



-- **FEATURES**
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Killer Among Hundreds
On Campus for Revival

By Norman Jameson

NEW ORLEANS (BP)--A killer walked among the nearly 1,200 students, faculty and city residents who swarmed onto New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary campus Jan. 27 for a revival meeting.

While most of the people filed into Leavell Chapel, one went to the home of Ethyl Louise Robbins, beat her to death and took up to \$300 from her purse.

A coroner fixed the time of Mrs. Robbins' death between 7 p.m. and 8 p.m., or about the time 7:30 p.m. services began with Perry Sanders, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lafayette, La.

A recent knee operation probably kept Mrs. Robbins, wife of New Orleans Seminary professor Ray Robbins, from attending the service herself. About the time it started, Mrs. Robbins called a neighbor to say she heard a prowler outside her house. Records show the neighbor called campus security at 8:15 p.m. to report a prowler in the area around the Robbins' house. Officers checked doors and windows of homes in the area, but did not ring the Robbins' doorbell, since the call had been general and not from Mrs. Robbins, said Don Stewart, seminary executive vice president. Stewart said there are still no clues.

Mrs. Robbins' death cast the seminary in deep gloom and threatened to cancel the long-planned and heavily prepared for revival meetings.

Sanders met before the morning revival service the 28th with seminary president Landrum Leavell and Robbins to decide what to do about the meetings.

"There is no alternative," Robbins said. "We must go on with the revival."

"When the Lord gets ready to do something there is a satanic force in operation too," said Sanders, a week after the incident. "I believe this was an effort of Satan to sidetrack the revival, but it didn't happen."

"I had to change gears, of course, in about an hour," said Sanders. "There was no way to speak on any subject except that (Mrs. Robbins' death). Preaching must be related to life and at that particular moment, life was death, really. My message simply had to be related to what was happening."

Sanders chose a text from Paul's letter to the Philippians, a book Southern Baptists absorbed in January Bible Study—a study Ray Robbins wrote.

The text: Phil. 1:12, "Now I want you to know brethren that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel." (American Standard)

Sanders talked of the "magnificent triumph of the Christian faith" through the difficult trials of Paul. He said there are three ways to react to life's tragedies: 1. resentfully, shaking our fist in the face of the creator; 2. submissively, by drawing into a shell; or

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3. the New Testament way, redemptively, constructively and creatively.

Robbins was teaching the Philipplians study in Baton Rouge the night Mrs. Robbins was killed. He returned home and found her dead in a downstairs bathroom.

"At the very time of her death, he might have been teaching that very scripture," said Sanders, a close personal friend of the Robbins.

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Valentine Pushes
Case for Values

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PINEVILLE, La. (BP)--Southern Baptist ethicist Foy Valentine warned Louisiana College students the world is being threatened by moral anarchy and that unless churches get more serious about recovering and communicating moral values, our civilization cannot survive.

Valentine, executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, said during the school's Staley Distinguished Christian Scholar Lectures, "Today's world is perishing for want of moral order in its soul."

He said both culture and religion will disintegrate without the presence of the moral imperative which provides the "ultimate seriousness for both."

"By an incredible direction of logic, the world views immorality as a harmless exercise of the times," he said. "The world sees violence as a proper way of life, racism as a divine right, sexual promiscuity as a harmless pastime, and materialism as its just dessert."

Valentine said the world's moral judgment has run out and its "derelict empires" are in "an utterly senseless arms race that is carrying us all straight toward Armageddon."

Valentine said the church must clearly define and vigorously push for moral values. Christian parents and churches must cooperate with other social units such as service clubs and PTA to teach those ideals in the home and society.

"Some of our present confusion in values and ideals can be traced to the conflicting moral demands between families, peers, schools, clubs, churches and the media," he said.

Valentine called for public schools to find more effective ways to communicate values and ideals. He also urged parents, employers and government to work together to make necessary adjustments so that children and youth can learn early the moral value of work.

"Whatever the future may hold for all of us, it is crystal clear that moral values and spiritual ideals must be given greater substance if life is to be more satisfying and less terrifying, more full and less fearful than ours is today," he said.

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Bomb Scorches
Refugee Home

By Herb Hollinger

CAMAS, Wash. (BP)--Three juveniles have been arrested and more arrests are expected in the wake of an investigation into a fire bomb thrown through a bedroom window of a Vietnamese refugee family.

The Niem Huynh family of 12 is sponsored by Harold Hitt, Northwest Baptist Convention language missions director, and is being helped by the LaCamas Heights Baptist Church in Camas.

No one was seriously injured in the near tragedy when a liquor bottle filled with a flammable liquid and a wick attached was thrown into the bedroom window about 7 p.m. The only occupant in the room at the time was the Huynh's one-year-old granddaughter, Mary, who was rescued from the burning room by a family friend visiting at the time. The fire department was called but the flames were extinguished by family members using blankets and rugs before firemen arrived.

Camas Chief of Police William Hillgaertner said the investigation was continuing and there would probably be more arrests. The youths were charged with first degree arson and possession of incendiary device.

Two days before the fire bomb incident, rocks had been thrown at the windows of their home, Nou Huynh, 14, told the Northwest Baptist Witness. There had been some general harassment of the refugees in the area and some trouble at school, family members said. According to Rosemary Rogers of the LaCamas Heights Baptist Church, two windows had been broken out last summer.

