



- - BAPTIST PRESS

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86-84

Lottie Moon Totals
Almost \$67 Million

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Southern Baptists contributed \$66,862,113.65 to the 1985 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions.

The offering, Southern Baptists' largest ever, will help support nearly 3,700 Southern Baptist missionaries overseas. It totaled 95.5 percent of the 1985 goal of \$70 million.

The shortfall of \$3.1 million was less than anticipated. Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board analysts had feared final receipts, calculated May 31, might come up as much as \$3.6 million short.

Mission planners budgeted the entire \$70 million goal last year, but the shortfall will not affect personal missionary support. It will require cuts in overseas capital budgets, which fund missionary housing and cars, church construction and other needs.

The 1981 offering was the last to surpass its goal. The 1986 goal will be \$75 million.

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Priest Loses Final Bid For
Military Hospital Chaplaincy

By Stan Haste

Baptist Press
6/3/86

WASHINGTON (BP)—A Roman Catholic priest rejected by his church for a Veterans Administration hospital chaplaincy has failed to convince the U.S. Supreme Court his rejection violated the First Amendment ban on an establishment of religion.

Joseph J. Turner, 54, a retired military chaplain who had two tours of duty in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam conflict, had claimed he was denied the position at the hospital in Coatesville, Pa., because of discrimination based on age and religion.

In what his attorneys described as a novel establishment clause argument, Turner contended his church's regulation that all chaplains be approved by its Archdiocese for the Military Services "condones and fosters church interference with affairs of government." Most establishment clause cases, the lawyers noted, center around challenges to governmental policies that allegedly interfere with church doctrine or polity.

The constitutional ban on an establishment of religion is the first right listed in the Bill of Rights and forms the opening words of the First Amendment, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion...."

Turner's lawyers, in a written brief asking the high court to review the case, stated further that in their client's failed application for the chaplaincy post, "the government abdicated its responsibility...to the church."

The priest claimed the current head of the military archdiocese, Archbishop Joseph Ryan, "maintained contrary political beliefs" to Turner's, a factor that combined with his age led to his rejection.

In earlier proceedings, Turner's challenge had been turned aside by a pair of lower federal courts. In the key lower ruling, a U.S. district court judge held that religious denominations, not the armed forces, must certify candidates for chaplaincies.

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In holding against the priest last year, Judge James McGirr Kelly of the U.S. District Court for Eastern Pennsylvania ruled, "For this court to decide who may or may not represent a certain religion would be...to go to the heart of religious organizations and their beliefs and impermissibly interfere in their operations. I cannot conceive of any greater interference or entanglement a government could launch than to dictate who may or may not represent a religious faith to its flock."

Kelly's opinion was affirmed in March by the 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals. (85-1758, Turner v. Parsons)

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Inerrancy, Other Issues Concern
Florida Baptists, Survey Reveals

By Greg Warner

Baptist Press
6/3/86

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP)—A recent scientific survey indicates Florida Baptists believe in inerrancy of Scripture, but it reveals they have strong feelings about other Southern Baptist Convention issues as well.

The survey was commissioned by the Florida Baptist Witness, newsjournal of the Florida Baptist Convention and conducted by the firm of Einhorn and Lewis, Inc. of Daytona Beach, Fla.

The survey involved members of about 40 churches chosen at random and representative of the variety of sizes and geographic locations of Florida Baptist churches. The membership lists of the churches were sampled randomly to provide the basic group for the survey, after screening out pastors, other church staff members and their families. Results are subject to a sampling error of plus-or-minus 3.5 percent.

Data generated by the survey indicated 58.8 percent of laypersons in the state view inerrancy as "absolutely necessary for Southern Baptists." Equally strong convictions, however, were detected concerning evangelism and cooperation among Baptists.

Contrary to the findings of the SBC Peace Committee, which said theological differences are at the heart of the SBC controversy, the survey demonstrated Florida Baptists are most often convinced "a struggle for control" is to blame. Research also found support for the cause of moderate-conservatives and mixed opinions about efforts to replace seminary professors and denominational employees who do not believe in inerrancy.

Commitment to inerrancy is strong regardless of the age, sex or church involvement of the respondents, the survey said. For the purpose of the survey, inerrancy was defined as "the belief that the Bible contains no errors."

