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September 16, 1981

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Foreign Board Adds Brendle To Hunger and Relief Staff

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--Timothy T. Brendle, missionary to Haiti, will join the staff of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in October as associate to John R. Cheyne, consultant for relief ministries.

Cheyne said Brendle "will bring an unusual combination of abilities to a job which includes helping missionaries design approaches to urban hunger, assisting in management of the relief ministries office, and expanding the computerized research data bank for agricultural missionaries."

Brendle, a 35-year-old North Carolinian, has been a pilot, electronics designer, youth minister, social ministries worker and pastor in the United States and a general evangelist in Haiti.

"He also has been involved in relief ministries in Haiti, one of the most needy fields in the world, and has observed the kind of crises we face," Cheyne said. "He is emotionally tuned to combine evangelistic concern with ministry to hunger and relief needs."

Cheyne said the addition of Brendle represents another step in the Foreign Mission Board's plans to expand its hunger and relief ministries delivery system and speed up the use of Southern Baptist hunger and relief funds.

In the months to come, Cheyne hopes to add at least four regional field consultants and other specialists on the field to join a growing number of agricultural missionaries and others in combating world hunger and relief problems.

Brendle and his wife, Ava Lee Abernethy Brendle, also of North Carolina, were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in November 1978. They have two children, Brooks Michael and Adria Dawn.

Brendle attended the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and Lenoir Rhyne College, Hickory, N.C., and earned a bachelor of arts degree from Appalachian State University, Boone, N.C. He also earned a master of divinity degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

Previously, he was a pilot for an aircraft sales corporation and served in the U.S. Army. He also has been an electronics technician and designer, an associate pastor and youth minister in Hickory, N.C., a social ministries worker for Virginia Baptists, and pastor of Goshen Baptist Church, Spotsylvania, Va.

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

Two Stewardship Staffers Resign

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Two staff members of the Southern Baptist Stewardship Commission--Michael L. Speer and Paul M. Darden--have resigned.

A.R. Fagan, executive director-treasurer of the commission, said the resignations are effective immediately. No reason was given.

Neither Speer, 47, nor Darden, 50, immediately announced plans.

Speer, a native of Desloge, Mo., has been on the staff of the commission since 1967, most recently as associate executive director-treasurer and director of Cooperative Program promotion.

Darden, a native of Nashville, has been with the commission since 1964, as director of publishing.

Speer, a graduate of Southwest Baptist Junior College, Oklahoma Baptist University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, was secretary of the Kentucky Baptist Stewardship and Promotion Department prior to joining the commission. He also has been associated with the Carver School of Missions and Social Work in Louisville, and minister of education of churches in Kentucky and Virginia.

Darden, a graduate of George Peabody College for Teachers, was employed by the Baptist Sunday School Board prior to joining the commission.

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French Church Members Warned To Stay Away

Baptist Press
9/16/81

VAULX EN VELIN, France (BP)--Police have warned Southern Baptist missionary Mark Sutton and his church congregation not to return to their meeting place for services, following the church's latest encounter with vandalism Sept. 6.

During the worship service a member's car was stolen and destroyed by fire after its windows were smashed, upholstery torn up and the car apparently backed into a pole. The owners, a young couple from Martinique with four children, are leaders in the congregation.

Another member had seen some people attempting to enter his car earlier that morning and had run them off.

In past months the church has had three plate glass windows broken, the front door and two small rear windows shattered and a metal security door in the rear of the church crushed and its concrete supports chipped away. During an evening service a gunman fired into the congregation, but no one was injured.

Because vandalism has escalated in recent months, the church had given notice of moving out of their rented hall by the end of September. But the day following the latest attack, members moved chairs, the pulpit and hymnals to a member's garage, where they plan to hold services until they can relocate.

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"The spirit of the members of the church was really good in a meeting held Sunday afternoon to make decisions," Sutton reported. "They talked out their shock and anger and then got down to business."

Members have been searching for another hall to rent, but when landlords learn their building will be used for a church, they are reluctant to rent. Many Protestant churches have been vandalized since the first of the year.

Police believe some members of the large Arab community, who wish to rid the area of all non-Arabs, are responsible for the vandalism, which has not been limited to churches.

More cars were destroyed Sunday evening in a parking area next to the church and several policemen were injured.

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Bivocationalists Speak Up At Summer Conferences

Baptist Press
9/16/81

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Bivocational ministers spoke up during two special meetings this summer held during Home Mission Week at Glorieta and Ridgecrest Baptist Conference centers.

