

DEC 28 1985



**- - BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

**NATIONAL OFFICE**  
SBC Executive Committee  
901 Commerce #750  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203  
(615) 244-2355  
Wilmer C. Fields, Director  
Dan Martin, News Editor  
Craig Bird, Feature Editor

**BUREAUS**

**ATLANTA** Jim Newton, Chief, 1350 Spring St., N.W. Atlanta, Ga. 30367, Telephone (404) 873-4041  
**DALLAS** Thomas J. Brannon, Chief, 511 N. Akard, Dallas, Texas 75201-3355, Telephone (214) 720-0550  
**NASHVILLE** (Baptist Sunday School Board) Lloyd T. Householder, Chief, 127 Ninth Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn. 37234, Telephone (615) 251-2300  
**RICHMOND** (Foreign) Robert L. Stanley, Chief, 3806 Monument Ave., Richmond, Va. 23230, Telephone (804) 353-0151  
**WASHINGTON** Stan L. Hasteley, Chief, 200 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002, Telephone (202) 544-4226

December 20, 1985

85-160

**Chaplains Comfort To Families Of Crash Victims**

By Sherri Anthony Brown

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. (BP)—"First you cry. Then you're numb. Next you smile because you remember something good. Then it starts all over again," explained Ladeana Ladd, 21-year-old fiance of Wayne Reed, one of 248 soldiers killed in the Newfoundland air crash.

"I don't ask why, though, because it wouldn't do any good. It won't bring Wayne back," she told Capt. Douglas Carver, a Southern Baptist Army chaplain at Fort Campbell.

Carver, one of 11 Southern Baptist chaplains on the base, has spent the days since the crash visiting family members of the slain soldiers. One of Fort Campbell's 32 chaplains will visit each of the families at least once.

The soldiers, representing many division and post military units, died when their chartered Arrow Air DC-8 plane crashed on takeoff early Thursday morning. They were returning from a six-month peacekeeping mission on the Sinai Peninsula in the Middle East.

Many of the family members already had gathered at the base gymnasium where the soldiers were to arrive after their debriefing, said Southern Baptist Chaplain Bill Fox.

Fox and the other chaplains spent the first 48 hours, after the crash, working with families on the base. "We tried to bring comfort and the presence of God to these people when we were hurting too," said Southern Baptist Chaplain Don Yancey. Capt. Troy Carter, a fellow chaplain, died with his unit on the Arrow flight"

"Christmas makes it seem even more tragic," commented Carver.

Ladd, a Southern Baptist, was waiting to accompany her fiance to his Washington home to meet his family and announce their wedding plans.

Because she was not married, Ladd was not notified of Reed's death. She asked Carver to arrange for her to represent the family at the memorial service. Ladd asked President Reagan, who visited family members following the ceremony, to sign a photograph of Reed for his mother.

Next week she will present the photograph to Mrs. Reed in Washington, where she will be at the expense of the Army chaplain's fund. "I wanted to spend Christmas with his mother. I have a part of Wayne that she doesn't have and she knows a part of him that I don't know," she explained. "We can share that." Ladd also will stay for the funeral.

"I didn't want to talk to you that first morning," Ladd confessed to Carver, "but I'm glad I did. It's a comfort to know someone cares."

Carver also visited a young widow three days after the crash. On her wall, amid Christmas garland and Santa Claus, was a sign which read, "Welcome Home." She sat on the floor of her trailer, surrounded by wedding photos--and a Western Union telegram officially announcing the death of her husband.

"I'm 20 years old. I'm too young to live the rest of my life without him," she told Carver. "Our first anniversary is next week."

Carver encouraged her not to waste her sorrow but to move on from it. "I want to pray for strength through this time," he told her. The woman nodded, wiped at her tears and bowed her head.

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES**  
**Historical Commission, SBC**  
**Nashville, Tennessee**

"The worst part is the question, 'Is my husband in heaven?'" Carver said later. Often Carver could assure her that her husband was with God, but he could not always make that assumption.

"With some it was obvious there had been a casual Christianity, at best, but you certainly cannot tell a grieving wife that her husband is going to hell," he explained.

"The most important thing right now is letting people know someone cares about their spiritual and emotional well-being during this tragedy. That's what we're trying to show."

—30—

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

Moore Hasn't Been Asked  
To Run For SBC Post

By Lacy Thompson

Baptist Press  
12/20/85

ALEXANDRIA, La. (BP)—Winfred Moore, first vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention, denied recently that he has been approached officially by anyone to be a candidate for the Southern Baptist Convention presidency.