In addition to the 58.8 percent who viewed inerrancy as "absolutely necessary," another 18.9 percent said it is "very important, but not important enough to be worth splitting the denomination." About 13.4 percent said inerrancy is "important, but there are other ways to confirm the authority of the Bible." Only 1.8 percent of Baptist laypersons said inerrancy was not important.

Despite this commitment to inerrancy, respondents expressed stronger feelings about several other beliefs. When respondents were asked to rank four issues by importance, inerrancy finished third behind "the need for cooperation among Baptists" and "the need for evangelism and missions."

Cooperation was ranked either first or second by 53.6 percent of laypersons. Evangelism was mentioned by 52.3 percent. Both were named as the top issue by 24.7 percent.

Inerrancy, which drew the most first-place rankings (35.2 percent), was ranked first or second by 51.5 percent of respondents. Only 31.8 percent mentioned the teaching of Baptist colleges and seminaries as important.

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The survey, therefore, indicated no single issue dominates the attention of Florida Baptists. In fact, the nearly equal commitment to the top three issues suggests Florida Baptists are not willing to choose between these top priorities.

Respondents seemed unconvinced by the Peace Committee's conclusion that theology is the central issue in the SBC struggle. The committee was formed last year to investigate the controversy in the convention.

About 37.2 percent of those responding said the conflict was over control, almost twice as many as viewed it as involving theology (19.4). About 22.1 percent said both were factors. Almost as many people (18.0 percent) said they didn't know the cause, while 3.2 percent cited other factors.

Of all persons interviewed, 55.6 percent were aware of the SBC controversy. The 44.4 percent who indicated no knowledge of SBC controversy were not asked the questions that required previous knowledge of the conflict.

These views about the causes of the denominational conflict are corroborated by the political leanings of respondents.

A majority of Florida Baptist laypersons familiar with the controversy identify themselves with the moderate-conservatives. Spokesmen for this group have blamed the conflict on control.

About 55.2 percent of respondents said they lean more toward moderate-conservative views. About half as many, 29.7 percent, identified with the fundamental-conservatives, whose spokesmen more often have blamed the controversy on theological differences. Some respondents said they don't know whose views they favor (13.1 percent), but only 1.8 percent said neither group's opinions matched theirs.

Moderate-conservatives felt stronger about inerrancy, with 70.3 percent saying it is "absolutely necessary." About 60.3 percent of fundamental-conservatives gave inerrancy this highest rating.

Regardless of which political group Florida Baptists favored, they agreed on the importance of inerrancy and evangelism. Commitments to these two priorities were equally strong in both political groups.

Those identified with the moderate-conservatives, however, considered "cooperation among Baptists" even more important, while fundamental-conservatives were more likely to say Baptist colleges and seminaries are a priority.

Fundamental-conservatives were divided equally on the causes of the SBC controversy, with control and theology each blamed by 33.3 percent. Moderate-conservatives were more likely to see the conflict as a struggle for control (40.7 percent) than a theological battle (16.1).

The conviction that control is the cause of the conflict seemed unaffected by where they got their information on the controversy. Those who were informed by the two most common sources—the Witness (52.0 percent) and pastors (27.0 percent)—were equally likely to prefer control as the cause.

Neither were preferences for one or the other political group apparently affected by the source of their information.

Those who got their information from their pastors, however, were more likely to rank inerrancy as their top priority and cooperation as lowest. Those informed by the Witness more often saw cooperation and inerrancy as most important.

Respondents could not agree on how to deal with one specific issue in the controversy—college and seminary professors who do not believe in inerrancy.

The response most frequently chosen was to "encourage them to remain true to Baptist doctrine," which was favored by 40.2 percent of those interviewed. About 38.1 percent said the professors should be replaced.

Only 7.3 percent suggested leaving the professors alone, while hiring only inerrantists in the future. About 6.0 percent said they should be allowed to teach and believe as they wish.

Most respondents, therefore, favored some form of direct action regarding the professors, but they were divided equally on how drastic that action should be.

Respondents who identified themselves with the fundamental-conservatives were more likely to suggest replacing the professors (54.0 percent), while moderate-conservatives favored admonition (43.2).