Jim Ryan, director of extension center education for the Seminary External Education Department in Nashville, gave part of his address time to listen to representatives of one-fourth of the pastor corps of the Southern Baptist Convention, those men who work at a secular job in addition to being pastor of a church.

The small number of men present at each conference, about 20, indicates one of their primary problems, not having time or money to attend growth conferences.

If convention leadership wants more bivocationalists to attend major meetings, they told Ryan, financial help is necessary.

Other training meetings, which they agreed were helpful, should be held at night or on Saturdays when they do not conflict with the pastors' secular work. And, they said, large numbers of bivocationalists can better be reached through several localized meetings rather than one national meeting.

They told Ryan they sense a barrier between themselves and "full-time" ministers and perhaps the denomination could help break that down.

"The denomination should seek ways to alert and motivate associational missionaries to understand the needs of bivocationalists and the contribution bivocationalists can make," Ryan was told. They told him they knew of no bivocational pastor on any SBC board or agency.

The men desire a national leader and spokesman for bivocationalists they can identify with. J.T. Burdine, national rural field consultant for bivocational ministries from the SBC Home Mission Board, was earning that recognition before his death July 7. He planned the meetings Ryan attended.

Ryan's division offers a course specifically for bivocationalists in which 219 are currently enrolled. The course deals with the special problems and opportunities of a bivocational pastor in church, job, family life and community.

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"If Bold Mission is to be accomplished," said Ryan, "we must utilize the vast number of men who feel they can make a contribution through God-called ministry and another vocation that helps them take care of their financial needs and gives them added outlets for witness."

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Construction Costs Revised;
\$300,000 Received for Center

Baptist Press
9/16/81

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--Plans for a new Southern Baptist missionary orientation center moved forward in September as the Foreign Mission Board revised construction costs and learned that a Richmond couple has donated \$300,000 for the center's construction.

Harwood and Louise Blanks Cochrane, who earlier donated a 233-acre farm near Richmond as the site for the new center, have asked that proceeds from two pieces of property in downtown Richmond be used specifically for recreational facilities and landscaping.

The property, valued at approximately \$300,000, is located in an area of downtown Richmond which has historical value and may be considered for restoration.

The farm, donated in 1979 and valued at \$391,000, has been approved for development as an orientation center.

Plans call for a complex exceeding \$8.6 million in construction costs and requiring an additional \$6 million in endowment for operation of the year-round facility.

Original estimates on construction costs were about \$6.7 million, but escalating costs plus additions of space for missionary children's schooling and orientation and for recreational needs, plus some other changes, caused the increase.

Construction, scheduled to begin in the spring of 1982, is dependent upon donations from individuals who will be contacted by the board on a one-to-one basis.

Missionaries now are trained at Callaway Gardens, a resort facility near Pine Mountain, Ga., that is leased for two 12-week sessions in the spring and fall. By having its own training center near Richmond, the board hopes to have shorter and more frequent training sessions, enabling missionaries to move more quickly to the field after appointment.

Cochrane is chairman of the board of Overnite Transportation Co. of Richmond, a trucking firm he founded in 1935 and has built into the eighth largest motor common carrier of general commodities in the United States. They are members of Richmond's Tabernacle Baptist Church.

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Board Allocates \$600,000
For Hunger and Relief

By Robert O'Brien

Baptist Press
9/16/81

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--A direct telephone report from Upper Volta to Richmond dramatized the scope of Southern Baptist relief efforts as the Foreign Mission Board allocated more than \$600,000 hunger and relief dollars at its September meeting.

The total, destined for 27 hunger and relief projects in 17 countries, represented one of two steps taken to speed up effective use of Southern Baptist world hunger and relief contributions.

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The other was the naming of Timothy T. Brendle, 35, missionary to Haiti since 1978, to serve as associate consultant for relief ministries under John R. Cheyne, consultant for relief ministries.

The board hopes to add at least four regional field consultants and other specialists on the field, in the months to come, to join a growing number of agricultural missionaries and others in combating world hunger and relief problems.

In other developments, the board also moved to beef up its Partnership Evangelism efforts, approved new developments on its proposed orientation center for missionaries near Richmond, decided to disengage from the joint Volunteer Data System among the four Southern Baptist mission agencies, and named 16 persons for mission service.

The telephone call from Larry Cox, missionary in Upper Volta, came to John Mills, director for west Africa, during Mills' report to the board about overwhelming needs and unlimited challenges in the nations of west Africa.

