in the area. He was stationed in Accra, Ghana.

Before assuming the field representative position, Mills and his wife were stationed in Ibadan, Ivory Coast, and before that they served in Lagos and Ibadan, Nigeria.

A native of Mexia, Tex., Mills was graduated from Baylor University, Waco, Tex., with the bachelor and master of arts degrees and from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, with the master of theology degree. Before going to Nigeria he was pastor of churches in Mexia and Teague, Tex., and Chattanooga, Tenn.

Mrs. Mills received the bachelor of arts degree from Baylor University and the master of religious education degree from Southwestern Seminary. The couple has two children.

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Rutledge Looks Back and
Ahead on Eve of Retirement

By Dan Martin

Baptist Press
10/14/76

ATLANTA (BP)--"Thank You," Arthur B. Rutledge said.

"These have been wonderful years for me . . . I thank you for the privilege of being a partner with you in the work of the Lord."

Rutledge, who has been executive director-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board for nearly 12 years, participated in his final meeting of all the board's directors in October, although he will not retire until Dec. 31.

William G. Tanner, who was named executive director-treasurer-elect by the board in July, took part in his first session of the 69-member board.

The guard will change officially Dec. 31, when Rutledge steps down, and Tanner assumes the top post. Tanner, however, now is working at the board, "listening and learning from Rutledge.

Directors named Rutledge executive director-treasurer-emeritus, to become effective upon his retirement.

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Although he will participate in meetings of the board's executive committee in November and December, Rutledge gave his annual report to directors at the October meeting.

"In many ways," he said, the report "is the most gratifying that it has been my privilege to bring to you during all these years.

"This is the first time since 1968 that I can report a significant gain in the number of missionaries," he said. "There are now 104 more missionaries than last year."

"During recent years, we have majored, by design, on raising missionary salaries, even if it has to be done at the cost of not being able to increase the total number of missionaries. We felt our first and foremost obligation was to keep up with rising living costs.

"We have been able to make a gain this year because we have had such an outstanding year financially. We have been able to raise salaries and add to the number of missionaries."

Rutledge also talked to directors about Bold Mission Thrust, the denominational emphasis designed to "evangelize and congregationalize" the nation by the end of the decade.

"I do not remember when more people have been concerned about national character, about spiritual strength, moral strength. I think we see it in some dimensions related to the presidential campaign.

"It is an opportune time . . . for the propagation of the gospel here in America."

Rutledge also talked of events during the past year: settlement of 2,777 Indochina refugees, participation in eight disaster relief projects, naming the first Home Mission Board missionaries to American Samoa.

In reference to the work in the Pacific, Rutledge added: "Hopefully, next summer a survey will be made under the joint sponsorship of the Foreign Mission Board and the Home Mission Board of American trust territories in the Pacific to determine if some effort by us--as a home mission effort--ought to be put forth in the U. S. territories in the Pacific."

He said "the only Southern Baptist work in the vast area is on Guam, where our Foreign Mission Board assists four congregations, working largely with military people."

The Home Mission Board leader said he wanted to communicate to directors "my optimism about what lies ahead. I have been amazed with the increasing financial support. Our budget in 1965 (when Rutledge became executive director-treasurer) was \$6.25 million. A dozen years later it is four times that.

"I think our people, by their giving, have said in a clearer way than I have heard it said in my lifetime: 'We believe in missions--missions at home, missions around the world. We want in these days to see the gospel of our Lord furthered.'"

He added: "I simply thank God and thank the Lord's people who are Southern Baptists for this support."

Rutledge also commented on Tanner's election. Referring to the former Oklahoma Baptist University president as "brilliant," Rutledge said it is a "strategic time for a change of leadership.

"One of the hopes I have had all along is that when Dec. 31 comes, there will not be a miss of the beating of the motor, that the 'RPMS' will continue, and that we will go right on in the work that the Lord has entrusted to this board," he declared.

He added that he anticipates "there will be changes, and there ought to be changes. When you change leadership, you have a new look, a new perspective. There will be changes--not in commitment and not in objective--but in the way we carry on our work.

"I know God is going to lead you, and I thank the Lord and you for the opportunity of service that has been mine. It is a joy to come to the end of this service with a bright future ahead and with God's favor on us in so many signal ways.

"The Bold Mission Thrust gives us the greatest opportunity, the greatest challenge, we have ever known."

Directors honored Rutledge and his wife, Vesta, with a banquet on the eve of the meeting. He was presented gifts from the board and from each state.

Tanner, making his first appearance at the board since his election, told directors he is "grateful for your confidence and support. I would like to request at the very outset that you put me on your prayer calendar. I don't know of anything that would be more supportive of me than this."

He told directors he is "very grateful for my colleagues . . . for Arthur Rutledge. I am thankful for his openness and his genuineness to me. I have decided not only to pick his brain and expertise on operation and strategy, but I think I also will catch his heartbeat for world missions."

As he looked ahead, Tanner said he is "grateful . . . for the privilege of being literally catapulted into the mainstream of what I consider to be the most exciting kingdom enterprise that I know about among Southern Baptists. I really believe we are standing on the threshold of two of the most exciting and demanding decades that we have faced since our beginning 200 years ago.

"We have the largest missionary component, the largest financial resources for our work, and the most diverse--yet comprehensive and creative--program of mission strategy that we have had in 131 years (since the founding of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Home Mission Board in 1845)."

He continued: "Whatever changes the inventiveness of the last quarter of the Twentieth Century may bring, one thing is certain: the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention has the facilities and the capabilities to make it possible for every person in our land to confront the claims of Christ. This is our mandate, and I do not personally believe we can either deny, delay or defer."

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Church Split Over
Charismatics Reunites

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10/14/76

IRVING, Tex. (BP)--A church that was split two years ago by controversy over the charismatic movement has been reunited as North Irving Baptist Church here.

George Clerihew, formerly pastor of First Baptist Church, Sanger, Tex., has accepted the pastorate.

The original church, Woodridge, was split when some members, objecting to the presence of charismatics who were influencing the church, broke away and formed Northwest Baptist Church in Irving, Wayne Wood, minister of education at North Irving Church, said.

When the charismatics left the Woodridge Church later, the remaining members began working with the Northwest Church members for a reunion of the church.

James Cooper of Dallas, director of the Texas Baptist Ministers' Counseling Service, has been interim pastor at Northwest Church, and C. E. Grounds, a psychology professor at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, has been interim pastor at Woodridge.

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