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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Barley Smith

Deputy ~~Installations~~
~~Pentagon~~

James Boatwright
Jidal m^c Coy ²⁰²
695-3592

on due | FRIDAY
8:30

Francis

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MISSOURI
BAPTIST
College
ST LOUIS
MISSOURI
BAPTIST
2941

Riverside Baptist Church

8300 Oxon Hill Road

Oxon Hill, Maryland

Telephone: (301) 577-7082

Norris W. Sydnor, Jr.

Pastor

P. O. Box 55173

Oxon Hill, Maryland 20744



*WA / PKI
NOW
852-4822*

December 16, 1982

Honorable Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

*They come
because of
white meeting*

Dear Morton:

This letter is a follow-up to our conversation concerning a White House Briefing for Southern Baptist Convention Leaders who are supporters of the President. As agreed this meeting would take place in the afternoon of January 20, 1983. The briefing should focus on the President's initiative for 1983, including the budget, the prayer amendment, the balance budget amendment and nuclear disarmament.

This briefing will give these men an opportunity to prepare themselves for the Southern Baptist Convention to be held in June, 1983 in Pittsburgh and to keep the President's programs freshly on their hearts as they speak to the major portion of our 14 million members. This is a great opportunity for us to get together and plan a strategy for our denomination. I cannot impress upon you the importance of this briefing.

The briefing should take place in the Roosevelt Room or the Cabinet Room and lasting a little more than an hour. It is recommended that the President start the briefing by welcoming the leaders and the Vice President giving remarks at the end. It is further recommended that David Stockman ^{OK} give the basic briefing on the budget. The briefing does not have to be in-depth in nature. The important thing is to have the briefing in the White House.

The names and addresses of the invitees will be sent under separate cover. Most of them have already been notified and have agreed to come.

I will be available to assist you with the briefing. Please, feel free to call upon me. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this very important effort.

May God bless you,

Sincerely,

Norris W. Sydnor, Jr

*Don't know / budget
BILL BARRITT
MORTON BLACKWELL
VSP
Dec 5 p 500*



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8300 Oxon Hill Road
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P. O. Box 55173
Oxon Hill, Maryland 20744

December 17, 1982

Honorable Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President for
Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Morton:

Enclosed please find a list of invitees to the White House
Briefing for Southern Baptist Leaders.

Thank you again for your help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Norris W. Sydnor, Jr.', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Norris W. Sydnor, Jr.
Pastor

Enclosure: 1

LIST OF INVITEES
WHITE HOUSE BRIEFING FOR SOUTHERN BAPTIST LEADERS

Mr. Moody Adams
Box 329
Baker, LA 70714

Mrs. Hazel Allen
6117 Seabrook Road
Seabrook, MD 20706

Rev. Daniel Allen
6117 Seabrook Road
Seabrook, MD 20706

Dr. Morris H. Chapman
First Baptist Church
1200 Ninth Street
Wichita Falls, TX 76301

Dr. W. A. Crisswell
1707 San Jacinto
Dallas, TX 75201

Mr. Russell Kaemmerling
Executive Vice President
Bill Class Evangelistic Assn.
P. O. Box 356
Dallas, TX 75221

Dr. Homer Lindsey
First Baptist Church
324 N 5th Street
Jacksonville, FL 32250

Dr. Paige Patterson
First Baptist Church
525 N. Ervay
Dallas, TX 75201

Dr. Adrian Rogers
P. O. Box 4837
Crosstown Station
Memphis, TN 38104

Dr. Bailey Smith
Box 15039
Del City, OK 73115

Dr. Charles Stanley
754 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Atlanta, GA 30308

Mrs. Queenie M. Sydnor
10605 Parrish Lane
Mitchellville, MD 20716

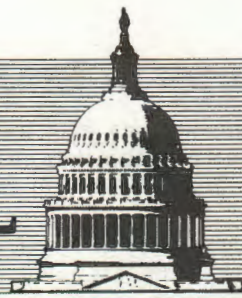
Rev. Norris W. Sydnor, Jr.
10605 Parrish Lane
Mitchellville, MD 20716

Mrs. Debbie Tomme
525 A Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

Rev. Walt Tomme
525 A Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dr. Fred Wolfe
P. O. Box 9086
Mobile, AL 36609

CAPITAL BAPTIST



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July 22, 1982

White House Backed McAteer's SBC Strategy

By Stan Haste

WASHINGTON (BP)—An aide to President Reagan has confirmed that New Right leader Edward E. McAteer received White House encouragement to work for Southern Baptist Convention support of a constitutional amendment on school prayer.

