



BAPTIST PRESS

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Baptisms, Decisions Remain High Among Korean Military

SEOUL, Korea (BP)--Large numbers of baptisms and decisions for Christ continue among the South Korean military, according to reports from Southern Baptist missionaries.

About 570 soldiers in one military division, including two battalion commanders, were baptized recently. During the same week 30 Korean Baptist pastors conducted 62 separate evangelistic meetings in which more than 2,200 men responded by filling out decision cards.

The evangelistic meetings, held at the invitation of the Republic of Korea Chaplain's Corps, presented the gospel to more than 16,000 soldiers in the 6th corps of the ROK army. This is an elite unit which guards the strategic approach to Seoul from the north, according to Southern Baptist missionary Rolla M. Bradley.

Both efforts were coordinated through the military evangelism department of the Korea Baptist mission (organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in Korea) and the Seoul Baptist Association. Bradley is supervisor for the department.

ROK Army commanders have invited Korean Baptists to choose 50 pastors to lead evangelistic meetings for another corps in October, Bradley said.

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Cooperative Program 10.57%
Ahead of 1976-77 Pace

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NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Giving through the national Southern Baptist Cooperative Program totals \$47,715,260 through the first 10 months of the 1977-78 fiscal year--10.57 percent ahead of last year's pace.

But total giving on a national level for the nation's largest Protestant body amounts to \$94,203,189, an increase of nearly \$9.6 million, or 11.34 percent, over last year. The total giving figure includes the Cooperative Program amount and another \$46,487,929 in specially designated gifts.

The national Cooperative Program figure (\$47,715,260) totals about one third of the amount received by state Baptist conventions from Southern Baptist churches. The state figures, in turn, amount to about 8 to 10 percent of the collection plate dollar in the churches.

The specially designated gifts, over \$5 million more than last year, show a 12.14 percent increase.

For the month of July, 1978, the 10th month in the fiscal year, national Cooperative Program totaled \$4,858,870, a 6.56 percent increase over July, 1977, and designated giving was down 24.74 percent to \$995,954. In July, 1977, designated giving amounted to over \$1.3 million.

However, total giving for the month amounted to \$5,854,824, only .48 percent lower than July, 1977.

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**Crusade Behind Bars
Brings 48 to Christ**

KINGSTOWN, St. Vincent (BP)--A three-day crusade inside the walls of Her Majesty's Royal Prison on the Caribbean island of Kingstown, St. Vincent, resulted in 48 commitments to Jesus Christ.

Southern Baptist missionary Don Overstreet has worked with inmates at the prison for about a year in a weekly ministry of Bible study, reading, music classes and worship. He also was involved in "Impact 1978"--a crusade brought to the island by Caribbean Baptists and volunteers from Coosa Valley Baptist Church, Gadsden, Ala.

With Impact 1978 at hand, Overstreet explained, "we felt it was time to do something unusual in the prison...something that had never been done in St. Vincent."

The "mini-crusade" went on inside the prison after the island-wide crusade of Bible lessons for more than 500 children, a puppet ministry, gospel singing, and preaching by Vincent Wood, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Bridgetown, Barbados, took place outside the walls.

"At the end of the three days in the prison, we saw 48 men make their commitment to Christ," said Overstreet. "It was a thrilling sight...as one of the inmates said in his testimony, 'I am praying that this place will become a Christian institution.' The men are now organizing to start Bible studies in each of the cell blocks and have their own leaders, as they are beginning their own church behind bars."

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**N. C. Church Ordains
Missionary Couple**

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WAKE FOREST, N. C. (BP)--Darrell and Camille Adams, a married couple recently appointed as missionaries to Portugal by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, were ordained by the Wake Forest (N.C.) Baptist Church, July 23.

The Adamses will leave Dec. 29 for Portugal, where he will serve in theological education and she in home and church work. She does not plan to assume a role as pastor of a church.

Willard Brown, pastor of the Wake Forest Church, which has had women deacons since 1924 but has never ordained a woman to the ministry, said Mrs. Adams "is one of the few and maybe among the first" to serve as an ordained woman missionary.

But Louis Cobbs, secretary for missionary personnel at the Foreign Mission Board, said no information is available on the number of ordained women serving as missionaries. Although no accurate Southern Baptist Convention-wide figures exist, about 30 Southern Baptist churches, out of 35,255, are believed to have ordained women, a practice not common among Southern Baptist churches.

Cobbs said the Foreign Mission Board does not recommend ordination for either men or women. "That's a church function and church decision," he said, noting that the U. S. government, for tax purposes, recognizes missionary appointment as parallel to ordination.

Brown described the ordination of the couple as "an action by a local, autonomous congregation" and said that it was not requested or encouraged by the Foreign Mission Board.