Upper Volta will receive \$234,200, or nearly 39 percent, of the current hunger and relief allocation of \$600,530, believed to be only the second time in board history the total has topped \$600,000 in a single month.

The west African nation is the site of a joint venture between the board and Tennessee Baptists to build a dam and a 55-acre lake in the drought-ridden Sandwabo area and complete other hunger, health, evangelistic and education-related projects.

In a conversation with Mills, amplified for board members to hear, Cox, an agricultural missionary, related how he is coordinating a growing stream of volunteers from Tennessee to try to reclaim Sandwabo from Africa's Sahel Desert region.

In the process, he declared, Southern Baptists, because of the warm responsiveness of Voltaics, will be able "to claim entire villages for Christ" in the closely interwoven evangelistic efforts already producing baptisms, churches and preaching points. The project will affect more than 30,000 people in 17 villages.

The board took another step toward implementing its Partnership Evangelism commitment by naming Michael Wilson, 35, director of evangelism for Colorado Baptists, as orientation manager for short-term volunteers and Partnership Evangelism teams.

Partnership Evangelism, which links Southern Baptist churches to churches overseas, was promoted by World Evangelism Foundation, which is phasing out its organization because of Foreign Mission Board plans to accelerate Partnership Evangelism teams around the world.

In another development on the missionary orientation center, the board learned that Harwood and Louise Blanks Cochrane of Richmond, who donated the 233-acre site for the center, will sell two pieces of downtown Richmond property, valued at \$300,000, and donate the funds to center construction.

Plans call for a complex exceeding \$8.6 million in construction costs and requiring an additional \$6 million in endowment operation of the year-round facility. Funds for construction will come from development efforts aimed at individuals and not from churches, the Cooperative Program or the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, according to R. Keith Parks, board president. Construction likely will begin in the spring of 1982, with completion sometime in 1984.

In a move aimed at streamlining the application process for mission volunteers, the board voted to withdraw from the Volunteer Data System (VDS) portion of the Volunteer Involvement in Missions (VIM) joint effort, effective Jan. 1, 1982.

Although the Foreign Mission Board will continue to promote voluntarism in missions with other agencies through VIM, it will process applications for overseas service directly through Richmond rather than the Atlanta-based Volunteer Data System.

VDS was designed to store information on mission volunteers and their skills and match them with field needs at home and abroad. Joint funding has come from both mission boards, Woman's Missionary Union and the Brotherhood Commission.

Board leaders said fewer than 10 volunteers tapped through the system have been assigned overseas, since most eligible candidates interested in volunteer service abroad contact the Foreign Mission Board directly.

High cost, low return and cumbersome processing prompted withdrawal from the VDS portion of the joint effort to promote voluntarism, according to board leaders.

The 16 personnel additions included 15 career missionaries and one special project medical worker, Terry Ballentine of Alabama, employed to serve in Gaza. Two couples approved for reappointment, not included in the 16, were Byron and Dora Harbin to return to south Brazil, and Mell and Sue Plunk to return to Argentina. Plunk, who resigned last December to come to the Foreign Mission Board as a missionary candidate consultant, and his wife were originally appointed in 1963. The Harbins were first appointed in 1969 and resigned in September 1980.

Those appointed as career missionaries are Bill and Jo Lynn Haentsch Dean of Texas, assigned to Upper Volta; Kent and Donna Polk Depee, Wyoming and Nebraska, respectively, to north Brazil; Kurt and Judy Johnson Lawrence, Oregon and Kentucky, to Thailand; Phyllis Mayo, Maryland, to Japan; Joe and Beverly Tompkins Tarpley, Tennessee and Mississippi, to Nigeria; Lynn and Glenda Cantrell Terrill, Missouri, to Colombia; Alvin and Brenda Burnett Walker, New Mexico and Texas, to south Brazil; and Jack and Bert Baggett Yates, North Carolina, to Kenya.

Several of the appointees have overseas mission connections. Kurt Lawrence was a missionary kid (MK) in Cameroon, while the Yateses served more than two years in Kenya as Mission Service Corps volunteers. The Walkers worked as short-term volunteers in Brazil with Texas Baptists' Mission to Brazil project. Tarpley will join his brother John, a missionary doctor in Nigeria, to serve as a dormitory houseparent to MKs in Nigeria.

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HMB Appoints 102
To Mission Posts

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9/16/81

ATLANTA (BP)--Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board named 102 persons to mission service during their September meeting, including a staff member in the missionary personnel department and a national consultant for the language missions division.

Jack S.W. Ellenburg, pastor of First Baptist Church, Bamberg, S.C., was elected associate director of the HMB's missionary personnel department.

