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News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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July 9, 1984

84-96

FMB Sounds Alarm About Israel
Statement; Moves Toward Canada

By Irma Duke

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)--The Foreign Mission Board took a strong stand against a statement made by some Southern Baptist leaders appearing to give preferential treatment to Israel and moved closer to providing help in evangelizing Canada in its meeting at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center July 2-8.

The 84-member Foreign Mission Board said it, too, opposed any statement, such as Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhand, which slanders any religious group. But, at the same time, members sounded dismay at the statement made by newly elected Southern Baptist Convention President Charles Stanley and eight others which pledged solidarity with the state of Israel.

The board said such a statement alienates Arab countries and came out with a statement of its own to that effect after a second day of discussion on the issue. At the board's suggestion, board President R. Keith Parks called Stanley to urge him to come to the meeting for the discussion but Stanley said he could not. As SBC president, Stanley is an ex officio member of the board.

The statement adopted by the Foreign Mission Board emphasized the danger to missionaries and their work posed by a preferential stance toward Israel and said Southern Baptist missionaries "work with all Semitic people and they stress God's love for all people. They do not enter into the political debate of their countries and do not assume positions over against one another. Their message is one of reconciliation...."

In a phone call from the Middle East, area administrator Isam Ballenger said there have been newspaper articles in recent days in both the Israeli and Arab press claiming an alliance between conservative religious groups in America and extreme elements in Israel. Southern Baptists have been named in these articles, he said. After similar articles have appeared in the past, some missionaries have been expelled from countries with no apparent reason.

Parks said the problems with such statements have nothing to do with theology or eschatology, although he affirmed the importance of a strong biblical theology. "That's not our agenda. We are caught up in missions." He said it becomes the Foreign Mission Board's business when such statements affect mission work and warned against the convention getting sidetracked from missions, "its central thrust."

An amendment was made to strike paragraphs of the board's statement that referred to Stanley's statement but was defeated. The board adopted its recommendation with two abstentions.

Meanwhile, the board's Middle America and the Caribbean Committee discussed a recommendation to establish a fraternal relationship between the Foreign Mission Board and Baptists in Canada. As proposed, this would become part of the administrative responsibility of the board's area office for Middle America and the Caribbean, area director Don Kammerdiener and William Graves, associate director for the Northwest Caribbean.

The committee hopes to recommend in September the transfer of a couple now assigned elsewhere to become the board's first fraternal representatives to Baptists in Canada.

The action would follow the board's pattern of assigning fraternal representatives to assist established Baptist bodies in New Zealand and Australia without counting either country as a foreign mission field.

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According to Southern Baptist Convention action in June, a committee chaired by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board is to coordinate Southern Baptist ministries in Canada. The Foreign Mission Board's representatives on this committee will be Parks and, if the committee's proposal is followed, Kammerdiener. Parks described the area committee's recommendation as part of the "effort to mesh, coordinate and balance Southern Baptist response to Canada."

Present for dialogue with the board was Harold C. Bennett, executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee, who said individual church members give an average of two percent of their income to the church, the same percentage they gave 30 years ago. The convention's new Planned Growth in Giving campaign aims to make 75 percent of national Cooperative Program funds available to the Home and Foreign Mission Boards. Individuals, churches and states will all have to increase their percentage of giving in order to make that goal and meet the financial needs of other Southern Baptist boards and agencies, he said.

The board's meeting at Ridgecrest was held in conjunction with Foreign Missions Week there. Ninety-five decisions, including 65 for career missions service, were made among the 1,600 in attendance.

Thirty-seven new missionaries were appointed during the week, including 13 general evangelists, the greatest personnel need overseas, and the new president of the international Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland.

J. Altus Newell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Opelika, Ala., was chosen for that post by a search committee composed of European Baptist Federation and Foreign Mission Board representatives. Newell is succeeding acting president Thorwald Lorenzen, systematic theology and ethics professor at the seminary.

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J.D. Hughey, 70,
Dies Of Cancer

Baptist Press
7/9/84

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--John David Hughey, 70, retired director of Southern Baptist foreign mission work in Europe and the Middle East, died July 8 in a hospital in Richmond, Va., two and a half years after he was diagnosed as having cancer of the pancreas.

During that time he completed two books and continued to be active until recent months as a Sunday School teacher at First Baptist Church, Richmond, where he and his wife were members.

Hughey's illness was first diagnosed in Switzerland as he and Mrs. Hughey made a final visit to his area, but he returned to Richmond for treatment.