Those interviewed who cited inerrancy and seminary teaching as priority issues were more likely to suggest replacing non-inerrantist professors. Those who considered cooperation and evangelism priorities more often favored encouraging them.

Even the small group of respondents who considered the colleges and seminaries the top priority (10.5 percent) were reluctant to suggest replacing non-inerrantist professors. The largest percentage of them (40.0) favored encouragement.

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Florida 'Moderates' Plan
To Oppose Board Nominations

By Greg Warner

Baptist Press
6/3/86

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP)—Southern Baptist Convention moderate-conservatives in Florida have announced their intention to replace at least two of the five Floridians to be nominated to SBC agencies during the convention's annual meeting June 10-12 in Atlanta.

About 175 people gathered May 29 for a noon worship service at Lakeside Baptist Church in Lakeland and heard Winfred Moore, probable SBC presidential candidate, call for fairness and tolerance among Southern Baptists.

Another 56 people met at Stetson Baptist Church in DeLand that evening to hear Georgia layman Norman Cavender plead for Southern Baptists to "decide they want to be Baptists again and elect leaders who believe in acceptance and tolerance."

Most participants then signed a petition asking the SBC Committee on Boards to reconsider its nomination of two Florida pastors who "have been highly visible leaders in the patently political efforts of the 'fundamental-conservatives'" in the state.

David Medley, pastor of Stetson church, told the group the petitions are being circulated in other churches and will be sent to Lee Roberts of Marietta, Ga., chairman of the Committee on Boards. If the committee does not alter its nominations, Medley said, substitutes will be offered from the floor of the convention, perhaps for all five Floridians under consideration.

"There's no way any of those nominated could be identified as moderates," Medley said. He cited a recent survey published in the Florida Baptist Witness, newsjournal of the state convention, which indicated 55 percent of laypersons in Florida agree with the moderate-conservative position.

"Our intention is to have two of these nominees replaced," he said after the meeting. If the first two substitute nominees are approved by the convention, he added, opposition to the others might be dropped. "All we're looking for is parity."

Lynn Hyatt, pastor of First Baptist Church of Callahan and one of Florida's representatives on the Committee on Boards, defended both the nominees and anyone's right to challenge them. "I would not have nominated them if I didn't feel they were representative of Florida Baptists," he said of the nominees.

Hyatt would not speculate on the likelihood the substitutions will be approved. He did say, however, he wishes the names of substitutions would be made public in advance of the convention. "It would have benefited the messengers from Florida to know who those (substitute) nominees will be," he explained.

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The Committee on Boards has announced it will nominate Bobby Welch, pastor of First Baptist Church of Daytona Beach, to the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board; Jack Graham, pastor of First Baptist Church of West Palm Beach, to the SBC Home Mission Board; F. Ray Turner, pastor of Garden City Baptist Church in Jacksonville, to the SBC Annuity Board; and John P. Greene, a layman and member of First Baptist Church of Lake Worth, to the SBC Foreign Mission Board.

Welch and Graham are members of the steering committee that is directing the effort to enlist 5,000 Floridians to vote for Memphis, Tenn., pastor Adrian Rogers as convention president.

The Committee on Boards has left vacant a fifth board position—on the SBC Executive Committee—which will be filled just prior to the opening of the convention.

"We want the Committee on Boards to know that we expect balance," Charles Horton, pastor of College Park Baptist Church in Orlando, told the DeLand meeting. Horton said the committee could show its commitment to peace by nominating a "non-fundamentalist to the Executive Committee from Florida."

Robert Wilmot a layman in First Baptist Church of Lake Worth and the other Floridian on the committee, is recovering from heart transplant surgery.

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Baptists Aid Evacuees
From Chernobyl Area

Baptist Press
6/3/86

KIEV, USSR (BP)—At least two Baptist pastors and the members of two Baptist churches are among a reported 90,000 people evacuated from the area surrounding the Chernobyl nuclear reactor disaster site in the Soviet Union.

Soviet Baptists have been doing their share in helping the evacuees, said Grigoriy Komendant, assistant superintendent of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in the Ukraine, in a telephone interview with European Baptist Press Service. Some evacuees are staying in Baptist homes.

"It is not necessarily the case that believers have gone only to believers," Komendant pointed out. "Some believers are staying with non-believers and some non-believers are with believers. It wasn't discussed whether someone was a believer or not."

More than 20 people have been reported killed as a result of the April 26 mishap. Komendant said he was aware of no Baptist casualties. About half of all Baptists in the Soviet Union live in the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, where Chernobyl is located.

Offerings to assist the accident victims have been received in Baptist churches both in the Soviet Union and in England, Komendant reported. Officials of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) and All-Union Council will discuss uses of such offerings during a Baptist World Alliance Council meeting in July in Singapore.

"The problems of possible after effects and relocation of displaced persons are of continuing concern" to Baptists, said Archie Goldie, director of Baptist World Aid.

Komendant described the Chernobyl nuclear reactor accident as both perplexing and instructive. "Certainly the situation is hard to understand. It shows quite clearly how dangerous the world is today. There are no borders. There could be no local atomic war. We should pray for peace."

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Chaney Resigns Presidency
At Missouri University

BOLIVAR, Mo. (BP)—Charles Chaney, president of Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Mo., since Dec. 1, 1983, has resigned that position effective June 30. He will remain at the university as special assistant to the chancellor and dean of the Courts Redford School of Theology and Church Vocations.

The change in roles was requested by Chaney because he felt the demands of the presidency for the next few years required him to move further away from his major vocational commitment.

"I have had a strong conviction," Chaney told the Missouri Baptist school's trustees, "that my primary calling had to do with making disciples of Jesus Christ, the planting and growth of churches and training others to do those things.

Chaney, a native of Texas with professional experience in Texas, Illinois, and Kentucky, came to Southwest Baptist University as dean of the Redford School of Theology in 1981. He was vice president for academic and religious affairs in the fall of 1983 and became president in early December of 1983.

Chancellor James Sells will continue as chief executive officer and also will be responsible for the work of the office of the president. Trustee Chairman A.L. Palmer said it will be several months before a new presidential search will be established.

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ABN's Kennedy Resigns;
Kelly Named Successor

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6/3/86

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (BP)—Betty J. Kennedy, managing editor of the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, news journal of Arkansas Baptists, has resigned, and the newsmagazine's board of directors has named staff writer Mark Kelly to succeed her.

Kennedy was managing editor for 16 years. A native of Hot Springs, Ark., she is a graduate of Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark. She will move to Dallas where her husband, Bill, is director of patient accounts for Methodist Hospital.

Kelly joined the newsmagazine staff as an intern in 1983. A year later he was added to the permanent staff.

He is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla., and attended The University of Chicago and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Kelly was in the Home Mission Board's US-2 and Mission Service Corps programs before attending Southern Seminary. He also edited the Skiatook (Okla.) Advocate and Southern Seminary's campus newspaper, The Towers.

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Superintendent-Elect
Named At Baptist Home

Baptist Press
6/3/86

MONROE, La. (BP)—John R. Williams of Baton Rouge, La., has been named superintendent-treasurer-elect by trustees of Louisiana Baptist Children's Home Board in Monroe.

Board President Gorman Taylor of Shreveport, La., said Williams will become superintendent-treasurer upon the retirement of Wade B. East next Jan. 17.

Williams was recommended unanimously by a trustee search committee. His election by the board also was unanimous.

Williams has been director of government relations for the Louisiana Bankers Association since 1982. He will join the home's staff in September, working with East until January.

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Williams earned two degrees from Northwestern State University at Natchitoches, La. He has been certified in counseling by Louisiana State University.

He has been a public school teacher, coach, counselor, assistant director of testing, analyst and instructor and head of the office of short courses and conferences in the division of continuing education at LSU.

In 1973 he was senior researcher on the Governor's Education Study Committee. From 1977 to 1982 he was dean of continuing education and Graduate Studies at Louisiana Tech University in Ruston.

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Arkansas Baptist State Convention
Fills Two Staff Positions

Baptist Press
6/3/86

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (BP)—The executive board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention has employed two persons to fill key administrative posts.

Jimmie Sheffield, administrator of Park Hill Baptist Church, North Little Rock, began serving May 19 as associate executive director, a position vacant due to the death of L.L. Collins earlier this year.

