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-- BAPTIST PRESS

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JANUARY 3, 1995

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SBCNet plays role
in couple's marriage

Baptist Press
1/3/95

WOODBURY, Minn. (BP)--When David Van Bebber, pastor of Rosewood Baptist Church in Woodbury, Minn., subscribed to SBCNet last April, he did so for all the usual reasons. He wanted to read Baptist Press, send and receive electronic mail, access the various forums and do all the normal SBCNet kinds of things. He never dreamed it would lead to the end of his bachelor days.

One of the forums he began to access was the youth forum. On Wednesday nights, he "talked" via SBCNet to youth and youth ministers, including one high school senior, Paul Guthrie, of Joshua, Texas.

When Guthrie found that Van Bebber was single, he noted that his sister, Patricia, was 29 (close enough to Van Bebber's age) and had expressed an interest in marrying someone in the ministry.

Van Bebber began correspondence with Patricia, which led to telephone calls, which led to more letters, which led to a week's visit to Texas, where he met Patricia and her parents. "We hit it off so well," says Van Bebber, "that she came to Minnesota in July and met my parents. I proposed to her on the shores of Lake Superior at Duluth, and she said 'yes.'"

"I knew," said Patricia, "that God had the right person for me. God knew my name, address and phone number. He would bring the right man into my life. I just had to trust him."

And as for Paul, "I'm just glad God used me to bring the two of them together."

The wedding took place at First Baptist Church in Joshua on Nov. 12.

Now it's Patricia's turn to "talk" with brother Paul using David's SBCNet subscription.

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WRAPUP REPORT ON MISSION 95
Students respond to challenge
at global missions conference

By Chip Alford

Baptist Press
1/3/95

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--While many of their peers made final preparations for New Year's Eve parties, more than 3,000 college students from across America and Canada spent the last week of 1994 learning about missions.

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The students attended Mission 95, a global missions conference sponsored by the Baptist Sunday School Board's national student ministry in cooperation with the Home and Foreign mission boards, Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood Commission. The event took place Dec. 27-31 in Louisville, Ky.

Conference participants heard from national and international missions leaders, chose from more than 90 missions-related seminars, met in small "family" groups to pray for unreached people groups and interacted with 100 home and foreign missionaries. They also explored a 50,000-square-foot interactive missions exhibit area that included everything from a simulated airplane ride stopping in different parts of the world to a booth on raceway ministries.

By week's end, hundreds of students had made a public commitment to missions.

National student ministry director Bill Henry said he believes the conference goal of educating students about what God is doing in the world was met, adding he was "overwhelmed" by the week's experience.

"When I looked around the hall during our last night's service and saw all those students walking down the aisle to make their decisions, I leaned over to the person next to me and said, 'There's our next generation of missionaries.' It was an incredible feeling," he said.

A number of widely known mission leaders challenged conference participants. Among them was Foreign Mission Board President Jerry Rankin, who told them they might be the "final generation" before Christ's return.

"The gospel is touching people and nations that have never even heard the message of Jesus Christ," Rankin said, pointing out more than half of the 12,000 missionaries appointed in the FMB's 149-year history began serving in the last 18 years, many in areas previously closed to a Christian witness.

"Jesus told us he would return when the gospel is preached to all nations. You have the privilege of living in a generation that will possibly see that actually come to pass," he said.

Home Mission Board President Larry Lewis told students he would love to see Southern Baptists renew their commitment to achieve the goals of Bold Mission Thrust. That initiative calls for 50,000 churches and 10,000 home and foreign missionaries in the field by the year 2000.

"We are calling out Southern Baptists to be a soul-conscious denomination on witness for the Lord," Lewis said, also pointing to the HMB-sponsored "Here's Hope. Share Jesus Now." witnessing campaign which gets under way in January. That challenge calls for Southern Baptists to witness to 60 people in 60 days followed by simultaneous revivals.

Another HMB goal, Lewis said, calls for Southern Baptists to start 1,995 churches in 1995.

"It is my hope that we will be serious about the Great Commission mandate and share the gospel with every creature -- that's the mandate of our Lord," he said.

Christian author and futurist Tom Sine praised Southern Baptists for their rich missions heritage, but he challenged students to think about their future involvement in ministry.

"We need you to lead, not just fill in and take places," Sine said. "We need new vision and creativity ... whole new approaches to missions."

