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News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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August 10, 1979

79-136

Southeast Asia Missionary
Named to New Orleans Post

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)--Southeast Asia missionary J. Murphy Terry was elected in August by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board as regional personnel representative headquartered in New Orleans.

At the same meeting, the board was informed of the resignation of R. Allen Orr, regional personnel representative stationed in Kansas City, Mo. Orr resigned to pursue graduate study at Columbia University, New York, N.Y., in partial fulfillment of requirements for missionary service.

Terry will assume a position he filled as an interim representative while attending seminary before his 1970 appointment as a missionary to Laos. The position has been vacant since October 1977 when Robert C. Covington left it to become associate secretary for missionary personnel at the board's Richmond, Va., headquarters.

Terry will counsel with persons and groups interested in foreign mission service and channel qualified volunteers into screening procedures leading toward missionary appointment. He will work with candidates in Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana and the Gulf Coast of Texas. He will begin work with about 220 couples and single persons already in contact with the board.

Most recently Terry, who has returned to the United States for family reasons, was a general evangelist in Colombo, Sri Lanka. He also served in that capacity in Bangkok, Thailand, and in Vientiane, Laos. Before his appointment he was a teacher and pastor of Riverview Baptist Church, Buras, La. He also was pastor of Mildred Baptist Church, Corsicana, Texas; an accountant in Fairfield, Texas; and a store manager at New Orleans Seminary, where he received the master of theology degree.

The Vandalia, Ill., native has also lived in Waco and Fairfield, Texas. He was graduated from Navarro Junior College, Corsicana, Texas, and Sam Houston State College (now university), Huntsville, Texas. He and his wife, the former Linda Oakes of Fairfield, have three sons.

Orr will pursue missionary service in the Philippines, where he served earlier as a Southern Baptist missionary journeyman. His wife, the former Jeannie Mallow, was a missionary journeyman in Jordan.

The Kansas City office will be closed temporarily and coverage of candidates in that area, particularly in Missouri and Oklahoma, will shift to William A. Kruschwitz, regional personnel representative in Louisville, Ky. Candidates in the far western states covered by Orr will deal directly with personnel staff at board headquarters and candidates in Colorado will contact

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the Fort Worth, Texas, regional office.

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(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Richmond Bureau of Baptist Press

Wrapup

Board Prays for Cauthen,
Parks, Conducts Business

By Robert Stanley

Baptist Press
8/10/79

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)--Members of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board knelt beside the board's executive director and his newly elected successor to offer prayers of thanksgiving at the close of their four-day meeting here.

President John W. Patterson of Richmond, Va., called for a special prayer time as the board reflected in the afterglow of what one member described as "the most deeply spiritual experience I can remember."

Praying beside executive director Baker J. Cauthen and his wife, Eloise, and his successor, R. Keith Parks and his wife, Helen Jean, board members and staff thanked God for leading the search committee to Parks and prayed for both couples in the months ahead.

Although the board handled almost 200 items of business and appropriate more than \$1.5 million for missions in relief projects, the August 7 session in which Parks was elected was the high spiritual moment that continued to draw the attention of the board and staff.

Parks made a strong appeal at the end of the board meeting for continued prayer and support. "We must be constantly aware that we're in a spiritual warfare for the souls of this earth," he warned.

The forces of evil will do everything in their power to frustrate all that Southern Baptists and other Christians seek to do, but the power of God is greater and can "enable us to do what he has called us to do," Parks said. He cited Ephesians 6:11, in which Christians are admonished to "put on the full armor of God."

Earlier, Parks had noted that in the 26 years of Cauthen's leadership, the budget of the Foreign Mission Board has increased a little more than 1,000 percent and that missionary personnel has jumped 230 percent. If this phase continues for the next 26 years, he said, Southern Baptists will provide a budget of almost \$669 million a year and have a mission force of about 8,800. As of Aug. 1, 1979, the board had 2,963 missionaries under appointment.

Cauthen pointed out that in the next four months of transition, he and Parks will work so closely together that "everything we do (at the board) will involve the two of us." In this way, when the time comes for Cauthen to retire Dec. 31, the new director will move ahead without "the loss of a single step," Cauthen said.

Parks will become the executive director-elect Sept. 3, even though his full responsibilities do not begin until after Cauthen's retirement. The board asked Parks to clear his calendar in November to have a full month for prayer, reflection and seeking of God's leadership as he moves into the new position.