Dan Jordan, director of business and support services at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, will begin June 2 as director of business services. Jordan fills a vacancy created by ABSC staffer Phil Copeland's return to Southwestern Seminary.

The associate executive director's job description has been revised in an administrative reorganization, according to Arkansas Executive Director Don Moore. Responsibilities for business affairs have been transferred to the director of business services. Another position, director of support services, remains to be filled. No new positions were created in the reorganization.

Sheffield is a graduate of East Texas Baptist College (now University), Marshall, Texas, and Southwestern Seminary. He has worked in churches in Louisiana and Texas and has been active in associational and state convention activities. He has led conferences on church administration for the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and is the author of three books and numerous articles.

Jordan is a graduate of Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas, and is completing a masters degree at Southwestern Seminary. He went to Southwestern as director of purchasing in 1981 after extensive experience in business. He became director of business and support services there in 1983.

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Baptist Hospitality House
Stimulates Prison Ministry

By Ken Camp

Baptist Press
6/3/86

HUNTSVILLE, Texas (BP)—An around-the-clock effort by about 270 volunteer builders signaled the beginning of a new era in Southern Baptist prison ministry as workers erected a Hospitality House near state penitentiaries in Huntsville, Texas, May 23-24.

The volunteers completed much of the work on the 7,000 sq. ft., two-story building within 24 hours. Some planned to stay for another week to complete bricking and finishing work. The completed structure will be valued at about \$300,000.

Sponsored by the State Missions Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, Texas Baptist Men and Tryon-Evergreen Baptist Association, the Hospitality House will provide a temporary home for visiting families of inmates in Texas Department of Corrections facilities in the Huntsville area. The house was built on land purchased by the convention and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

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The house, the second of its kind in the United States and the first sponsored by Southern Baptists, will accommodate up to 48 overnight visitors in dormitory-style rooms and will include a common kitchen where guests will be able to prepare their own meals. Visitors will be asked to pay no more than \$2 a night to help defray the cost of laundering linens and to give the guests a sense of helping to pay their own way.

Like most states, the Texas prison population is taken disproportionately from low socioeconomic groups. Since prisons are centered in East Texas far from many inmates' homes, visits with loved ones in prison are luxuries family members outside the prison walls seldom can afford. The Hospitality House is designed to provide affordable overnight housing for these families and offer encouragement for them to visit the prisons more often.

"The two greatest rehabilitating forces in the correctional system are the strong ties of the earthly family and the eternal ties to our heavenly family. Whenever someone is sent to prison, there is almost always a family of some kind left behind to wait," said W.J. Isbell, director of Baptist Men for the Texas convention.

"These family members represent an unusual opportunity for dedicated Christians to minister," said Isbell. "They need our love and concern. These people represent an excellent opportunity for Christian outreach, and they will be much more receptive to the Gospel than usual because of this crisis in their lives."

This dual purpose of ministry and outreach was foremost in the minds of the board of trustees as they developed plans for the Hospitality House, said Chairman Bill Glass, evangelist from Cedar Hill, Texas.

"The Hospitality House presents the opportunity to do social action and evangelism. It is a beautiful combination of the two," said Glass. "It's a great opportunity to meet a real human need, and it is a door opener to sharing the gospel with the inmates' families."

Part of meeting that "real human need" of the inmates' families will mean involving churches in ministry to them, said Bob Dixon, executive director of Texas Baptist Men. He explained while only weekend visits are permitted for inmates with family living within 350 miles of the prison facility, those outside that boundary are considered "hardship" cases and are allowed weekday visits.

"We expect to see churches involving their Baptist Men in bringing to Huntsville prisoners' wives and children in church vans that would otherwise go unused during the week so that they can visit their loved ones and stay in the Hospitality House," said Dixon. "Our prayer is that as they come here to stay in these rooms that they would come to know Jesus."

The Hospitality House is scheduled to open in mid-July under the direction of Bob and Nelda Norris, who will live in a four-room apartment in the house.

"Our objective is to meet the needs of people--physical, emotional and spiritual," said Norris. "We intend to make ourselves available to everyone who comes, giving them an opportunity for counseling and discussion of problems. Then we want to get them in touch with a local church back home as part of an on going ministry."

"We want to give this place a real home atmosphere for the families who visit here. We want it to be a place of safety and refuge for them," Nelda Norris said.