He urged students to go beyond a two-track approach to missions, in which a small group of people devote themselves to full-time work while the majority of church members pray and offer financial support.

"In the New Testament, everybody was involved," Sine said. "It was 'whole life stewardship,' not tithing."

Students also heard from:

-- Erwin McManus, senior pastor of The Church on Brady in Los Angeles, who told them: "God's not looking to you for a better idea. He's looking for people who will let him take control of their lives."

The reason many believers struggle with God's will for their lives, McManus said, is that they "do not embrace the passions of God."

"God has a greater desire to reveal his will to you than you have the desire to know it," he said.

-- Pam Moore, director of intercessory prayer at Dallas Baptist University, who reminded that God uses the gifts and talents of "ordinary" people to fulfill his mission.

Moore, a former assistant to the late Christian author Corrie ten Boom, said she had often been afraid to serve, "but God chose to fulfill my life through the very things that I feared. ... The big adventure started by laying down my own will."

-- Catherine Allen, president of the Baptist World Alliance's women's department, who issued a call for ministry to the world's children.

"The challenge of the child is the great avenue of Christian service for the future," Allen said, pointing out that 80 percent of children around the world live in underprivileged countries and about 100 million "are living in virtual slavery to satisfy the debts of their parents."

-- Sammy Tippit, president of God's Love in Action, an international evangelism ministry based in San Antonio, Texas, who said: "The real movers and shakers are those who pray. There's no place on earth you can't touch through your prayers."

Tippit, who also is author of "The Prayer Factor," outlined four principles for developing a concern for people around the world who are not Christians: 1) "read through the gospels with an eye for the compassion of Christ" for the needs of people; 2) learn about the needs of the world through reading about unreached people groups, talking with persons who have visited lesser-known nations of the world, getting acquainted with persons of other nations and cultures and traveling to other nations for a firsthand experience; 3) get out among non-Christians; and 4) "find someone whose heart breaks for the lost world and pray for that person."

Conference participants also learned about Global Student Involvement, a joint project of the BSSB national student ministry and the FMB which is sending student teams for short-term mission projects in Central Asia, Indochina, Southeast Asia, North Africa, Eastern Europe and several other locations around the world. Most of the projects will take place in "World A countries" -- locations the FMB has identified as being closed to traditional missionary witness.

Nine students from Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., who attended Mission 95 planned to depart Jan. 4 for an 18-day GSI project in an Asian nation.

A major purpose of GSI, said Brenda Sanders, director of student ministries at Samford, is to enable students "to be exposed to other cultures and see how they can be involved in reaching the unreached."

Sanders said preparation for the trip has strengthened her own spiritual life, especially in seeing "how prayer is an important part of missions strategy."

The Samford group is the second GSI team sent out on mission. A group of 10 students from Global Mission Baptist Church, Silver Spring, Md., left for a trip to another World A country on Christmas Day.

More than 600 students from about 60 colleges and seminaries got some "hands-on" ministry experience during the Mission 95 conference by participating in projects around the city. Work ranged from distributing clothes to the homeless and cleaning and painting area mission centers to door-to-door witnessing and youth programs.

About 1,500 students donated items to a clothing closet at Commonwealth Convention Center during the week. The closet was operated by about two dozen students who distributed garments to about 200 homeless people during a two-day period.

Following the Dec. 30 worship celebration, students also participated in the recording of a live praise and worship album by contemporary Christian artist Scott Wesley Brown.

Brown, who describes himself as a Christian "musicianary," said Mission 95 offered the perfect setting for the live recording because "the theme of the album is the same as the theme of the conference."

That theme, Brown said, perfectly blends his two passions: "To mobilize the church to greater worship and to extend that worship to the nations."

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Linda Lawson, David Winfrey, Marv Knox and Mark Wingfield contributed to this report. (BP) photos mailed to state Baptist newspapers by the Sunday School Board bureau of Baptist Press.

Mission 95 conference offers
hands-on ministry experience

By David Winfrey

Baptist Press
1/3/95

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--More than 600 students from about 60 colleges and seminaries got hands-on missions experience throughout Louisville, Ky., during the Mission 95 global missions conference.

Work ranged from distributing clothes to the homeless and cleaning and painting area mission centers to door-to-door witnessing and youth programs.

"We are trying to get them started on missions for the whole year -- not just a few days in December," said Lee Going, ministries director for Louisville's Long Run Baptist Association.

Local ministries and churches benefited from the work while students learned about a variety of Southern Baptist missions activities.

Watching a group of students paint the nursery at Baptist Fellowship Center, Going said, "All of this work that they're doing is trying to brighten up the place for the people who have to come here."

The center is a cooperative effort between Southern Baptist and African American Baptist churches to take an old church building and turn it into a missions center, he said. "It has been the volunteer work that has put the center back in operation."

What does he mean back in operation?

Jennifer Jones, 20, a junior majoring in elementary education at Carson Newman University, Jefferson City, Tenn., helped sort and fold clothes for the Jefferson Street Baptist Center.

"On the way in, we saw people who would actually need it and I've never been in contact with it before," said Jones, of Bluff City, Tenn. "We don't see it (being used) right now, but we know it will be needed."

Director Randall Harvey said their work freed staff to concentrate on working with the homeless, elderly and low-income residents who come to the center, which has as many as 120 clients per day.

"I'm just thankful that they were able to come down here and help us out," he said, watching nine students fold pants shirts and jackets. "One of the things we never have enough of is volunteers."

Knox Thamess, of Georgetown College in Kentucky, said his work on puppet shows for elementary students reinforced what he had learned as part of a Kentucky Baptist Student Union performance team last summer.

"We've found that puppets are good for all ages, from kindergarten to age 90," he said. "People are looking for something to fill that void in their life, and the only thing that would fill that void is God."

About two dozen students operated a clothing shelter at the Commonwealth Convention Center, giving more than 1,000 garments to about 100 people, said Ralph Hopkins, associate director for student work for the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

About 1,500 students donated clothing, Hopkins said, and volunteers worked with the Coalition for the Homeless to spread the word. People started lining up at 7 both mornings of the distribution, and about 100 people received assistance each day, he said.

"There's obviously a great need here, and we're glad we were able to meet some of that need," Hopkins said, adding that the remaining garments and the cabinets built for the operation will be donated to local shelters.

Going said the hands-on work gives students an opportunity to apply the information being learned at the missions conference.

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"One of the best things is for them to see actual missions taking place," he said. "They can hear all day long, but they don't really understand what missions is all about until they come to a center like here and see what missions is."

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Prayer called vital tool
for world evangelization

By Linda Lawson

Baptist Press
1/3/95

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Prayer must be more specific than "God, help everyone in the world to get saved."

Prayer is hard work.

Tools for effective prayer include the Bible, a hymnal, a map of the world and information about unreached people groups.

When people start praying, things start happening.

While you can pray for people anywhere in the world, there also is value in traveling to distant places to pray for the salvation of the people in those towns and cities.

Prayer and principles for effectively praying for unreached people groups around the world were outlined by Mission 95 speakers and seminar leaders throughout the Southern Baptist student missions conference Dec. 27-31 in Louisville, Ky.

"Prayer is not the work of missions," Terri Willis, associate director of the international prayer strategy office at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, told participants in a seminar on power praying. "The proclaiming of the gospel is the work of missions. But prayer releases the power of the gospel.

"Prayer is designed to extend the kingdom of God into enemy territory," she said.

Willis noted major developments among unreached people groups of the world since 1987 when the FMB began enlisting churches to pray for specific groups of people virtually untouched by the gospel.

For example, she said the nation of Albania was at that time the most atheistic nation in the world. It is now open to the gospel and Southern Baptist representatives are serving there. During the summer of 1994 Southern Baptists participated in a project with Campus Crusade and Heli-Ministries in which the "Jesus" film was shown in more than 200 towns and hundreds accepted Christ as their Savior.

"It's unbelievable to look at the world as it was 10 years ago in terms of unreached people groups and where we are today," said Mark Morris, FMB associate area director for Asia. "We know God is revealing himself to people in a way they can understand through prayer."

He urged students to consider participating in Global Student Involvement, a joint project of the FMB and national student ministry of the Baptist Sunday School Board in which groups travel to areas of the world to build relationships and pray for the salvation of the people.

Nine students from Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., who attended Mission 95 planned to depart Jan. 4 for an 18-day GSI project in an Asian nation.

