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Son of Missionaries Named

Latin Affairs Assistant Secretary of State

WASHINGTON (BP)--William B. Bowdler, son of an emeritus Southern Baptist missionary, has been appointed assistant secretary of state for interamerican affairs, effective Jan. 1, 1980, pending Senate confirmation.

Bowdler, 55, is currently the director of the bureau of intelligence and research for the U.S. Department of State. In the fall of 1978 he was the U.S. negotiator with representatives from Guatemala and the Dominican Republic who attempted to mediate a settlement of the political crisis in Nicaragua.

He has been the U.S. ambassador to El Salvador, Guatemala and South Africa.

Bowdler was born in Argentina, where his parents, George A. and Ruth Bowdler, were Southern Baptist missionaries for 37 years. His father is deceased and his mother, an emeritus missionary, resides in Richmond, Va. He is a graduate of the University of Richmond.

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Non-Smoker's Appeal

Rejected by High Court

WASHINGTON (BP)--The Supreme Court has rejected a claim by a group of non-smoking government workers that the federal government has a legal obligation to provide them with what they call a "safe and healthful work environment."

A spokesman for the group said it will now turn its efforts to Congress in an attempt to have legislation enacted which will better protect the rights of non-smoking government workers.

Without comment, all nine justices declined to schedule for argument the claim brought by the group, who call themselves Federal Employees For Non-Smokers' Rights.

In earlier decisions in the case, both the U.S. District Court and the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia had ruled against the non-smokers, whose specific argument was that the Occupational Safety and Health Act at least implies that the government itself is subject to the law's requirement to provide a safe and healthy atmosphere for its employees.

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Doctors May Not Conspire To Boycott Abortion Clinic

WASHINGTON (BP)--Federal courts did not overstep their authority in applying the federal antitrust law to doctors who conspired to boycott a Tallahassee, Fla., abortion clinic, the Supreme Court held here.

The unusual case involved a claim by the abortion clinic, the Feminist Women's Health Center, that gynecologists and obstetricians at a local hospital in Tallahassee violated the federal Sherman Act by conspiring to boycott its facilities, monopolize the performance of abortions, and fix the price for an abortion.

Because some of the clinic's patients were from nearby Alabama, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans ruled that the federal antitrust statute applied in the case. The Sherman Act, passed in 1890, was designed in part to protect against monopolies and price-fixing in the conduct of interstate commerce.

The Tallahassee doctors, led by George S. Palmer and Mohammad Mahmood, argued through their attorneys that the court of appeals overstepped its boundaries in applying the Sherman Act.

They also charged that another law, the so-called Noerr-Pennington Doctrine, should have protected their private communications. Instead, the lower court used those in-house communications to prove conspiracy to boycott the clinic and monopolize abortion practice in the Florida city.

The legality of abortion itself was not an issue in the case.

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Baptist Laymen Work
Despite Caribbean Problems

By Roy Jennings

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SANTO DOMINGO (BP)--For dozens of Southern Baptist craftsmen, life in the Caribbean means almost unbearable heat, mosquitos, and almost constant thirst.

But team members have reported that it's worth the living conditions to see the expressions of appreciation in the eyes of the homeless when their new homes are completed and they can move in.

Few buildings remained intact when Hurricane David roared across the Dominican Republic several weeks ago at 185 miles an hour, terrorizing the five million people and destroying their livelihood.

Now construction teams of Southern Baptist men enlisted by state Baptist Brotherhood departments are paying their own transportation to the Caribbean and using their vacations to build little concrete block homes for the islanders.

"The people have nothing left and I do mean nothing," reported James Hatley, a disaster relief consultant at the Brotherhood Commission who is spending five weeks on the island, coordinating a construction project.

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"Most of the male children are naked and the little girls wear only briefs," Hatley said. "In spite of their great loss, the people are making progress and are remarkably content."

The men have eight new concrete block homes completed or in process while carpenters are helping reconstruct frame homes from scrap lumber that families have salvaged.