The First Baptist Church of Amarillo (Texas) pastor added he is hoping for a unifying candidate to emerge to lead the 14.4-million member convention. "I really do have a longing for some one to arise about whom everyone would say, 'We will follow this man as our president.'"

Moore denied he has anyone in mind as a unifying candidate or that he has been looking for such a person. "You just hope that out of the process of finding a peaceful solution (to the controversy in the SBC), there would be somebody," he noted.

Moore said he has not done "any planning one way or another" concerning his candidacy for the SBC presidency. "I just have a commitment to getting our convention back to doing what we do best," including missions involvement.

At the 1985 SBC meeting in Dallas, Moore was nominated for the presidency in opposition to incumbent Charles Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church of Atlanta. Stanley won the presidency by receiving 55.3 percent of the vote. Moore was then nominated and elected as first vice-president.

Rumors persist Moore also will be the 1986 moderate candidate and will apparently oppose Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn. Rogers has been named by several conservative leaders as their choice for SBC president in 1986. Rogers says he has not decided yet whether he will be a candidate for the office.

Moore, noting that talk of himself as a "moderate" candidate is contrary to his view of himself as conservative, said he sees no inherent conflict if one or more of the members of the Southern Baptist Peace Committee are candidates for the presidency.

"I think it's all in the way in which they perceive their work. I would surely hope if I am a candidate or Dr. Rogers is a candidate...that whatever is done would be done in such a way that it would not affect the work of the Peace Committee."

The committee was formed at the 1985 SBC meeting for the purpose of determining the causes of the current SBC controversy and making recommendations about how to solve them. Moore's optimism has grown for the group's success.

"I think we're in much better shape than we were in when we left Dallas. I have high hopes," he said. "I've been pleased with the Peace Committee as it's gone about it's work."

—30—

Student Workers Called  
To Renew Commitment

By Frank Wm. White

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Student work requires a strong and unified effort of workers on the national, state and local levels, Charles Johnson, director of national student ministries, told student directors from state conventions meeting here in an annual planning session.

"This is not a time for us to be weak if we can help it. Our task is large. We need our combined strength," Johnson said.

Bold Mission Thrust goals for national student ministries offer a significant plan for a unified effort between state student departments and national student ministries, he said.

"We now have a national strategy which the family of student ministry owns," added Bill Henry, national student ministries program section supervisor.

State directors and campus student ministers have been involved in planning the Bold Mission Thrust goals, Henry said.

Bold Mission Thrust goals for student ministries include Reachout 87/88, a plan for simultaneous evangelistic efforts in 1987-88; project 2000, a goal of 1,500 campus ministries by 1990 and involving students in helping start 500 new churches by 1990; College Concern, a Sunday school emphasis to involve students in Sunday school; equipping for disciple making; project vocation; an emphasis on church vocations and seminary training; "If My People...", a call to prayer; world student missions, a challenge to Baptist students to become involved in a mission project; and Mission 90, a plan to involve students in world missions awareness conferences.

"Bold Mission Thrust involves reaching students and involving them in Bible study," Johnson told the state directors.

"The Parables of Jesus," a new national student ministries Bible study book now has a circulation of 16,000 and an additional 10,000 are being printed, making it the largest printing for any national student ministries publication. That is an indication of the success of student ministries at involving students in Bible study, Johnson said.

A Bible study book on Jeremiah for release next year is being developed and others are planned for future years.

Bible study is a continued emphasis of campus ministries. Statistics compiled by national student ministries indicated 37,763 students were involved in Bible study groups on campus during 1984-85. Although that is a decrease from the 40,767 involved in 1983-84, it is above the 35,684 of two years ago.

Johnson attributes MISSION 85 and other mission awareness activities with an increase in student contributions to Southern Baptist Mission causes. Students contributed \$1,216,847 to mission projects—topping \$1 million for the first time. The previous year, students contributed \$956,348 to Southern Baptist mission causes.

During the planning session with state student ministries directors, Johnson emphasized a commitment to the goal of 1,500 campuses with Baptist ministries by 1990. State directors during the meeting endorsed the goal of Project 2000 to increase the number of campuses with student ministries.

According to the statistical report based on information provided by state student ministries directors, the number of campuses with Baptist ministries dropped from 1,141 in 1983-84 to 1,039 in 1984-85.

The state directors have accepted a challenge of helping local Baptists start 500 new churches throughout the nation in the next five years, Johnson pointed out.

Support for new convention work also will be a focus of student ministry directors from throughout the convention.

In an effort to increase those resources, student directors are developing plans to increase the endowment of the Frank Leavell Trust Fund and use that fund to help support new convention student work.