A major purpose of GSI, said Brenda Sanders, director of student ministries at Samford, is to enable students "to be exposed to other cultures and see how they can be involved in reaching the unreached."

Sanders said preparation for the trip has strengthened her own spiritual life, especially in seeing "how prayer is an important part of missions strategy."

Sammy Tippit, president of God's Love in Action, an international evangelism ministry based in San Antonio, Texas, told students: "The real movers and shakers are those who pray. There's no place on earth you can't touch through your prayers."

Tippit, who also is author of "The Prayer Factor," outlined four principles for developing a concern for people around the world who are not Christians.

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First, he said, "read through the gospels (the Bible books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) with an eye for the compassion of Christ" for the needs of people.

Second, he advised students to educate themselves about the needs of the world through reading about unreached people groups, talking with persons who have visited lesser-known nations of the world, getting acquainted with persons of other nations and cultures and traveling to other nations for a firsthand experience.

Third, Tippit said, "Get out among non-Christians and ask God to break your heart. We get so caught up in our Christian world that we forget there's a world out there going to hell."

Finally, Tippit, whose ministry takes him throughout the world, suggested, "Find someone whose heart breaks for the lost world and pray for that person. Compassion is more caught than taught. You need to have a global view of life because that is God's view."

Jennifer Kennedy Dean, director of ministries for the Praying Life Foundation, Marietta, Ga., conducted seminars on intercessory prayer and led times of intercessory prayer throughout the conference.

"Intercession does not mean expecting God to carry out my decisions. Intercession does not change God's will. It releases God's will," she said.

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Missionary: Students are
ready for missions future

By David Winfrey

Baptist Press
1/3/95

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Christian members of Generation X are tired of being typecast as lazy, and they want to get involved in the future of missions, says a home missionary who heard from many during Mission 95.

"I believe these students are keenly aware that they are at some kind of crossroad," said Dale Peterson, campus minister to Yale University. "I think they're ready and they're looking for places to serve."

Peterson led a group discussion on the future of home missions during the global missions conference for college students Dec. 27-31 in Louisville, Ky. The meeting was sponsored by the Baptist Sunday School Board's national student ministry in cooperation with the Home and Foreign Mission boards, Woman's Missionary Union and Brotherhood Commission.

Many students view their generation as having technological richness but spiritual poverty, Peterson said.

While technology has made life easier in some ways, students expressed frustration at a growing sense of isolation, he said. "The more saturated one's environment becomes with technology, the more one can depend on it rather than people for purpose, meaning and direction in life."

Students also resent the overwhelming flood of information, he added.

"Just because you know about it, that doesn't mean you can immediately be zapped there and do something about it," he said. "The challenge for them as Christians is how do you take the technology and make it benefit you spiritually and also how do you take it and use it as a tool for missions?"

The students attending Mission 95 are responding to the conference message that they have a great potential for impacting the world for Christ, Peterson said.

"They (as members of Generation X) don't like being thought of as if they are lazy or not making a contribution, because that's how they feel they are seen by the media," he added. "I think they see themselves as ready really to make that significant contribution and having the ability to make the difference."

Jimmy Maroney, of the Foreign Mission Board, told students that technology and advances in communication increase the opportunity for this generation to fulfill the Great Commission to take the gospel to every person on earth.

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"You will not find a time that lends itself any more for the propagation of the gospel than right now," said Maroney, director of the FMB global desk, who led a seminar on the future of foreign missions.

Maroney predicted that life would not change drastically in the next five years, but a major contrast in the 21st century will be the increased sense of global community while nations face greater internal ethnic and cultural strife. In the 45 European nations recognized by the United Nations there are 150 ethnic and language groups, he noted.

The secularization of the world is another issue to be faced in the 21st century, Maroney said.

"There has never been a time like the time we're in that has been as close to the first century," he said, citing such evidence as secular governments, the Christian minority and the multitude of religions.

"When Paul went out on his missionary journeys, he was running into people who had no idea about the gospel," Maroney explained. "You can go to Abilene, Texas, Tulsa, Oklahoma, anywhere and you will find people just like that."

One key for communicating with secular people, Maroney said, is explaining the gospel in modern-day language, not church language. "Secular people are church illiterate."

Despite the challenges, the opportunities are exciting, Maroney said. In 1970, 67 countries were considered officially closed to the gospel; today, only four are, he said.