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A proposal made earlier for the search committee to continue another 12 months and a "transition" committee to assist Parks was withdrawn during the board's final session. Some board members questioned the need for such an advisory group.

In other action, the board approved 34 new missionaries at the meeting, bringing the total for the first eight months to 258. At this time last year, 247 had been approved as the board moved to a record 350 for 1978.

The flow of Mission Service Corps and long-term volunteers continued as the board approved eight Mission Service Corps and 11 other mission volunteers at the August meeting.

Action was also taken to place the Bangladesh and India mission work under the secretary for Southeast Asia, effective Sept. 1. This area, administered by William R. Wakefield, will be known as South and Southeast Asia. Formerly the work in the two countries has been supervised by J. D. Hughey Jr., secretary for Europe, the Middle East and South Asia. Since India and Bangladesh are both geographically and culturally closer to Southeast Asia than to Europe and the Middle East, Hughey recommended the transfer after the matter had been discussed with board members and missionaries. Hughey's area of responsibility now will be Europe and the Middle East which includes 19 countries.

The Southeast Asia area has lost two missions, Vietnam and Laos, in recent years because of Communist takeovers.

In a report on Southern Baptist relief ministries, associate consultant John R. Cheyne said giving for hunger relief continues to be strong and may exceed \$2 million this year. But he warned that general relief funds are depleted and said it would "be virtually impossible" for the board to respond at this time to any major cataclysmic disaster unless Southern Baptists designate offerings to meet such a need.

The board appropriated \$136,360 for relief ministries. A \$120,000 program will assist about 30,000 people of the Manobo tribe in Agusan del Sur, Philippines. The project, to be correlated with intensive evangelistic efforts, will use hunger relief funds to help in the areas of health, sanitation, food supply, technical training and land tilling.

Other projects include \$10,000 for a well-digging and irrigation project in Peru, \$1,360 for a rabbit-raising project in Nigeria; and \$5,000 for food-related items needed for flood relief in Indonesia. An additional \$10,000 was reallocated from war refugee relief in Lebanon to enable Lebanese Baptist students to return to local schools. This amount is not included in that \$136,000 appropriation because it does not involve any new money, a board spokesman said. It involves a reallocation of money previously set up for war refugee relief.

The board's communications secretary Thomas W. Hill announced that Floyd H. North will retire as editor of The Commission magazine at the end of January 1980. During the 20 years North has edited the monthly foreign missions magazine, more than 20 million copies have been published, Hill said. North was assistant secretary for promotion for two years before becoming editor of the magazine.

Among those appointed missionaries in a Wednesday evening service were MKs (missionary kids) J. Stacy and Sheila Houser, who met at the Foreign Mission Board during the board's annual MK Thanksgiving weekend. They will serve in Tanzania. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. James L. Houser, recently transferred to Mwanza, Tanzania, from Kenya, and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Finlay M. Graham, live in Nicosia, Cyprus, where he is field representative.

Also appointed was Robert Don Hughes, son of Robert Dale Hughes, executive secretary of the Southern Baptist General Convention of California. He and Mrs. Hughes, an Alabamian, will work in Nigeria.

Others appointed as career missionaries were Dr. and Mrs. S. M. (Pete) Baer of Texas, assigned to Botswana; Mr. and Mrs. T. Elton Bost, Texas, to Japan; Marjorie Dean, Florida, to Ivory Coast; Mr. and Mrs. James D. Dorsey, Wyoming and Texas, respectively, to Colombia; Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Findley Jr., Alabama, to Bangladesh; Dr. and Mrs. Richard A. Fox, Tennessee, to Indonesia; Mr. and Mrs. Ronald P. Gustman, West Virginia and Tennessee, to Zambia.

Also Cynthia Hall, Texas, to South Brazil; Mr. and Mrs. David W. Hodges, Missouri and Colorado, to South Brazil; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph E. Manuel, Oklahoma and Wisconsin, to North Brazil; Mr. and Mrs. Randall J. Pannell, Texas, to Argentina; Mr. and Mrs. Emmett E. Powers, Tennessee and Washington, D.C., to Argentina; Mr. and Mrs. E. Paul Sheriff, Texas and Oklahoma, to the Philippines; and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald D. Wright, Texas, to Nigeria.

Also employed during the service were missionary associates Mr. and Mrs. Elmer E. White, of New Mexico, assigned to Colombia. Named special project medical workers during the board meeting were Dr. and Mrs. Stanley L. Strickland, Texas and Louisiana, to Ghana.