Morton C. Blackwell, special assistant to the president, told Baptist Press that he and McAteer confer regularly and consulted before the New Orleans meeting. During that conversation, Blackwell said, McAteer predicted the SBC would endorse the prayer amendment.

Blackwell, whose primary duty is to line up support for Reagan policies as White House liaison to religious groups and political organizations, said: "I thanked him very cordially."

In an interview following the convention, McAteer told Baptist Press that a White House official, presumably Blackwell, called him two weeks before the New Orleans meeting, asking if the Baptist

Joint Committee on Public Affairs would seek a resolution opposing the amendment and, if it did, to help deliver a resolution of support.

McAteer is founder and president of Religious Roundtable, an organization formed three years ago to work for New Right causes and support the candidacy of Ronald Reagan for president. The Southern Baptist layman, a member of Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, claims credit for recruiting prominent preachers, including Jerry Falwell, to New Right politics.

During his post-convention interview, McAteer declared of the resolution supporting the prayer amendment, "God intervened here today."

He said the 3-1 vote approving the proposed amendment was due primarily to the oratorical skills of a pair of prominent pastors who urged passage during convention debate. Charles Stanley of First Church, Atlanta, and Morris Chapman, (Continued on page 3)

Sex Harassment Suit Against B'hood Com. Settled Out of Court

MEMPHIS (BP)—A federal district judge has ruled that a sexual harassment lawsuit against the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission has been settled.

Odell Horton, judge of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, ruled June 18 that "a complete and binding settlement agreement has been negotiated among the parties in this case."

Barbara (Mrs. Robert) Minor, 44, a nine-year employee of the Brotherhood Commission, filed suit April 9, 1981, against the commission, three of its executives and the Southern Baptist Convention charging sexual harassment and defamation of reputation and asking \$3 million in damages.

Named as defendants were James H. (Continued on page 8)

Baptists Called 'Back to Basic Principles'

By Bill Webb

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)—Referring to "those elements, those forces, those distractions beginning to move among us that would divert us" from the primary tasks of world evangelism, Foreign Mission Board President R. Keith Parks urged Southern Baptists to get back to the basics.

Parks told some 2,000 conferees at the Foreign Mission conference at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center:

"I am convinced that the greatest hindrance to the spread of the gospel is the effort from New Testament times until now for Christian people to control the gospel and spread it on their terms in their own way according to their own plans, and fail and fear to trust the essential freedom that is exercised in the spread of the gospel in New Testament times."

In the United States and too often overseas, "we tend to say, 'unless you say what I tell you to say, do what I tell you to do,



SEMINARY STUDENTS come in a variety of ages and backgrounds. Everett Bens, student at Golden Gate Seminary since retiring as a government scientist, demonstrates the use of chemical light. He holds 10 patents on inventions in chemical light for the U.S. Navy.

act as I tell you to act, give up the sins which are particularly offensive to me and measure up to my standards, you can't be a part of my Baptist church," he suggested. "If we feel we must determine orthodoxy rather than trust the Spirit of God to lead the new converts, we will have a much more carefully ordered bunch of folks, but we won't have the New Testament explosion of evangelism that will reach the world."

That attitude was characteristic of the Pharisees, Parks said, whom Jesus criticized for their hypocrisy and false pride. They judged the orthodoxy of others by their own criteria, making sure they maintained control, he said.

"If Jesus would entrust the eternal destiny of the world to the free working of the Spirit of God in the hearts of new converts, then we ought to be able to trust that Spirit also," Parks maintained.