Half of the interest from that fund is now used for an annual scholarship for a student with a commitment to student ministries. The 1985 scholarship of \$988 was split between Arthur Hardin, who is director of student ministries, Ohio University, Athens, and Johnny Pauley, a student and associate BSU director at Grand Canyon College, Phoenix, Ariz.

--30--

BTN Offer Increased  
To 700 Systems

Baptist Press  
12/20/85

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)--Due to a large response from churches, trustees of the Baptist Sunday School Board executive committee voted Dec. 19 to allocate reserve funds for a total of 700 satellite receiving systems for churches willing to sign a five-year subscription agreement to BTN (Baptist Telecommunication Network).

The action was taken after more than 600 churches responded to a November announcement that 250 satellite receiving systems would be made available. As of Dec. 19, 199 of those churches had returned five-year subscription agreements.

"Many churches have been interested in participating in BTN but could not afford the initial cost of the satellite receiving system," said Jimmy D. Edwards, vice-president for publishing and distribution. We are delighted with the response of churches to this offer. We are particularly pleased that we have heard from many churches in new work areas."

As of Nov. 1, a total of 432 churches and associations were subscribing to BTN with approximately 5,600 churches having access to network programming through their associations.

By Dec. 20, subscriptions had topped 600 and responses to the five-year subscription offer will almost triple the number of subscribers, Edwards said.

Included in the agreement is a Broadman 10-foot satellite receive only antenna, a Uniden receiver, 100 feet of cable and all regular manufacturers' warranties. Churches are responsible for shipping costs from the manufacturer, installation, additional options, onsite survey (if needed) and repair and maintenance beyond warranty coverage.

The retail value of the equipment is approximately \$2,000, Edwards said.

At the end of the five-year period, churches may choose to sign another five-year agreement, at the end of which the equipment would belong to the church; purchase the equipment for \$500; or remove and return the system to Broadman, freight paid.

James Clark, executive vice-president of the board, said the offer could be enlarged if more than 700 churches request subscription contracts in the near future.

--30--

Postal Rates To Rise Jan. 1  
For Non-Profit Organizations

By Kathy Palen

Baptist Press  
12/20/85

WASHINGTON (BP)--A continuing resolution approved by Congress and signed by President Reagan Dec. 19 guaranteed postal rates will increase for non-profit mailers, including state Baptist newspapers and some church newsletters.

Beginning Jan. 1, non-profit organizations will face an increase of approximately 30 percent in subsidized rates, including non-profit second-class, third-class and bulk mailings.

--more--

The increase results from a reduction of federal subsidy to provide reduced mailing rates for non-profit publications. The continuing resolution contains only \$748 million for fiscal year 1986, which runs through September 1986.

Although the figure falls \$233 million short of what the Postal Service says it needs to maintain the present level of subsidy, it significantly exceeds the \$39 million proposed by the Reagan administration. The president recommended the termination of the subsidy except for benefits to organizations that send materials to the blind.

Non-profit and other subsidized mailers have been at step 14 of a 16-step plan begun in 1970 to phase out the postal subsidy. The new increase, however, will catapult non-profit mailers to step 16 six months before step 15 was scheduled to take effect.

--30--

Giving Up Gift  
Suits Montana Pastor

By Tim Nicholas

Baptist Press  
12/20/85

JACKSON, Miss. (BP)--A generous gesture on the part of a Montana Baptist pastor came just in time to soften the blow of a personal disaster of his educational director.

Each year, Mississippi Baptists, through their Brotherhood department, sponsor the Montana Suits Project. The project provides new suits to pastors in three states. This year, more than 130 applications were sent to pastors in Montana, and North and South Dakota.

Carlston "Red" Berry of Bozeman, Mont., returned his application with a note to Paul Harrell, Mississippi Brotherhood director, suggesting Berry's education director, Jerry Neiminen, had a greater financial need for a suit than he, and that if only one suit could be sent, to send it to Neiminen.

Harrell wrote to Berry explaining that the limited amounts of funds would not provide suits for both Berry and Neiminen, but that he was processing the application for Neiminen.

On Dec. 1, Berry wrote Harrell: "How timely is God's providence! Your letter...arrived in the mail the morning after Jerry and Penny's (Neiminen) mobile home burned to the ground, destroying all their clothes but their pajamas. Referring to Jerry as 'someone in greater need' is an understatement. Your gift of a suit could not be infinitely more important! They had no insurance. My thanks to all of you for your generosity."

Gifts to help fund the Montana Suits Project may be addressed to the Mississippi Brotherhood Department, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205; phone (601) 968-3800.

--30--

**(BP)**

**BAPTIST PRESS**

901 Commerce #750  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

LYNN MAY                      HO  
HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
901 COMMERCE  
NASHVILLE, TN 37203

NEWS SERVICE OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION