



JAN 23 1986

BAPTIST PRESS

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January 22, 1986

86-6

Arms Expert Urges Ban
On Nuclear Arms Testing

By David Wilkinson

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (BP)—The American public must "demand an immediate end" to the testing of nuclear weapons as the "first step" towards arms control, participants in a Southern Baptist conference on peace with justice were told.

Retired Rear Admiral Eugene Carroll, an expert on arms control issues, said the ban should include refusal by Congress to fund the Reagan administration's proposal for a nuclear defense system in space.

Carroll, now associate director of the Washington-based Center for Defense Information, spoke at a regional conference sponsored by the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. About 135 persons from several states attended the day-and-a-half meeting which was followed by a similar conference on world hunger.

In his address, Carroll warned that the U.S. military philosophy of "peace through strength," which relies on nuclear technology, makes nuclear war "a near certainty" in this century. The U.S., he said, must move away from the "talk-test-build format" that allows for testing and employment of increasingly sophisticated nuclear weapons while American and Soviet leaders talk about various arms proposals.

For arms control to work, "we must change our way of thinking about security," Carroll said, adding there can be no real security in a world which lives in the shadow of 55,000 nuclear weapons. These weapons, he added, "serve no rational purpose. You can destroy with them, but you can't defend with them."

In this context, debate about U.S.-Soviet military superiority is "totally irrelevant," Carroll asserted. "If either of us uses nuclear weapons, we both will be destroyed in a mutually suicidal war" regardless of who attacks first. "We cannot defend the village by burning down the village," he said.

In a question-and-answer session, Carroll outlined the relative strengths of U.S. and Soviet military forces. "One of the great myths today," he said, is the idea that "the only thing that keeps the great Soviet bear in his den is U.S. nuclear deterrents." Talk about an overpowering Soviet advantage is "pure hogwash," intended to exploit citizens' fears in order to justify further expansion of the U.S. military complex, he said.

Americans, he added, can advocate arms control "with great confidence in our strengths as a nation, not out of unfounded fears of imagined weaknesses."

Carroll described the Reagan administration's Strategic Defense Initiative, dubbed "Star Wars," as an "absolute disaster." While "the vision is good, the reality is monstrous," he said.

Despite the assertions of President Reagan, "there is nothing benign or purely defensive about nuclear space weapons," Carroll said. He criticized the concept as unworkable, flawed and dangerous. "SDI, if pursued, will end all arms control agreements" because of Soviet fears about its offensive capability, he said. "It will accelerate the nuclear arms race on earth and in space. In a time of crisis, it will magnify the need for a first strike."

Carroll challenged Southern Baptists to join other concerned Christians to help create "a cooperative world environment in which the nations of the world renounce the development and the use of nuclear weapons."

"We must wage peace," he declared, "while others all around us are preparing for war."

SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL
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Fruitful Philippines Crusades
Spur Growth Amid Civil Unrest

By Marty Croll

MANILA, Philippines (BP)--Year-end crusades producing more than 4,500 new Christian believers and the promise of dozens of new congregations capped a five-year period of rapid church growth in the Philippines.

Filipinos are making personal decisions to accept Christ in record numbers, according to Southern Baptist missionary Jim Slack, director of church growth in the Philippines. The response continues as more than 150 missionaries work with nationals to start churches in a land beset by civil unrest.

The two Baptist conventions of churches in the Philippines have been scrambling to reach five-year goals set in 1980. Between 1980 and the end of last year churches of the Mindanao Baptist Convention in the south more than doubled their number from 447 to 940. Their goal was 1,085. The Luzon convention, based in Manila, is expected to swell from 158 to more than 300 by the middle of the year. Its goal was 500.

In Manila an average of 5,000 people each night attended an eight-day crusade staged by five associations and 75 churches Nov. 24 through Dec. 1. John Bisagno, pastor of First Baptist Church in Houston, preached during the crusade. At an interdenominational prayer breakfast, Manila Mayor Ramon Bagatsing presented Bisagno a key to his city of about six million people.

More than 1,600 people made personal decisions for Jesus Christ during the services. "A lady came in mourning for her husband, who was murdered just two weeks prior," said Harvey Kneisel, a Bisagno Crusade advisor. "A missionary, Mrs. Harold Matthews, came out of the choir to see if she was needed to counsel, though she spoke only the language of an area very remote from Manila. Her language was that of the widow. She led her to faith in Christ."

Though reports were incomplete, missionaries believe as many as 300 home Bible studies that will be used to start new congregations were set up in preparation for the crusade.

Also on the island of Luzon, Southern Baptist missionaries from seven Asian countries, including the Philippines, joined Filipino pastors and eight American evangelists Nov. 25 through Dec. 8 to lead 3,110 people in 68 locations to make commitments to a personal faith in Jesus Christ. Reports of civil unrest in the country hampered the recruiting of U.S. evangelists for the church-planting effort. Still, 25 new churches will be organized from the campaign by early February and 20 more by mid-1986, said Slack, from Plain Dealing, La..

Historically, most Filipinos have called themselves Catholic, and those in the more rural areas practice tribal spiritism along with a form of Catholicism. But in recent years the Philippines has come to be considered one of the world's more open countries to the gospel.

Church-growth efforts throughout the many islands have thrived in an atmosphere of religious freedom since the first Southern Baptist missionaries arrived there more than 35 years ago. Missionaries sense the intense desire of Filipinos--from the peasantry to the urban upper class--to spread their faith. Even with a lack of training and financial support for many leaders, churches keep multiplying and excited Christian leaders keep emerging.

"Our work is growing fast," said Southern Baptist missionary Mark Terry from Siloam Springs, Ark. "We're planting a lot of new churches. And we're getting a lot of requests for people to come out and start new churches." Terry is a seminary teacher in Davao City.

Davao City in the south has been the scene of political unrest during the past year's increased communist activity on the island of Mindanao. Last year in one district, more than half of the people fled to the countryside. But almost all of the members of the Baptist church remained. "As I preached there, one member said, 'We are Christians and we cannot just run away from our homes and live in fear,'" said missionary Jeff Pound, a general evangelist from Fort Payne, Ala. "'God will use us here to encourage others to come back.'"

Sixteen years ago the New People's Army (NPA) rebels were just a small gang of Communist intellectuals roving the countryside. But now, the question of what to do with the NPA has become a campaign issue leading up to the much-ballyhooed Feb. 7 presidential elections.

The Philippine government admits the rebels are a force to be reckoned with. Aside from rescheduling some engagements to avoid some travel at night and in danger spots, however, missionaries say they are not bothered by the unrest. "We are aware that NPA activities abound, but our work goes on just the same," said missionary Grover Tyner Jr. from Augusta, Ga.

The NPA has not taken on a common voice opposing the gospel. But Southern Baptist missionaries report some incidents where Baptist church members aligned with government defense forces have been killed or where individual NPA troops have demanded preaching be stopped for various reasons.

Les Hill, chairman of the organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in the Philippines, told of one church caught in a no-win situation. The NPA asked members for the use of their building to teach communism, reported the Kansas City, Kan., native. "When the people refused, the NPA leaders said the church would not be permitted to worship in their building," the Hills wrote in a newsletter to the States. "Then after that a town official told some of the members that he knew they were permitting the NPA to teach in their building and therefore the church would not be permitted to worship anymore."

The unrest has become common, yet quiet, talk where missionary Stan Smith lives in Mati. A prominent neighbor living nearby received five notes from Communists threatening him and demanding money. People continue to flee the town for fear of the rebels, he said.

But Smith stressed the strength of the people and their ability to overcome obstacles. He told about Cogon Baptist Church deep in the coconut groves on a peninsula jutting into the Pacific Ocean. "Pastor Dalmacio Reseroni is a farmer-pastor, who farms because he only gets \$10 a month for pastoring," said Smith. "When we go on church-planting adventures with him, the only question he asks is, 'How many of our members can fit into your truck?'"

"Always, not enough can go," said Smith. "There's no more room."

The Cogon church members follow up on former members who have moved up the coast or into the mountains and want to start a church in their new home. "They bring guitars, sing, teach, pray, go to the new village and witness, have discussions, and use my white face and Cebuano tongue as a drawing card," he added.

Smith told also about a deacon in Cabugayan who felt he needed to start a church seven miles down the road—a three-hour hike. Later he moved to another area to start a church there. And about a tribal pastor who came by to share how rats had again destroyed his congregation's mountain crops. The people scattered to get food elsewhere, and in the process started another church about 1.5 miles down the side of a mountain.

"I'm amazed at what the Holy Spirit can produce with as little help as these churches get," Smith said. "Rats eat crops and (they experience) hard times, but God is God and he teaches them. And they go off down the road and let others know about it. This is their regular life." Smith grew up in the Philippines, the son of missionaries in Angeles, Pampanga.

Despite the obstacles, Filipino Baptists intend to keep the work of God first. Southern Baptist missionary Harold Spencer, from Jacksonville, Ill., was particularly impressed with the prayer of one pastor. "He prayed for peace and order to be restored, that Christians may be a living testimony to their neighbors, for President Marcos as the leader of the whole nation, for the armed forces, especially that the testimony of Christians in the armed forces may be real and effective, and that the ministry and witness of churches may be what is needed," Spencer said.

"The emphasis of his prayer was not on protection, but on being a living witness."

Missionaries agree the living witness is shining through clearly. In fact, even the NPA is coming under its influence to some extent. "Regularly, rebels attend our services in areas they control," said Smith. "It seems they need to hear it as much as anyone. I never ask for a show of hands of whose side who is on."

Church Shelters 500 Families
After Blaze In Philippine City

MANILA, Philippines (BP)—About 500 families found shelter in a Baptist church after they watched a massive New Year's Eve blaze destroy their homes in the greater Manila area.

The fire raged through a squatters' district in Pasay City, killing six people and leaving 800 families homeless. It burned to the walls of Pasay City Baptist Church. The church building, only slightly damaged, became a makeshift relief center.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board released \$10,000 in hunger and relief funds to provide two daily meals for a week and gospel tracts for each of the 800 families who fled their homes in the blaze. Six of the refugee families were members of the church.

Southern Baptist missionaries Gerald Davis from Alabama, Will Gopffarth from Texas and Jim Crittendon from South Carolina worked with the church in overseeing use of the funds.

All except about 100 of the families housed in the church moved after three days into tents provided by the Philippine Air Force.

Mike Mendoza, pastor of Pasay City church, led the relief work. He and the church's young people distributed supplies and cleaned the church daily. The following Sunday Mendoza, who said he had been praying for a breakthrough in the community, challenged his congregation to "get their hands dirty and let the church get dirty" in order to minister and witness to the victims. Children's Sunday school was canceled that day because classrooms were packed with fire victims.

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Baylor Trustees Set
Enrollment Ceiling

Baptist Press
1/22/86

WACO, Texas (BP)—At a time when many colleges and universities across the nation are facing declining enrollments, Baylor University trustees have approved an enrollment ceiling of 10,000 full-time equivalent students, effective in the fall semester of 1986.

During the fall 1985 semester, 10,900 full-time equivalent students were enrolled at the university owned by the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

The full-time equivalent enrollment reflects the ratio of the total number of class hours taken by students divided by 12 hours, the minimum requirement for being considered full-time.

To implement the new policy, admissions officials will begin a planned reduction over a three- to five-year period in the number of freshmen admitted to the university. In the past year, some 2,500 freshmen were admitted. That number will be reduced to about 2,200 freshmen.

Trustees also reaffirmed Baylor's denominational identity by asking administrators to continue seeking an enrollment in which Baptist students remain in the majority.

According to Dewey Presley, chairman of the trustee academic and student affairs committee, "The committee feels that this action will afford Baylor students the care and individual attention that they deserve, as well as the preparation they will need in order to meet the future with promise and assurance."

"It is hoped that the university will continue to have the capacity to offer the kind of Christian education in the 'family' environment that has come to characterize Baylor University," Presley said.

Trustees also heard a report that the Covenant Campaign is one and a half months ahead of schedule, with endowment totaling \$162.2 million in gifts and pledges at the end of 1985, the campaign's first year.

Goal of the Covenant Campaign is to increase university endowment to \$300 million by 1992.

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Missionaries Evacuate Beirut As Fighting Intensifies In East

NICOSIA, Cyprus (BP)—Five Southern Baptist missionaries evacuated east Beirut Jan. 18 after several days of intense fighting in that sector.

Fourteen other Southern Baptist missionaries remain in the Beirut area.

Leaders of the Southern Baptist mission in Lebanon recommended the evacuation for families with children and others with potential mobility problems.

Temporarily relocating in Cyprus are Mac and Linda Sacco and two of their five children; Gary and Jeree White and their two children, and Vivian Trimble. The Saccos' other children are attending school outside Lebanon.

The group will remain in Cyprus two or more weeks before deciding about returning, said Elise Bridges, Foreign Mission Board associate area director for Europe and the Middle East. "They want to return," Mrs. Bridges said.

The Saccos have been assigned to Lebanon all but two of the last 15 years. He is the mission's business manager. The Whites moved to Beirut last year to be involved in educational work. Mrs. Trimble is an English-language teacher at the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary, where her husband, Bill, is dean of students. The Trimbles have been assigned to Beirut all but two of the last 25 years.

Sacco is from Gilroy, Calif.; Mrs. Sacco, from McAlester, Okla.; White, Pineville, La., and Mrs. Trimble, Holloway, La. Mrs. White, who is the Trimbles' daughter, grew up in Lebanon.

The seminary and other Baptist evangelistic and educational ministries in the Beirut area remain open.

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WMU Board Announces
Plans For Centennial

By Carol S. Garrett

Baptist Press
1/22/86

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)-- Planning the 1988 Centennial activities of the Woman's Missionary Union was the theme of the Jan. 11-15 WMU Executive Board meeting.

As the executive board and state staffs prepared to celebrate a century of missions support they also focused on more effective ways to accomplish their purpose in the second 100 years of WMU work.

"If we do not see our world as it is, try to sharpen our identity as a missions organization and work in the reality of our day, we may on some future occasion find ourselves on the backside of that reality," said Dorothy Sample, WMU national president.

Sharpening the organization was the intent of revisions made in the WMU Base Design, the organization's guideline for how the WMU program of work is carried out in Southern Baptist churches. Changes approved by the executive board will take effect Oct. 1, 1988.

Other actions taken by the executive board included the approval of planned WMU curriculum in churches for 1987-88 and approval of a single theme for the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions in 1989-92. The board also approved Acteen's Activators Abroad, a plan by which the girls in the WMU organization for teens will be able to work on projects with missionaries in other countries.

"We must continually know who we are, but we must relate who we are and what we want to accomplish to the realities in the lives of women we wish to enlist in Woman's Missionary Union," Sample said.

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An historic step was taken when West Virginia WMU President Lynn Talley was seated on the executive board. She was eligible for a seat on the executive board when her state Baptist convention exceeded 25,000 members, the minimum required for representation.

Talley believes WMU has had a direct effect on Southern Baptist growth in West Virginia. "I see our women as being the most informed people in our churches. WMU has given growth in developing leadership in churches and chapels. Also it has made women aware we do have outreach tools. We had mission action training that causes them to be ready to go into a new community," she said.

As history was made, it also was remembered. Celebrations for the 100th anniversary of WMU in May 1988 were officially launched during this meeting.

Plans for the commemoration include individual nation-wide celebrations throughout 1987-88, the production of special Centennial products, commemorative issues of WMU publications and a Thank Offering through which women and girls in church WMU organizations will be able to help complete paying for the new national headquarters building by 1988.

The WMU Second Century Fund will be another Centennial emphasis. This fund will be an endowment for development of Woman's Missionary Union work in the United States and other countries.

While Woman's Missionary Union looks back at roots entwined with Lottie Moon and her missionary work in China, limitations for sharing a personal witness in that country today are falling away, Foreign Mission Board President R. Keith Parks told WMU leaders.

He discussed with them Cooperative Services International, the FMB's new plan to encourage skilled Southern Baptists to seek employment in China (or other countries where it is not possible for the FMB to enter), build relationships and share their faith.

"We believe the time has come for us to seriously project more specifically with a greater level of commitment what we're about as Southern Baptists in this world today," he said.

Seriousness about commitment was also the theme of William Tanner's message to the group. The Home Mission Board president shared grim statistics of the "lostness" of America.

More than half the population of this country makes no pretense of knowing Christ, meaning that out of more than 239 million people, at least 160 million are lost, according to Tanner. He called WMU "vital" in supporting the Home Mission Board in changing the lostness of America.

Tanner drew applause from the WMU audience when he announced that he had instructed regional HMB coordinators to recommend that the state WMU executive director be included in budget sessions in state conventions.

Also addressing the WMU executive board was Martha Barr, executive director for America Baptist Women.

Lloyd Elder, president of the Sunday School Board, presented WMU with five pieces of pulpit furniture to recognize the move into the new national headquarters building and the move into a second century of missions work.

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High Court Takes New Case
Testing Religious Job Bias

By Stan Hastey

Baptist Press
1/22/86

WASHINGTON (BP)—For the second time in two years, the Supreme Court will decide if a worker is entitled under the Constitution and federal law to time off for religious observances.

The new case involves the claim of a public schoolteacher in Ansonia, Conn., that the local school board should provide him with paid leave to observe up to six religious holidays annually. The teacher is a member of the Sabbath-observing Worldwide Church of God, a denomination founded by the late Herbert W. Armstrong.

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Only last year the court ruled invalid a Connecticut law requiring employers in the private sector to accommodate the religious needs of workers by giving them the day off of their choice each week for religious worship. The justices held, 8-1, that the statute had the effect of establishing religion in violation of the First Amendment.

The new dispute centers on the claim of Ronald Philbrook, who joined the Worldwide Church of God in 1968, that his religion conditions receiving eternal life on the observance of "designated holy days."

But policy established by the Ansonia Board of Education in negotiation with the local chapter of the American Federation of Teachers entitles teachers to take only three paid days annually for religious observances. In addition, the policy allows an additional 18 days' sick leave, including three days for "necessary personal business," a category that nevertheless specifically excludes religious observances.

Since the 1970-71 school year, the school board has permitted Philbrook to take additional days off for his church's holy days, but without pay.

The teacher first appealed the policy to the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities. According to papers filed with the Supreme Court by Philbrook's attorney, those bodies found "probable cause" to believe the teacher's rights had been violated and sought to conciliate. Philbrook claims he approved the proposals but the school board rejected them.

Under the proposals, Philbrook would have been allowed to use the three days' personal business leave for religious purposes, or would have been permitted to pay for the cost of having a substitute in his place during his absences, an option that would have cost him less than having his pay docked.

Once the school board rejected the proposals, Philbrook went to court. But a U.S. district court judge ruled against his claims that the school board policy violated his free exercise of religion and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, a section forbidding discrimination on the job. The judge held Philbrook was seeking preferential treatment, not mere accommodation.

That ruling was overruled last year by the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, which held Philbrook's complaints were justified.

In a legal brief asking the Supreme Court to review that decision, the school board's attorney argued that what Philbrook seeks "is not an accommodation of his religious practices, but a subsidy of those practices." The document noted an earlier high court ruling, the 1977 decision in *TWA v. Hardison*, that interpreted Title VII as requiring an employer "to reasonably accommodate" the religious needs of its workers unless it can prove "undue hardship." In Philbrook's case, such "undue hardship" would result, the attorney argued.

Because the high court's schedule for oral arguments during the current term has now been filled, Philbrook's case will not be heard until sometime after the 1986-87 term opens next October. (85-495, Ansonia Board of Education v. Philbrook)

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Midland First Church
Tops \$1 Million In Gifts

By Orville Scott

Baptist Press
1/22/86

MIDLAND, Texas (BP)—First Baptist Church, Midland, gave more than a million dollars for missions through the Cooperative Program in 1985 to lead Texas Baptists.