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From Venezuela to South Carolina,
student learns value of missions By Chip Alford

Baptist Press
1/3/95

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP)--Most Americans view hitchhiking as a risky proposition, possibly life-threatening. But Venezuelan native Jose Rondon got a ride three years ago that ended up saving his life -- eternally.

At the time, Rondon was pursuing his dream of becoming a professional baseball player in the Venezuelan capitol of Caracas. On his way to the Houston Astros Training Academy in the South American country, he accepted a ride from Bill Cashion, a Southern Baptist foreign missionary.

"He started sharing his faith with me, and at the time I thought, This man talks too much about Jesus," said Rondon, who grew up Catholic but had never accepted Christ as Savior.

Though he didn't become a Christian on that initial "hitch," Rondon did form a lasting friendship with Cashion, who soon became chaplain of the Houston Astros Academy, too. Each Sunday, he visited Cashion's home. About four months later, the missionary led him in the sinner's prayer for salvation.

"God began working in my life," Rondon said. "He showed me that I was a missionary, that I was an ambassador for him to this earth. He gave me his fire, and I am not ashamed to share with anybody the message of Jesus Christ."

Today, 25-year-old Rondon is a junior at North Greenville (S.C.) College pursuing a degree in mass communications. Although he still enjoys sports, he's given up his dream of becoming a professional ballplayer to pursue a vision with lasting importance.

"Baseball is a temporary thing, and God showed me that becoming an evangelist is something that leads people to him, and that's something that lasts for eternity," he said.

Rondon is supported in his education by a partial scholarship from his school and financial help from church members in the Greenville area, many of whom have traveled to Venezuela on mission trips.

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Rondon said he is learning the importance of missions as a member of the Baptist Student Union at North Greenville, a program known for its strong emphasis on ministry. With only 700 students, the college is one of Southern Baptists' smallest schools. Last summer, however, it sent out 27 summer missionaries through the Home Mission Board -- more than any other school in the country.

One of those students was Rondon, who served as a member of the student evangelism team in New York, preaching across the state in both English and his native Spanish.

"Jose is a tremendous preacher, and he has such a charismatic personality, people are just drawn to him," Mayson Easterling, BSU director at North Greenville, said. "He has literally led scores of people to the Lord. He's a tremendous asset to our program. We're very thankful the Lord sent him our way."

Rondon, a member of First Baptist Church, Travelers Rest, S.C., also serves as vice president of his BSU and a member of a ministry team that frequently leads youth revivals, retreats and lock-ins. He joined more than 3,000 of his peers at Mission 95, a global missions conference for college students sponsored by Southern Baptists. He was a student prayer leader at the Dec. 27-31 meeting in Louisville, Ky.

"It was not my decision to come; God brought me here," Rondon explained. "He's been growing me a lot this week, and I feel more convinced than ever that he wants me to be an evangelist and return to Venezuela to share the gospel."

After finishing college, and perhaps seminary, he plans to do exactly that.

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(BP) photo mailed to state Baptist newspapers by the Sunday School Board bureau of Baptist Press.

Hundreds sought to help
western Europe in crusades

By Mike Creswell

Baptist Press
1/3/95

WIESBADEN, Germany (BP)--Hundreds and possibly thousands of Southern Baptist volunteers will be sought for a series of major evangelistic campaigns in western Europe between 1995 and 1997.

A campaign planned for France in 1997 could involve between 400 and 500 volunteers and be the largest of its kind ever held in western Europe, said W.H. "Dub" Jackson Jr., the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's crusade coordinator for Europe. He is planning campaigns in Denmark, Spain, Norway, Sweden, France and Germany.

Though Americans usually see these western European countries as cultured and prosperous vacation destinations, missiologists have considered the area one of the most resistant and spiritually needy in the world. Some African countries have higher percentages of born-again believers than many countries in western Europe.

In France, for example, Muslims outnumber evangelical Christians and active Roman Catholics combined. The 1997 campaign in France will involve some 50 French Baptist congregations. Although the process of establishing a church in France can take a decade or more, the last Southern Baptist partnership campaign there resulted in more than 200 salvation decisions.

Some Christian leaders see signs of revival in Europe. "Innovative and persistent church planting efforts are beginning to pay off here and there on the continent. I really believe we may be seeing the start of a real movement of God in Europe," said Southern Baptist missionary Bill Wagner.