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No More 'Roadblocks' to Gospel
In Postwar Uganda, Carroll Says

By Irma Duke

Baptist Press
8/10/79

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)--Another roadblock lay ahead. Things had gotten worse in Uganda, so Southern Baptist missionary G. Webster Carroll had taken his children to Nairobi, Kenya, and was on his way to his Ugandan home.

As he approached the roadblock, he began to slow down so once again he and his belongings could be checked. It wasn't getting any easier for an American in Idi Amin's country. He noted 12 soldiers on duty at this particular roadblock.

But as he stopped, he opened the door to his car, took out his Bible and the 24 Swahili hymnbooks he had just purchased in neighboring Kenya and boldly said, "It's time to go to church."

"And you know they did," explained Carroll at the closing evening session of Foreign Missions Week at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center.

The soldiers sang, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." And he read Isaiah 40, a passage about the sovereignty of God. As the service continued, he noted 12 cars had backed up in the roadblock line. "I dared not push it; so I said, 'Alright, men, check those cars.'" Then he got in his own car and was ushered through.

During what he described as the eight long, "terrible" years of Amin's rule, Carroll and his family continued their witness, much of the time under very difficult circumstances, even after Baptist churches were banned. Yet, during 1972, Uganda had more baptisms per church member than any other Southern Baptist mission field, according to Carroll.

He said even though Baptist churches were banned, his ministry didn't end. God told him to stay, he said, and he did. He said that in God's love they tried to give hope to the Ugandan people. In a country where one aspirin cost \$5 and one malaria pill cost \$10, he said, they continued to remind the people that God was still with them.

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They met with the believers in their homes on irregular schedules and, along with Jim and Linda Rice, distributed Bibles to "every corner of Uganda." Carroll said the greatest hunger for the word of God was in Arua, Amin's home area.

During one of the points of greatest tension and danger of their stay in Uganda, Carroll said they received a letter from their daughter Melody, who was away at school. The letter read, "Dear Mom and Dad, God told me to tell you to look up 2 Chronicles 32:7-8, 'Be strong and courageous. . .for there is more with us than with him. . .with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles. . .'"

Today Uganda is open to the gospel. Carroll said he has never known of a country so totally closed to the gospel to become so totally open to it as quickly as did this East African nation. When the Carrolls left Uganda on furlough less than a month ago, 650 persons were enrolled in a Bible Way correspondence course; 200 of those were from military barracks, Carroll said.

With the new government comes an invitation to missionaries. Before he left, Carroll met with 21 government ministers who told him their most crucial need is the spiritual and psychological reconstruction of Uganda. The missionary said these officials asked for science, math, English and history teachers and teachers of all kinds.

Carroll told the Glorieta audience that they were a major factor in "this miracle" and thanked them for their faithful support.

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Wake Forest, Convention
Plan Relationship Change

Baptist Press
8/10/79

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. (BP)--Committees from Wake Forest University and the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina have agreed on a proposal that would end the requirements that all Wake Forest's trustees be North Carolina Baptists and resolve a dispute between the school and the convention.

The plan also calls for removal of the school from the convention's annual Cooperative Program budget, and limits the school's receipts from North Carolina Baptists to those churches which designate that the school be included in their congregation's contributions.

Currently, North Carolina Baptists contribute about \$936,000, or six percent of their cooperative budget to Wake Forest. They also choose and elect all 36 of Wake Forest's trustees.

Under the proposed agreement, all trustees would be elected by the convention from nominations submitted by the university and 12 of the trustees could be non-Baptist Christians from outside North Carolina.

The plan, because it necessitates a constitutional change, requires two-thirds approval by convention messengers for adoption. It has the support of Wake Forest trustee chairman James Mason, convention president Mark Corts and conventional general secretary-treasurer Cecil A. Ray. It must be approved by the convention's Council on Christian Higher Education and general board, and the Wake Forest trustees before presentation to messengers at the annual meeting Nov. 14-16.

Meanwhile, deacons of Hayes Barton Baptist Church, an influential congregation in Raleigh, have noted to withhold \$42,500, or half the church's Cooperative Program contributions, to protest conduct of convention leaders in several matters, including the Wake Forest issue.

Deacon Shearon Harris, board chairman of Carolina Power and Light Co., said the convention has required institutions to amend their charters so they will make no policy changes without convention approval, which puts decision-making in state convention headquarters rather than in the educational institutions.

The deacons' resolution protested the convention's efforts at "centralized control" and they will hold the money until they feel their concerns have been moderated.

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