However, Mrs. Rogers, wife of the church's pastor, Layton Rogers, praised police and fire department officials who, she said, have done "a marvelous job of keeping on the problem."

The Niem Huynh family is part of a Vietnamese community in the Camas area which often attend the Camas church. Mrs. Rogers said 30 to 40 regularly attend services while there are about 70 on the Sunday School rolls. The church has one special adult Vietnamese class with 20 enrolled. The church also sponsors an English class for about 10 Vietnamese adult women.

The Huynh family arrived Aug. 6, 1979, at the Portland airport and settled among other Vietnamese refugees in this small southwestern Washington community, about 15 miles east of Vancouver.

The bomb was thrown through a window in the rear of the house and exploded as it hit the bedroom door. Flames shot up the wall and the burning liquid ran under the door and into another bedroom before it was put out. The baby was on a regular bed at the time but had been sleeping in a crib next to the door. One end of the crib was burned extensively.

Hopkins County Schools
Posting Ten Commandments

MADISONVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Copies of the Ten Commandments are being posted in public school classrooms in Hopkins County despite a ruling from the U.S. Supreme Court and an opinion from the Kentucky attorney general.

Last fall, the high court struck down a Kentucky law that required the decalogue to be posted in all classrooms in the state if private money was given for that purpose. Kentucky Attorney General Steve Beshear later said that meant the Ten Commandments already posted should be removed from public school classrooms.

But Patrick O'Neill, superintendent of the Hopkins County school district, has now ordered that the commandments be posted. He acted in response to a vote by the county school board.

Assistant Attorney General Robert L. Chenoweth said the state would not try to force compliance with the Supreme Court ruling. But he said the school district was now open to civil lawsuits on the matter.

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Missionary Role Shift
Pushes Baptist Growth

By Michael Tutterow

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ATLANTA (BP)--Home missionaries have shifted roles during recent decades, to the benefit of Southern Baptist growth, says Loyd Corder, an observer and instigator of missions in the United States for 40 years.

"It's been slow and subtle, but the whole role (of missionaries) has changed," claims Corder, 64, who just retired from the staff of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

"When first organized, the function of the board was to send and support missionaries and let them do the mission work," he explains. "But we've enlarged the definition of missionary from that of just a doer to that of an equipper, an enabler. There's been a steady progression from being a sending agency to one that provides leadership and acts as a catalyst, influencing the people in the pew to do mission work."

The role change evolved as missions responsibility shifted from the agency to state conventions and associations. Corder believes these cooperative efforts stimulated Southern Baptist work.

"Southern Baptists are like kudzu vines: the more you cut them, the more they grow," he says.

A structural reorganization of the board "divided up the work and made cooperative efforts more effective," Corder says. "We began doing all our work in cooperation with state conventions."

Under such a set-up, the board became an agency that "inspires and enables people to do mission," Corder says. He cautions it should never replace the individual's personal responsibility for mission.

"Mission is the purpose God has for each individual, each church," he emphasizes. "Everything we do is toward accomplishing mission. Christianity is not dogma or good works. It's relationships—to God, to others. It is the whole enterprise of evangelizing and discipling, centering in actions we perform where we are, and done in such a way that their effects carry into the future."

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The key to educating people to do mission is in leading "state conventions to form missions committees that can train the churches to do it," he claims. "If the Home Mission Board doesn't relate to the state conventions and the associations, we won't have anyone to relate our concept to the local church."

Corder's long tenure and diversity of responsibility lend credibility to his words. Since 1940, he has been missionary pastor, superintendent of city missions for Houston, superintendent of Spanish missions in the Southwest, secretary of the board's language missions division, associate director of the missions division, director of the associational missions division and special assistant to the director of the missions section.

But he's not finished yet. He and his wife, Gertrude, plan to spend the next two years as Mission Service Corps volunteers in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean.

"I'll serve as consultant for the Foreign Mission Board, helping to develop cooperative relationships between churches, associations and national conventions," he explains.

Corder's emphasis, whether overseas or at home, is educating people about missions. As 'Joe the Baptist,' the other half of Corder's ventriloquism act, puts it, "We shouldn't let people go around in their unawares."

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Massive Witness Planned
For New Orleans Convention

Baptist Press
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NEW ORLEANS (BP)--If a determined group has its way, messengers to the 1982 Southern Baptist Convention in New Orleans will be able to do something more than talk about Bold Mission Thrust.

Plans are underway for a massive witnessing effort to the city of New Orleans on Wednesday afternoon of the convention.

Ron Herrod, chairman of evangelism for the Baptist Association of New Orleans, said that a committee has already been formed to spearhead the effort, and that some Southern Baptist Convention leadership had already given their support.

During the recent state evangelism conference in Alexandria, Herrod, who is also pastor of Kenner First Baptist Church, met with state and national evangelism leaders.

Herrod said that he hoped to "saturate the city of New Orleans in a single afternoon with the gospel materials to help people understand Baptists and take something of a mini-survey.

"We want to go to every home primarily in the inner city and give a verbal witness or leave a written witness—plus tell the story of Baptist work in New Orleans," he said.

Herrod hopes to enlist 500 local laypersons for the project, with another 500 from across Louisiana and 1,000 more from the convention.

Herrod said he would present a resolution at the 1981 convention in Los Angeles to gain official support. He said SBC President Bailey Smith has written him pledging enthusiastic support.

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