Parks told participants that deviation (Continued on page 6)

Collision Kills Two Missionaries in Brazil

CAMPINA GRANDE, Brazil (BP)—Southern Baptist missionaries Lois Jennings and Linda Crawford were killed June 25 when their automobile collided with a truck.

A missionary journeyman, Dorothy Deese, was hospitalized but apparently not seriously injured.

The missionaries were traveling from Natal, on the northeastern coast of Brazil, to Garanhuns, some 250 miles to the south.

The three lived in Natal, where they worked at the Baptist Friendship House, a social ministry center.

Mrs. Jennings, 36, had returned to

Brazil June 7 following a six-month furlough in the United States. The former Lois Drury, she was born in Birmingham, Ala., and grew up in and around Washington, D.C. She was widowed in 1969, and appointed a missionary in 1973.

Miss Crawford, 38, was born in Bagdad, Fla., and appointed a missionary in 1970. She directed the community ministry programs of Friendship House.



Earl Coleman at Reception

Custodian Honored By Wisconsin Ave.

On June 13 the Wisconsin Avenue Baptist Church held a reception for their custodian, Mr. R. Earl Coleman, honoring him for 25 years of dedicated service to the church.

Mr. Coleman received a silver tray, a plaque from the Board of Deacons and a check for \$350 to show their appreciation for his faithful service.

Mr. Coleman is more than a custodian to the church fellowship. He is a counselor to the teenage group, and a good listener to those who have a problem. His knowledge of scripture has helped many. Above all, he is a faithful Christian and is loved by all. It was an honor for the staff and the church to celebrate this occasion with Mr. Coleman.

—Joan F. Courtney



My Line

By Vivian Nielsen, President

'You Are A Letter From Christ'

"You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on your hearts, to be known and read by all men; and you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the Living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts" (2 Cor. 3:2-3).

What kind of letters are we? What a powerful passage this is, and so demanding of our very best efforts to confront this Capital city with a spiritual love that will remove bitterness and anger from the hearts of its inhabitants.

We tend to see Washington, D.C. as a political city, because this is the center of Governmental action. That action seems to revolve around the elected officials, local and national. The newspapers are full of information, speculation and gossip about these persons. We are most concerned about the way that they conduct the affairs of Government, and their private affairs when a scandal breaks. Our lives are affected favorably and adversely by the action that they take on Capitol Hill.

How many lives are affected by the action that we take, or refuse to take, through our churches? With our distribution geographically, we cover the entire Metropolitan area and have the potential of influencing every citizen. Are we seen as letters from Christ, or as indifferent, self-seeking beings? How many people in the community surrounding our churches have something positive to say about us? How many are even aware of our existence or our purposes?

There are groups who have rather hostile feelings toward the church and local Christians. Recently, I was in a meeting with some drug rehabilitation workers. They were quite antagonistic toward Christians who were more con-

cerned with keeping drug treatment centers and group homes for retarded adults out of their neighborhoods than they were with helping to maintain such institutions. I tried to express the deep concern of our Baptist Churches for their work, but the bitter conflicts that they had experienced left them unconvinced of our charitable intentions.

On the other hand, D.C. General Hospital, St. Elizabeths and three local jails have staff members who speak most positively about the Baptists and their dedication. There are many nursing homes around the area that would be very desolate places without those comforting visits of our members. Certainly, working individually and in small groups, we have accomplished some great works and displayed our concern and compassion. But I long for us to unite all our thousands of members as one dedicated body of believers with a common concern to show forth Christ's love.

If each of us who are members of churches belonging to the D.C. Baptist Convention would take seriously that we are a letter from Christ, and would live in a way that we would wish to be read by all men, we would change the image of this city before the world. Unfortunately, we tend to feel insignificant and helpless, and by ourselves we are. But united, we outnumber the politicians by thousands. United, there is a power to change lives and the world. "We say this because we have confidence in God through Christ. There is nothing in us that allows us to claim that we are capable of doing this work. The capacity we have comes from God; it is He who made us capable of serving the new covenant, which consists not of a written law, but of the Spirit. The written law brings death, but the Spirit gives life" (2 Cor. 3:4-6).