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Ellenburg, a graduate of Furman University, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and the University of Louisville, will assist in selecting missionary candidates.

Joshua Grijalva, dean of the Mexican Baptist Bible Institute in San Antonio, Texas, since 1962, was named a national consultant in ethnic leadership development for the Home Mission Board's language missions division.

Grijalva will work out of offices at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif., in an effort to help equip ethnic American leaders to serve ethnic Baptist churches in the future.

Other appointments included 10 missionaries, 18 missionary associates, one US-2er, 69 persons to receive church pastoral assistance, and four persons who were granted language pastoral assistance.

Elected missionaries were Stephens and Frances Baumgardner of Smyrna, Ga.; George Jr., and Patricia Harbuck of Chesapeake, Va.; Caley and Marie Nichols of Helena, Mont.; James and Jeannie Royston of Charlotte, N.C.; and Carrol Mercer and Virginia Whisler of Gualala, Calif.

Named missionary associates were Richard and Mary Anne Davis of Athens, Ga.; Steven and Kathleen Goates of Fort Worth, Texas; Bettye Anne Lovelady of Jackson, Miss.; Elizabeth Greer of Boone, N.C.; Michael and Carolyn Miller of Fort Worth, Texas; Hugh and Patricia Morgan of National City, Calif.; Lonnie and Belinda Riley of Pleasant View, Ky.; Reginald and Anna Robbins of Atlanta, Ga.; Thomas and Norma Faye Rushing of Munford, Ala.; Rodney Smith of Gulfport, Miss.; and James and Maxine Willey of Joppa, Md.

The Baumgardners will move to Green Bay, Wis., where he will be director of associational missions for the Bay Lakes Association of the Minnesota-Wisconsin Southern Baptist Fellowship. He has been minister of education and pastor of churches in Virginia, Georgia, North Carolina, Mississippi, Ohio and New York, and served as a foreign missionary in Brazil. He is a graduate of Emory University and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Harbucks will remain in Virginia where he will be a catalytic missionary in the Richmond metropolitan area. Harbuck, a graduate of Howard College and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, has been pastor of churches in Virginia and served as a foreign missionary in Paraguay.

The Nicholsons will remain in Montana where he will become director of associational missions for western Montana. Nichols holds degrees from Mississippi College and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and has been pastor of churches in Mississippi, Georgia and Montana.

The Roystons will continue to live in Charlotte where he will be director of Christian social ministries for the Charlotte association. Royston, a graduate of Carson-Newman College and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, has been pastor of churches in North Carolina and Tennessee.

The Whislens will remain in California where he will become director of associational missions for Mendo-Lake association. Whisler holds degrees from California Baptist College and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary and has been pastor of two California churches.

The Davises will move to Macon, Ga., where he will be a church planter apprentice. Davis is a graduate of the University of Georgia and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Goateses will settle in Gila Bend, Ariz., where he will be a church planter apprentice. Goates holds degrees from Dallas Baptist College and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and has served as associate pastor for a Wyoming church.

Greer will move to Corvallis, Ore., to direct student work at Oregon State University. She is a graduate of Appalachian State University.

Lovelady will remain in Jackson where she will become vice president for administration at Mississippi Baptist Seminary, a joint institution of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and the National Baptist Convention. Lovelady holds degrees from Purdue University and has held administrative positions at Tri-State University in Angola, Ind.

The Millers will relocate to Mankato, Minn., where he will serve as a church planter apprentice. Miller is a graduate of Union University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The Morgans will remain in California where he will be director of associational missions for Trinity association. He has served as pastor of various California churches and as a Civil Air Patrol chaplain.

The Robbinses will stay in Atlanta where he will serve as a church planter apprentice at West End Baptist Center. Robbins has degrees from Lincoln Christian College and Interdenomination Theological Center and has served as program and assistant director at Stewart Baptist Center in Atlanta.

The Rushings will settle in Talladega, Ala., where he will be missionary to the deaf. He has served as president and vice president of the Alabama Deaf Conference and as minister to the deaf at First Baptist Church, Dothan, Ala.

Smith will move to Kalamazoo, Mich., where he will work as a church planter apprentice. Smith holds degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and has been a teacher in Mississippi schools.

The Willeys will settle in Baltimore where he will become director of associational missions for the Baltimore Baptist Association. Willey is a former pastor of churches in Georgia, Mississippi and Maryland and past president of the Baptist Convention of Maryland. He is a graduate of Bob Jones University.