Unwilling to forgo writing projects he had planned for his retirement years, he completed "Baptist Partnership in Europe," an updated version of one of his earlier books on work with European Baptists, and another book on the successful struggle for religious freedom in Spain which is being published in Spanish. In recent months he had been writing a series of articles for The Commission, the Foreign Mission Board magazine, based on the book on Spain.

His career in foreign missions spanned 38 years. He and his wife, the former Evelyn Wells of Sumter, S.C., were appointed missionaries in 1943. She remained in America while he did relief work in the Middle East with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in 1944-45. They were Southern Baptist representatives to Spain from 1947-51. He became a professor at the international Baptist Theological Seminary, Ruschlikon, Switzerland, in 1952, and was its president from 1960-64.

In 1964, Hughey came to Richmond to direct the Foreign Mission Board's work in Europe, the Middle East and South Asia. As the work grew, South Asia was assigned to another region. Before his retirement Dec. 31, 1981, Hughey was responsible for 320 missionaries in 19 countries.

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A native of Edgefield, S.C., Hughey grew up in North Augusta, S.C. He received the bachelor of arts degree from Furman University, Greenville, S.C., the master of theology degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and the master of arts and doctor of philosophy degrees from Columbia University, New York City. Furman later awarded him an honorary doctor of divinity degree.

Before missionary appointment he was pastor of churches in South Carolina and Kentucky.

In addition to his latest books, he was author of "Religious Freedom in Spain: Its Ebb and Flow," 1955; "Europe - A Mission Field," 1972; a book in Spanish and two in German.

Besides his wife, Hughey is survived by a son, J. David Hughey Jr., Durham, N.C.; three daughters, Theodosia Palmer, West Point, Va., Anna Plemmons, Asheville, N.C., and Lyn Lunsford, Richmond; six grandchildren; and two sisters.

The family requests memorials be made in the form of gifts to help build churches in Eastern Europe. Such gifts can be made through the Foreign Mission Board.

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

Annuity Board Names
Investor Director

Baptist Press
7/9/84

DAIJAS (BP)--Stanley D. Morrow has been named director of the Southern Baptist Annuity Board's investments division.

Morrow will recommend investment objectives and guidelines to Annuity Board trustees and will direct and evaluate the performance of the investment managers.

Annuity Board President Darold H. Morgan noted the appointment of Morrow culminates a two year search for a person with investment expertise to fill the slot vacated by the retirement of Marvin T. York Jr., on March 1.

Morrow comes to the board from Hotchkiss Associates, Inc., a Chicago based financial consulting firm, where he was a vice-president responsible for directing the investment portfolios for church pension boards, college endowments and other private investments. As chief executive officer of Methodist pension board, the largest pension board in the nation, he was primarily responsible for investments.

A graduate of the University of Minnesota, Morrow holds a law degree from the Kent College of Law, an M.B.A. degree from the University of Chicago and a masters degree from Northwestern University.

Morgan said Morrow, who was a consultant to the board for five years, has not only received recognition for his work in the investment field but is also "well known and well respected among Baptist leaders for his work on the documentation and implementation of the convention annuity plan and the new church annuity plan." Morgan added in the new position Morrow will serve as director but not as an officer of the Annuity Board.

Morrow and his wife, Jo Ann, have three children: Karen, age 19; Steven, age 16; and Scott, age 15.

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Ruschlikon Seminary Names
Alabama Pastor as President

Baptist Press
7/9/84

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)--J. Altus Newell has been named president of the international Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, in a parallel process involving European Baptists and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

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Newell, pastor of First Baptist Church, Opelika, Ala., and his wife, Diane, were appointed Southern Baptist missionaries July 6 at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center, the final step in the approval process.

Newell, 40, will formally assume the presidency of the seminary in January 1985, succeeding acting president Thorwald Lorenzen, systematic theology and ethics professor at the seminary. Lorenzen was tapped after Clyde Fant resigned as president in August 1983.

The seminary is jointly sponsored by the European Baptist Federation and the Foreign Mission Board. Isam Ballenger, the board's director for Europe and the Middle East, and Keith Parker, his associate for Europe, are members of the seminary's executive board. Knud Wumpelmann, the federation's executive secretary-treasurer and the seminary board's chairman, led the presidential search committee.

Newell, a native of Meridian, Miss., holds a bachelor of arts degree from Mississippi College, Clinton, and master of divinity and doctor of philosophy degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. He also studied a year at the University of Bonn, West Germany.

