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Foreign Board Hears Broda,
Plea For More Missionaries

By Bob Stanley

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--N. Aldo Broda brought only a short message to the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board at its March meeting, but his presence said much more. He symbolizes the mature national leadership emerging in overseas missions.

Broda, the first Latin American to head the Baptist Spanish Publishing House in El Paso, Texas, since its founding in 1906, directed the Argentine Baptist Convention's publications work before coming to the States last year. A third-generation Baptist, he represents what Foreign Mission Board area secretary Thurmon Bryant calls the "denominational maturity" of Baptist work in East and South America.

In Richmond for the first time since assuming his new post, Broda expressed appreciation from "all the people in my country and from my family" to Southern Baptists for sending their missionaries, prayers, and money and for "helping us in the extension of the gospel."

He presented the board's executive director, Baker J. Cauthen, with two copies of "La Biblia de Estudio Mundo Hispano," a new study Bible the El Paso institution has published for use in more than 40 countries to which it supplies literature and other church materials. This publishing house, although located in the United States, operates under an international board of trustees representing these countries.

Bryant, a missionary to Brazil for 17 years before his election last October as area secretary for East and South America, told the board that on a recent tour of his area he was particularly impressed with the quality of missionaries serving there and with the quality of the national Baptist leadership.

"One might think," he said, "that as capable national leaders emerge and assume their rightful places in convention leadership there might be the tendency for them to ignore the need for the presence of the missionary."

But he said that at a recent conference in Argentina, attended by both missionary and national leaders, Juan Calcagni, president of the Argentine Baptist Convention, said to him:

"Tell the Foreign Mission Board and the Southern Baptist Convention to send us more missionaries. We love your missionaries and will need them in Argentina for many years to come to help us in evangelizing this great nation."

Bryant said there is concern as to how long the doors will remain open to missionaries in some countries. This is the time, he emphasized, for Southern Baptists to take full advantage of the opportunities that exist.

In other actions, the board:

1. Heard a report that contributions through March 7 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions had reached \$22,808,030--an increase of \$1,311,315 over the total at the same time last year. Books on the 1977 offering will remain open until the end of May.

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2. Confirmed plans for its April 10-12 meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, where about 20 missionaries will be appointed in the 14,000-seat Tarrant County Convention Center at 7:15 p.m. April 11.

3. Appropriated \$5,000 as its share of the cost of holding a convocation on world hunger next fall. Planning for this meeting is being coordinated by the SBC Christian Life Commission.

4. Allocated \$69,250 for world relief projects and \$10,500 for world hunger.

The relief work includes \$30,000 for rebuilding homes destroyed in Argentina's severe earthquake last November; \$11,000 to continue work with Cambodian and Vietnamese refugees in Thailand during the next three months; \$2,500 for flood relief in Belo Horizonte, Brazil; and \$750 for prepackaged medical kits for use where needed. The remainder of the relief total, \$25,000, involved ratification of money already released on an emergency basis for flood and famine victims in Zambia.

Hunger allocations include \$4,500 for the Thailand refugee project and \$6,000 for drilling of water wells on Old Providence Island, Colombia.

For the first two months of 1978, treasurer Everett L. Deane reported, Southern Baptists' relief and hunger giving totaled \$108,308, less than half the amount given in the same two months last year.

General relief funds were bolstered, however, by board action returning \$100,000 which originally had been appropriated for work in Ethiopia. Southern Baptist missionaries left that East African country last summer amid mounting political tensions.

Another \$28,000 was returned to the relief fund after missionaries found that grain distribution in the drought-stricken Sahel region of West Africa could be done more effectively by leasing locally owned trucks rather than buying a large truck to do the job.

A smaller three-ton truck that can travel farther into the interior of the drought area was purchased for \$18,000 with relief funds and \$5,000 is being used to lease the large, locally owned trucks to haul the grain from the ports to interior distribution points.

Overseas Division Director, Winston Crawley, presented an appreciation plaque to Fred T. Laughon, special assistant to the president of the SBC Radio and Television Commission who is completing six years as liaison to the Foreign Mission Board. The commission has announced that the liaison post will end March 31, since it considers the major purposes of this office have been accomplished.

Gene Williams, Virginia member of the SBC Sunday School Board, presented the first copy of "Higher Ground" to its author, Eloise Glass (Mrs. Baker J.) Cauthen. The book is a biography of her father, the late Wiley B. Glass, a missionary to China for 40 years. Royalties from the publication will be donated to the Foreign Mission Board.

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Califano Continues Attack
On Tuition Tax Credit Bill

By Stan Hastey

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WASHINGTON (BP)--The Carter administration is pulling out all stops in an effort to defeat a massive program of tuition tax credits to aid nonpublic schools.

At a meeting attended by some 30 representatives of Washington-based religious liberty, civil liberties, and educational groups, Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Joseph A. Califano said the proposed tax credit bill now before Congress is "clearly unconstitutional."

He said "any lawyer worth his salt" would see the bill introduced by U. S. Senators Bob Packwood (R.-Ore.) and Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D.-N.Y.) as a violation of the no establishment clause of the first amendment. Califano cited specifically a 1973 U. S. Supreme Court decision, PEARL V. Nyquist which declared unconstitutional a state tax credit plan in New York.

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Califano said he expects an opinion soon from Attorney General Griffin B. Bell on the constitutionality of the Packwood-Moynihan proposal. Besides the constitutional argument against Packwood-Moynihan, Califano scored the bill as "abominable social policy." "It's very wrong in any number of ways for this country to go in that direction," he said.

Califano's chief legislative aide, Dick Warden, said that a general tax credit does not take each family's income into account, granting instead an across-the-board credit regardless of particular need. He also called tax credits an "unfair form of general tax relief."