The Midland church, which gave 30 percent of its undesignated church receipts for the Cooperative Program, had led Texans and the Southern Baptist Convention for a number of years except in 1982 when First Baptist, Dallas, gave in excess of \$1 million.

Total gifts by the Midland church in 1985 were \$1,002,035. Park Cities Baptist Church, Dallas, was second in Cooperative Program giving with total contributions of \$666,547, followed closely by First Baptist, Amarillo, with \$666,233.

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Two Houston congregations rounded out the top five. Tallwood gave \$566,456, and First, Houston, contributed \$516,093 for the mission support lifeline of Texas Southern Baptists.

Texas Baptist churches gave a total of \$58,397,270 for missions through the Cooperative Program in 1985, topping the basic budget of \$57 million. The top 100 churches of "dollar" amount gave about a third of the total receipts—more than \$19.3 million.

Of the total gifts, 36.3 percent (\$21,198,209) has gone for worldwide Southern Baptist mission causes including 7,000 Southern Baptist missionaries in the United States and more than 100 foreign nations.

Daniel Vestal, pastor of the Midland church, said announcement of the church having reached the million dollar plateau in Cooperative Program coincided with the celebration of its 100th anniversary.

"Through the years there has been a growing commitment of our people to missions," he said. "We believe that percentage giving is consistent and faithful giving."

He noted besides the 30 percent the church gives for the Cooperative Program it gives another 14 percent for special mission causes.

Vestal is a member of the SBC Peace Committee, currently meeting to find a way to resolve the conflict which has been going on in the 14.4-million member denomination for seven years.

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Annuity Funds Set
Record Earnings

Baptist Press
1/22/86

DALLAS (BP)—Retirement plan funds administered by the Southern Baptist Annuity Board returned record earnings in 1985.

The Variable Fund's Unit Value reached an historic high \$5.40, a 31.7 percent increase over the value on Dec. 31, 1984. Previous to last year, the highest Unit Value was recorded in 1983 at \$4.19 per unit. The Variable Fund is composed primarily of common stock.

The Balanced Fund earned 21.7 percent, the highest since 1980 when it returned 21.94 percent. This fund is a mixture of stocks and bonds. The Short Term Fund returned 9.1 percent in 1985. Established in 1982, this fund is invested in short term money market instruments.

The Fixed Fund earned 11.75 percent and is invested in fixed income assets. This fund has a predetermined rate of return each year. The 1986 effective annualized rate for the Fixed Fund is 11 percent.

Annuity Board President Darold H. Morgan said the reasons for the excellent year can be attributed to "...sound management and a strong market."

"This is the first time in history that the market has surpassed three century marks in a single year."

He said Southern Baptists participating in Annuity Board retirement plans tend to be very conservative in where they designate their contributions.

"In 1985, 72 percent of the retirement plan contributions were designated by the members to the members to the Fixed Fund, while 18.8 percent of the money was put in the Balanced Fund, and only 6.7 percent was designated to the Variable Fund." The remaining 2.5 percent was designated to the Short Term Fund.

Morgan said the law restricts Annuity Board representatives from advising plan members on where to designate the contributions.

"We do however, encourage them to develop a long term strategy for retirement planning and put their money where they feel comfortable."

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He noted that over the last nine years, the Variable Fund has averaged a compound annual increase of 13.1 percent based on the Unit Value. The Balanced Fund has earned 12.2 percent, while the Fixed Fund returned 9.7 percent. Since 1982, the Short Term Fund has averaged a 10.6 percent annualized rate.

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Seminary President
Pollard Resigns

Baptist Press
1/22/86

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP)--Franklin D. Pollard, president of Golden Gate Theological Seminary since May of 1983, has resigned to return to the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., effective March 1, 1986.

He was unanimously selected in a business meeting of the church Jan. 19. Pollard, 51, was interim pastor for Sunday services, and previously had been pastor of the 7,000-member church from 1974-1980.