The laymen Hatley is coordinating are working in a community 50 miles from Santo Domingo which was especially hard hit by the hurricane. They are a part of a Southern Baptist effort, in cooperation with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, to build 300 to 500 houses on the island during the next three months, if relief contributions from Southern Baptists are forthcoming.

"The conditions are so primitive and the temperature is so hot that we are able to work only seven or eight hours a day," Hatley said. "We are consuming huge amounts of drinking water which we must haul 50 miles.

"We have no communication with the outside world," Hatley added. "We've hired a cook to prepare breakfast and dinner, and we eat Army C rations for lunch."

Two of the laymen overhauled a generator and a pump to provide lights and bath water for the work teams and they rigged bunks for beds in the devastated beach home of a former dictator, the Brotherhood consultant said.

"The people are grateful to Southern Baptists, particularly the laymen from the state conventions, for making these homes possible," he said.

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Missionary's Health Better;
Couple Returns to Portugal

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LISBON, Portugal (BP)--Two years and two days after Southern Baptist missionary C. Ernest Harvey was brought to the United States on a stretcher, he arrived back in Lisbon, Portugal, Oct. 25, continuing to recover from the illness that had threatened his life.

Harvey lost consciousness soon after he became ill with herpes simplex encephalitis (a viral type of brain inflammation), and had to be flown to the United States. He was listed in serious condition for about three weeks and remained hospitalized another month. Lengthy recuperation at home followed, but his condition now has improved to the point that doctors permitted the couple to return to the mission field.

Harvey's wife Jan said of her husband's recovery, "It seemed for so long that going back was completely out of the question, but the miracle happened, and we are on our way."

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Brazilian Foreign Board
Elects Executive Secretary

By Sistie Givens

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (BP)--Waldemiro Tymchak, a son of Russian immigrants, has become executive secretary of the Brazilian Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

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At his Inauguration, Tymchak, 42, told Brazilian Baptists, "The foreign missions program can only be as strong as the local church is strong."

His election came six months following the death of Alcides Telles Almeida, the board's executive secretary for 24 years. Tymchak is the 13th executive secretary to be elected during the board's 72 years of existence. Before assuming the post, he had been pastor of two churches in Brazil.

Born in Curitiba, Parana, Brazil, Tymchak has theological degrees from South Brazil Baptist Theological Seminary in Rio and Spurgeon's College of the University of London.

The Brazilian Foreign Board has 61 missionaries under appointment to 11 countries and 40 candidates for appointment.

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Miss Givens is Southern Baptist missionary press representative to South Brazil.

Country Crossroads Top
Syndicated Country Series

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NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--"Country Crossroads," the country music-interview radio program with a moral slant, was named "top syndicated country series of 1979" at the annual SESAC awards ceremony in Nashville.

The prestigious SESAC awards are usually given to honor writers and publishers who further the cause of country music, said Charles Scully, vice president of SESAC, but this year the award for a syndicated country or gospel music program was added.

"Country Crossroads," produced by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, was chosen above all other syndicated country or gospel programs on radio or television because "we think it does the best job of representing country music," commented Dave Debolt, director of public relations for SESAC. "Our figures show it to be by far the most popular country music show, reaching more people than the other syndicated radio or TV programs." It is heard on 857 radio stations in the U.S. and aired on the American Forces Radio Network.

"Country Crossroads" has also received the Gabriel award from the Catholic Association of Broadcasters as the top national religious program.

SESAC is the second oldest performing rights organization in America. One of only three in the United States, it represents writers and publishers all over the world.

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Baylor Given
\$1 Million Gift

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10/31/79

WACO, Texas (BP)--The Carr P. Collins Foundation Inc., of Dallas, has committed \$1 million to establish the Carr P. Collins Chair of Finance in Baylor University's Hankamer School of Business.

Collins, founder of Fidelity Union Life Insurance Co., was a Baylor trustee from 1924-33, 1935-42, and 1958-61. He received an honorary doctor of laws degree from Baylor in 1952.

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