Assisting the Norrises will be Mission Service Corps volunteers and workers from Tryon-Evergreen Baptist Association who will serve as needed. Local leaders in prison ministry see this as one of the greatest benefits of the house.

"I see the Hospitality House primarily as a management tool to help focus the energy of churches in ministry to inmates and their families," said Emmett Solomon, assistant administrator of chaplaincy programs for the Texas Department of Corrections. He noted in many cases churches have wanted to become involved in prison ministries but did not know how. The Hospitality House will offer them a way to enter that ministry.

"The Hospitality House will provide both a place and an opportunity to get people in our churches into direct ministry with inmates' families," said Jim Putman, associate director of Tryon-Evergreen Baptist Association. "That should create more personal caring and concern both for the families and the inmates as our people begin to see them as persons not all that different from themselves."

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(Photos available upon request from the Texas Baptist public relations office.)

Baylor, U.S. Agency
Help Build Thailand School

By Karen Benson

Baptist Press
6/3/86

WACO, Texas (BP)—A multi-million-dollar educational facility will be built in Lampang, Thailand, thanks to Baylor University in Waco, Texas, and the U.S. Agency for International Development in Washington.

Baylor, a Texas Baptist school, and the agency's American Schools and Hospitals Abroad Program joined forces to help fill a request made by the American-Thai Foundation for Education for the facility.

The foundation was formed in 1983 to advise Lampang College of Commerce and Technology in matters of the school's development and to help locate sources of funding for scholarships, equipment and buildings from governmental agencies, foundations, corporations and private philanthropies.

The program granted \$850,000 for the Lampang facility, which translates into about 22.5 million baht, the Thai currency.

Because labor and construction costs are so inexpensive in Thailand, the funding is equivalent, in Thailand, to receiving about \$5 million in U.S. currency, said Nirund "Nick" Jivasantikarn, president of Lampang College of Commerce and Technology and current president of the Lampang City Council. Jivasantikarn received his bachelor's degree and doctorate in education from Baylor.

According to William Brown, U.S. ambassador to Thailand, the money will "strengthen this important young institution and stimulate growth in Lampang, a province of growing importance in northern Thailand."

At present, there is no college or university in Lampang Province, populated by 700,000 people throughout 6,000 square miles. The facility will be the first of its kind in Lampang Province and will be the largest construction project ever undertaken in the city of Lampang, capital of the province.

If a pending request is approved for a second facility—a classroom and lecture hall building—the two new facilities will form Lampang College, which will be the first four-year college in Lampang, Jivasantikarn said. In addition to providing a four-year college degree, the new college also will provide continuing education courses, he said.

Lampang College now provides only high school education, vocational education and a two-year college program.

Included in the plans for the four-story educational facility are a library, a learning resource center, lecture halls and conference facilities. The funding will provide for the facility's furnishings and equipment as well. The 41,000-square-foot building will be built on newly-acquired land adjacent to Lampang College and will feature a Thai architectural design.

The facility will be used by current students of Lampang College and by various community and civic organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, the Lions Club and the Rotary Club. At present, there are no conference facilities in Lampang Province for any educational, civic or community groups.

The architectural designs will be started immediately, with construction scheduled to begin in December. Plans are to finish construction by December 1987.

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Funding from the American Schools and Hospitals Abroad Program is granted only to private, non-profit schools, libraries and hospitals overseas which were founded or sponsored by U.S. citizens or organizations and which are used as study or demonstration centers for ideas and practices of the United States.

Baylor has had an exchange program with Lampang College since 1981, when the first Baylor students went to Lampang to teach English language classes and the first faculty members from Lampang School came to Baylor to pursue master's degrees or doctorates.

The exchange program remains the only school-affiliated exchange program existing in Thailand. The program has been successful, Jivasantikarn said. Fifteen Baylor students have participated in the exchange.

"Baylor's relationship and support of our college are what have made the difference," Jivasantikarn said. "Without Baylor University's commitment and support of the exchange program, we would not have made progress in the direction in which we are now, and I am thankful for that. I hope the relationship between Baylor, Lampang College and the American-Thai Foundation will continue to grow and prosper so that it will benefit the students and people of both countries."