Warden said that tax credits would be too expensive for the federal government to absorb and that by 1984 the cost to the federal treasury would be \$5.4 billion.

The battle in Congress over tax credits has now shifted to the House of Representatives, where the Committee on Ways and Means is considering the proposal. Warden noted that the prospect in that panel is for a "close call."

The Senate Committee on Finance recently approved the bill by a surprising 14-1 vote, sending it on to the Senate floor for action. Church-state observers in Washington have been predicting for some time that while the measure is likely to be approved by the Senate, it will have more difficulty surviving in the House.

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N. C. Baptists Reach Accord
With Wake Forest Trustees

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WINSTON SALEM, N. C. (BP)--Trustees of Wake Forest University have reached a compromise with the executive committee of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina that will allow Wake Forest to keep every dollar of a \$299,600 National Science Foundation grant to the biology department.

The compromise calls for a technical shifting of the controversial \$85,000 portion of the grant designated for construction of a greenhouse to extend the endowed three-year study to four years. Wake Forest will replace the \$85,000 necessary to pay for the already constructed greenhouse from its own budget.

The trustees agreed to come before the convention's services rendered committee with all future requests for federal funds.

The compromise effort must be endorsed by the General Board of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina which meets May 30-31 on the Chowan College campus, Murfreesboro, N.C.

The crisis between Wake Forest trustees and the North Carolina convention leadership began Dec. 9, 1977 when the trustees voted to accept without restriction the \$299,600 grant, contrary to a directive by messengers at the 1977 Baptist state convention.

Convention voters rejected the \$85,000 portion designated for the greenhouse because a building does not fulfill the North Carolina Baptist "services rendered" requirement for acceptance of government funds. North Carolina Baptists do not feel a building on their campus can return a service to the funding source, in this case the National Science Foundation, and that violates separation of church and state.

Executive committee members termed the proposal "an acceptable resolution" of the problem. Cecil A. Ray, general secretary-treasurer, said he was "delighted with the spirit in which the resolution was presented," by the trustees, but was not happy with the technical aspects of the proposal.

"We recognized where we are and accepted the evidence of the trustees desire to overcome the problem and establish a basis for working in the future," Ray said. "That's what made it acceptable. What really made it acceptable is not that we undid a contract but that they (trustees) agreed to start complying with all the convention's requirements related to this sort of thing."

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Wake Forest trustee chairman James W. Mason said trustees were interested in removing "this source of misunderstanding" and could now "proceed to the consideration of more serious and permanent matters."

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Arms Expert Urges
U. S. To Stop Race

By W. Barry Garrett

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3/15/78

WASHINGTON (BP)--A world authority on disarmament placed responsibility for the prevention of a nuclear war and "the destruction of civilization as we know it" by the end of this century directly on the United States of America.

William Epstein, special disarmament consultant to the United Nations and visiting professor at the University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, issued the warning during his keynote address to a preparatory consultation on the United Nations special session on disarmament to be held in New York from May 23 to June 28.

Epstein, who for 35 years has been involved in official arms control and disarmament studies, said that "the world is in greater peril today than it has ever been at any time in its history." Citing the dangers of world poverty, population problems and pollution, he declared that "the first and worst of all of them is the threat of the nuclear bomb."

"The three 'Ps' will take some years to strangle the world, but the nuclear bomb can destroy the world in ten minutes," he said.

The United States has the capacity with its 10,000 nuclear bombs to destroy every city in Russia of 100,000-plus population more than 50 times, he pointed out. And Russia, with its 4,000 nuclear bombs can do the same to the United States by more than 20 times. Not only that, he continued, nuclear arms inevitably will be gotten and used by many other nations of the world, by terrorist groups and others, unless there is a stop to nuclear proliferation and real steps taken toward disarmament.

Epstein said "We are not going to have a nuclear war between the United States and the Soviet Union by intention, design, by deliberation or by planning. If it happens, it is going to happen as a result of accident, miscalculation, human or mechanical breakdown, inadequate command control communications procedures, through the proliferation of nuclear weapons to a lot of other countries, through blackmail or sheer madness."

He said the nuclear arms race "is really a race to oblivion," and that the U. S. has led the race so must lead the process of stopping it.

Epstein praised President Carter for wanting a comprehensive test ban, reciprocal restraints in nuclear arms, a freeze on new nuclear weapons systems, a reduction and eventual elimination of nuclear weapons and other safeguards to world security. However, he said Americans have not responded strongly and that the president "is gradually being pushed back and ground down." He pleaded for public support for President Carter's ideas for nuclear disarmament. The consultation where Epstein spoke was in response to Carter's call for citizen participation in the U. S. role in the U. N. special session on disarmament.

The United States is so many years ahead of the Russians and other nations in nuclear technology, he said, that Americans can unilaterally announce arms reduction and non-proliferation of nuclear bombs without being hurt. This will set the example and put the pressure on other nations to follow. This should be done before the U. N. special session, he urged, to give encouragement to the other nations to do likewise.

Epstein set forth four practical proposals for the United States, saying that: 1. The U.S. should put a freeze on the technological arms race, the production of new nuclear weapons and delivery systems; 2. The U.S. should announce real reductions in weapons systems; 3. The U.S. must declare that it will not use nuclear weapons on non-nuclear powers; and 4. The U.S. must get the United Nations more actively involved in enlisting all the potential nuclear powers in the process of disarmament and of developing nuclear weapons control.

The Washington consultation was sponsored by five senators: Richard C. Clark (D-Iowa), Frank Church (D-Idaho), John C. Culver (D-Iowa), Mark O. Hatfield (R-Ore.) and Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.).

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