He was minister of music and youth at Macedonia Baptist Church, Meridian, and associate pastor at Woodland Hills Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss. His pastorates include Rock Hill Baptist Church, Brandon, Miss.; Buffalo Lick Baptist Church, Shelbyville, Ky.; Crestwood (Ky.) Baptist Church; and St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville.

While pastor at St. Matthews, Newell was visiting professor of preaching and pastoral studies at Southern seminary.

The Newells have three children: Sarah Elizabeth, 11; Amanda Leigh, seven; and Justin Altus, four. The family will attend an eight-week orientation in Rockville, Va., beginning in August.

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American Baptists
Donate Rice Journals

Baptist Press
7/9/84

NORTHBOROUGH, Mass. (BP)--The American Baptist Historical Society has donated a microfilm series of the journals of Baptist pioneer Luther Rice to the Luther Rice Center for Missions and Education.

John Douhan, assistant executive minister for the American Baptist Churches in Massachusetts, presented the microfilm during a recent meeting of the National Luther Rice Homesite Committee in Northborough. The microfilm included all of the Rice journals held by the American Baptist Convention and George Washington University.

Journals of Rice held by Southern Baptists had already been donated to the center. The American Baptist collection completes the collection of Rice's journals for the center, said M. Wendell Belew, chairman of the national committee.

Belew added the donation represented yet another step of cooperation between Southern and American Baptists.

The Luther Rice homesite was dedicated last year to commemorate the 200-year anniversary of the birth of Rice, whose efforts to organize Baptists for missions led to the formation of the Southern and American Baptist Conventions.

The homesite consists of a museum, a library and educational center and housing for persons interested in learning about missions. Visitors can reside at the facility for short-term periods to study Rice's own writings and attend seminary extension classes.

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

Baptists To Work
In Olympic Village

By Todd Turner

LOS ANGELES (BP)—The Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee has appointed three local Southern Baptists as chaplains in the University of Southern California (USC) Olympic Village during the Olympic Games, set for July 28-Aug. 12.

The committee also named a fourth Los Angeles Southern Baptist to work in the Village as a press escort.

Appointed chaplains were Randy Deering, Baptist Student Union director at USC; Yoshiya Togami, Mission Service Corps volunteer working with international students on the USC campus, and Elmer Goble, executive director of Summer Games Ministries, the Southern Baptist effort to provide a Christian witness to athletes and visitors at the 23rd Olympiad. The three Southern Baptists will represent the denomination in a pool of 16 chaplains who will work inside the village.

Deering said their job will be "to provide service to the athletes in regard to religious counseling solicited by them."

Chaplains also will coordinate religious services, schedule informal Bible studies and plan fellowships as well as inform village residents of religious activities outside the village.

"We are not there to seek out (athletes) and to do personal evangelism," explained Deering. "That does not mean that we cannot share our faith if we are sought out for other purposes. We can do whatever we feel is appropriate."

Togami anticipates that athletes who are part of small delegations will become lonely and will turn to chaplains for comfort. "They might trust us more," he explained.

Although not chosen for his language skills, Togami, raised in Brazil as the son of Japanese missionaries, expects to use his multiple language skills for a variety of services in the village. He speaks English, Japanese and Portuguese.

Chaplains were chosen because they already were active in student ministry. In addition to heading up Southern Baptists' Olympic ministry, Goble, a former Arkansas campus minister, has been involved in national swimming competition as both an athlete and coach.

As a press escort, L.G. Chaddick, associate director of Christian social ministries in California, will be one of the frontline contacts with press who come into the Olympic Village.

"The purpose of the village is to make the housing for the athletes as private as possible," explained Chaddick. "No one will be allowed to just wander in and corner an athlete. There will be special places for interviews. Part of my responsibility is to see that the press person is taken to the right person so he can do his work."

He added as he works with the press he can tell them about Summer Games Ministries, providing increased visibility and awareness of Baptists' outreach.

Chaddick has worked with the Olympic committee since 1979 and was instrumental in starting Summer Games Ministries. Through his involvement with the committee, Chaddick has kept Baptists informed about activities inside the Olympic family.

In 1980, Chaddick worked at the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, N.Y., both with Southern Baptists' ministry there and the Olympic organization.

Chaddick will be one of only 10-15 escorts operating in the USC Olympic Village, the larger of the two villages and home to the United States Olympic Team.



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