A longtime resident of Austria and Belgium now living in Germany, Wagner travels widely across the continent as the FMB's evangelism and church planting consultant for Europe, the Middle East and North Africa.

"I just pray Southern Baptists will be ready to move where the Spirit of God is moving," Wagner added.

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"As God is 'stirring the waters' in Eastern Europe, we're praying he will do the same in western Europe," said John Floyd, the board's area director for Europe. "Dub and Doris Jackson have committed the next two years to bring renewal to this important part of the world. Europeans are saying 'Yes!' to partnering in evangelism and renewal. I pray Southern Baptists' response will be the same -- by praying and volunteering for the teams to minister in Europe."

Jackson announced the partnership evangelism campaigns well in advance so Southern Baptists can pray, budget and plan to participate, he said. "We can never have these numbers without a real commitment by Southern Baptists to respond to this specific and most meaningful challenge."

Pastors, laymen and musicians of all ages are being sought -- "anyone who's ready to love and share his faith now."

A longtime proponent of involving Southern Baptists in direct overseas missions, Jackson is shuttling between his office in Abilene, Texas, and points across Europe as he plans the campaigns. During November and December he met with Baptist leaders in countries involved in the campaigns and said he's seen nothing but cooperation and eagerness to accomplish major objectives for Christ.

"We believe we have witnessed some of the most challenging and most amazing expressions of faith and vision that we have ever seen," he said. "Surely there could be no greater opportunity for cooperation and service for Southern Baptists than with the peoples of western Europe now."

Those who want to participate should contact the Foreign Mission Board's volunteer hot line number at 1-800-888-8657. Interested persons also can contact Jackson's office at (915) 695-6754.

The partnership evangelism campaign schedule so far involves:

Denmark: 60-70 people needed, Sept. 27-Oct. 10, 1995, in seven churches.

Spain: 200-300 people needed, Oct. 11-24, 1995, in 20-30 churches.

Norway: 100-200 people needed, Oct. 9-22, 1996, in 10-20 churches.

Sweden: 75-100 people needed, Oct. 16-28, 1996, in six or more churches.

France: 400-500 people needed, May 25-June 5, 1997, in at least 50 churches.

Germany: 250-300 people needed, fall of 1997. Plans are still being formulated, but this may be a nationwide effort.

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EDITORS' NOTE: The following story is updated from its release Dec. 30.

Abortion clinic shootings
condemned by CLC's Land

Baptist Press
1/3/95

WASHINGTON (BP)--Richard Land, executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, made the following statement in reaction to the shootings inside two abortion clinics Dec. 30 at Brookline, Mass., in which two people were killed:

"All Americans, and particularly pro-life Americans, should condemn this act of savage violence in the most outspoken and uncompromising terms. Americans should also support and encourage the government in punishing perpetrators of such violence to the full extent of the law. These killings should be seen for what they are -- the murder of human beings and acts of armed revolution against the government of the United States. As such, these acts should be condemned and rejected utterly by all of our citizens."

In both incidents, a gunmen opened fire inside the clinic. John Salvi, 22, of Hampton Beach, N.H., is charged with the murders. He was arrested Dec. 31 after opening fire on a third abortion clinic, in Norfolk, Va.

It was the third time in less than two years that abortion clinic workers had been killed by gunshots. The other incidents involved abortion doctors.

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In September, the Christian Life Commission issued a document describing such an action as "not a morally justifiable or permissible Christian response."

The document affirmed the sanctity of human life from conception and the moral obligation of Christians to oppose abortion actively, but it gave a variety of reasons why lethal force to stop abortion is not consistent with the Bible. As a part of its reasons, the statement asserted divine moral law permits killing as an "unintended effect of the act of defending oneself or another" but not as a premeditated action.

The first killing of an abortion doctor came in March 1993, when David Gunn was shot fatally outside a Pensacola, Fla., clinic. Michael Griffin was convicted of first-degree murder.

Later in the year, George Tiller, an abortion clinic owner/doctor in Wichita, Kan., was shot but not seriously injured.

In July of this year, abortion doctor John Britton and escort James Barrett were shot and killed outside another Pensacola clinic. Paul Hill, an advocate of lethal violence against abortion doctors, was convicted in the slayings.

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