Mrs. Adams, a native of Highland Park, Mich., said she sees herself as "a Baptist minister in the broad sense of the word--not as a pastor of a local congregation." She said, "I don't equate ordination with just being a pastor. I have been a minister as a Girls in Action (GA) leader, Sunday School teacher and counselor in my church. I will continue to perform ministry on the mission field."

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A graduate of Wayne State University, Detroit, Mrs. Adams will receive her master of divinity degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, in December. Her husband, a native of Danville, Va., but reared in Detroit, is also a graduate of Wayne State University and holds a master of theology degree from Southeastern Seminary.

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Concerned Baptist Mom
Acts Against 'Moonies'

By Judy Touchton

Baptist Press
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BAYOU LA BATRE, Ala. (BP)--Yetta Hill is not an activist; she's a full-time homemaker, mother of seven children, wife of a Gulf Coast shrimper, Southern Baptist church member.

Still, when followers of Sun Myung Moon surreptitiously began buying undeveloped land and existing industry along the banks of the bayou which winds through Bayou La Batre, she protested along with other townsfolk.

Mrs. George Hill, born and reared in the shrimping and fishing community of 3,000 at the southern tip of Alabama, insisted she had good reason to be concerned because of published stories about mind-control tactics of Unification Church members.

Like other Creole descendents in the isolated, close-knit township, she worried that local young people--including the five of her children still at home--might be taken in by the unorthodox religious group.

"When they first came in all we knew was someone bought 700 acres of land at the mouth of the bayou," she recalls. "Later it came out it was the Unification Church.

When the people of Bayou La Batre found out they had deceived us, that's when we began Concerned Citizens of the South."

The group protested the influx of the Moon's followers into shipbuilding and other industry along the bayou. One rally it sponsored drew more than 1,000--a third of the community--to the town's only shopping center to call attention to the church's purchases in the city.

Local residents also persuaded the city council to zone the undeveloped land residential to prohibit the church's corporation from building a canning and processing factory. That zoning was challenged in the courts.

"We weren't trying to keep business out but we were concerned as citizens and as Christians believing in Jesus Christ," said Mrs. Hill, head of the Concerned Citizens telephone committee.

Unification Church members believe Christ was only a partial saviour; that Sun Myung Moon, spiritual leader of the church, could conceivably become the second messiah.

Other causes for resident concern were the church's demand for total loyalty in life and money from members and its alleged political connections with the Korean government.

Townsfolk worried that the church, by using the free labor of members--often called "moonies," despite the church's dislike for the term--would drive down prices, meaning less profit for local fishing and shipbuilding industries.

Mrs. Hill also fears for her children. "I just wouldn't want to see a Unification Church member come up to my child and take them off to one of their weekends," she said.

She fears for her own safety, as well, and is careful where she drives her red pickup truck. She doesn't like to be out alone at night. Yet, she and others in the area seem tolerant of the newcomers.

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Mrs. Hill refuses to use the word "moonie." And even though, along with members of Concerned Citizens, she has angrily protested the church's purchases, she has not boycotted the church's businesses.

Michael Runyun, listed as president of U. S. Master Marine in Bayou La Batre, handles press relations for the Unification Church from New York City. He denies entrance to church-owned property by anyone not church affiliated or paid by the corporation.

"There have been threats so we're taking as many preventative measures as possible," Runyun said, illustrating with the new protective fences around the business recently purchased by the church.

"We're a new religion and we're being persecuted," he explained. "People have lived in Bayou La Batre generation after generation and have control of the town. They can't think of anybody's taking over the town," he said.

Yet Runyun disputed that might be the church's aim. He said only 20 church members were permanent residents; others come and go.

The church, showing good faith, retained employees hired by previous owners, giving them some pay increase. But townfolk can only speculate about what may happen when the present contracts, already in force when the companies were bought, end.

"I guess the worst thing that could happen is that Moon could bring in enough of his followers so that they could take over politically...not just Bayou La Batre, but Alabama and the United States as well," Mrs. Hill theorized.

"It's my children; two more in high school and three in grade school. They are my reasons for being a concerned citizen. We are a close-knit family and I don't want to see the Unification Church come between us."

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(BP) Photos mailed to Baptist newspapers by Atlanta Bureau of Baptist Press.

Minister's Filmstrip
Gathering Awards

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BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)--A filmstrip by a Southern Baptist minister of education has won awards in three 1977-78 film festivals.

"David Livingstone--Missionary Explorer" is a color 35mm filmstrip of 80 frames with 18 minute audio cassette and printed script containing teaching questions. It has already won awards in the International Film and TV Festival of New York, the U. S. Industrial Film Festival and the Information Film Producers of America.

Hoyt Wilson, minister of education for 11 years at Mountain Brook Baptist Church in suburban Birmingham, conceived and directed the production of the filmstrip because he believes that "we are not retelling the rich stories of our Baptist and Christian heritage."

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