"I have had to face the fact that I'm simply a Baptist preacher," Pollard explained. "After my God and my family, I love the ministry of a Baptist preacher. How thankful I am our Lord is letting us return to a congregation we love deeply."

The pulpit of the Jackson congregation has been vacant since October following the unexpected resignation of H. Earl Craig, who moved to Dallas. Pollard almost immediately became interim preacher, travelling from California each weekend.

In his statement of resignation, Pollard said he and his wife, Jane, announced the decision to leave "reluctantly" because of their love for Golden Gate seminary, its ministry and its people. They are thankful for the opportunity to experience first-hand the challenge of Southern Baptist work on the West Coast.

Golden Gate seminary is a fully accredited institution of the Southern Baptist Convention established in 1944. Pollard is the seminary's fifth president. During the first year of his presidency, enrollment increased approximately 20 percent, the largest gain in seminary history.

An expanded doctor of ministry program and the establishment of the three multi-ethnic theological association centers are accomplishments related to increases in enrollment.

"Baptists can be proud of the three-track curriculum offered at Golden Gate which includes spiritual formation, cognitive classroom discipline and supervised ministry," Pollard commented.

During Pollard's tenure the physical facilities and equipment of the seminary have been expanded. The seminary's chapel was remodeled and improvements were made in grounds and landscape.

A state of the art computer laboratory was installed to provide students with learning experience of the application of computers in ministry and church administration.

In the fall of 1985 a new site in Brea, Calif., was acquired for the Southern California center which has experienced continual growth.

Two special events also were celebrated; the installation of a new academic dean and the seminary's 40th anniversary.

Asked about the future of Golden Gate, Pollard responded, "The future of seminary is very bright. With the board of trustees' current composition, I am sure they will make a good decision about future leadership and the continued progress of Golden Gate seminary."

Pollard came to the seminary from San Antonio, Texas, where he was pastor of First Baptist Church for two years. He has been host and Bible teacher for "At Home With The Bible," a program sponsored by the SBC Sunday School Board and the convention's Radio and Television Commission.

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Additionally, Pollard has been preacher for the world wide "Baptist Hour," radio program and has authored three books. In 1979 he was selected by Time magazine as one of the "seven most outstanding Protestant preachers in America."

The seminary's board of trustees will follow the appropriate process to fill the vacancy.

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Missionaries To Malaysia
Witness Dream In Making

Baptist Press
1/22/86

KIULU BARU, Malaysia (BP)--A 21-year-old dream is coming true for Southern Baptist missionaries Charles and Erica Morris. And it's happening just before they retire.

In 1957 Southern Baptists appointed the Morrises, from Illinois, to work in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. In 1964 they moved to the state of North Borneo (now Sabah), in the northeast corner of the South Pacific island of Borneo. As pioneer Baptists there, the Morrises wanted to start a training school run by nationals teaching their own people.

Work progressed slowly and then visa problems developed. The Morrises moved to the Philippines and for six years lived there while making periodic trips to East Malaysia to train church leaders. Then last October they were able to move to Penang in West Malaysia. But it appeared the school would not begin without their presence on the island.

In the meantime, Morris shared his dream with a young Chinese graduate of the Baptist Theological Seminary in Penang. The man, Richard Sim, was inspired.

After an evangelism crusade, during which 33 people committed themselves to Christian vocations, Sim and the Morrises were encouraged to begin the school. It began with nine full-time students who built the facilities.

Now four teachers, fluent in the Bahasa language native to the area, teach 12 students, who work to help provide food and each weekend return to their homes in the jungle to teach their own people. Teaching materials are being translated from English into Bahasa, with \$1,500 from Southern Baptists' 1984 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

More than 100 people, including representatives from churches, tribal groups, and the Sabah Baptist Association, attended dedication ceremonies the end of last year at the school site in Kiulu Baru near Tawau, Sabah. The library was named The Morris Reading Room, and the missionary couple was asked to write their names and make handprints in its foundation stone.

The Morrises are to come back to the States this year and retire in 1987.

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