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Peacemaking Steps Urged To 'Universal Accord'

ST. LOUIS (ABNS)—“We need to recognize that we are in the grip of a demonic bondage from which there is no easy escape,” said Dr. Kenneth Cauthen, as he addressed participants at the Public Mission Consultation on a theological perspective of peace.

Dr. Cauthen, professor of theology at Colgate Rochester Divinity School/Bexley Hall/Crozer Seminary, told participants that they were there to discover whether “as members of churches and as Christian believers” we “have a distinctive message and mission in our own generation that may hasten the day when the dream of reconciliation, justice, and harmony will at last come true.”

He cautioned that “we are not likely to be successful at peacemaking unless we first come to understand the depth and complexity of the evil we abhor,” and warned that “there is no perfect answer, simple, pure, and good, that will infallibly lead us out of the dark valley into the sunlight of universal accord.”

CAUTHEN NOTED that “unilateral disarmament is not a policy that any great power will accept,” for were the United States to do so, it would leave this country

“open to nuclear blackmail and the threat of imposed tyranny.” However, Cauthen reasoned that there is no security “in trying to achieve a permanent superiority of weapons so that no one would dare to start a war with us.”

Professor Cauthen proposed three ways in which we can work for peace.

First, there is a witness to make. That witness begins by “lifting up the prophetic vision of a time when nations will no longer lift up sword against each other, nor will they learn war anymore.”

The other part of our Christian witness, said Cauthen, was to “challenge nationalistic idolatries in the name of a universal community whose justice embraces all alike.”

There is also a work for us to do, and that is to “persuade our nation to act out of the best of its traditions and not from the worst.”

Another aspect of that work was to show that “we are most likely to promote peace if we can succeed in showing that it is in the self-interest of nations to beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks,” Cauthen said.

“**WORLD LEADERS,**” he said, “must never be allowed to forget for a moment, that this is their most urgent task,” and our task “is to keep that simple fact ever before the leaders of the nations, and to demand that they find a way out of this mess.”

Finally, Professor Cauthen spoke to delegates about waiting, which he described as “waiting in the Lord.” Again he referred to the prophet Isaiah, whose message he said, was that “there is no reliable security in nuclear weapons.” “The only solution is a political one,” Cauthen said, and “a political situation rests on a moral and, ultimately, spiritual basis.”

“I say,” warned Cauthen, “that if Americans and Russians and all their allies are willing to plunge headlong in foolish worship of false idols instead of having them relativized and put in proper perspective, then the Lord God Almighty may just honor our stupidity by letting us engulf the world in the flaming horror of nuclear holocaust.”

“But the message of Isaiah then and now is that it does not have to happen,” he said. “Peace, then, waits until the nations wait on God.”

How the SBC Prayer Amendment Resolution 'Came To Pass'

(Continued from page 1)

of First Church, Wichita Falls, Texas, “carried the day,” McAteer said.

In his remarks to messengers, Stanley declared that the Supreme Court decisions of 1962 and 1963 were “only one step in the demoralizing of America.” The Atlanta pastor, a member of the national executive board of Moral Majority, said Reagan’s prayer amendment represents an effort “to protect our religious freedom” and warned, “If we continue to remain silent we will one day lose our freedom in our church houses as well as the school houses.”

Chapman told messengers that since the Supreme Court decisions 20 years ago, atheists, humanists and secularists have opposed prayer in schools. “That’s not the company we need to be keeping,” he declared. “It is not the company of the committed.”

Chapman’s remarks in particular were greeted with thunderous applause and shouts of approval.

In 1980, messengers adopted a resolution which pointed out the Supreme Court “has not held that it is illegal for

any individual to pray or read his or her Bible in public schools” and recorded “its opposition to attempts, either by law or other means to circumvent the Supreme Court’s decisions forbidding government authored or sponsored religious exercises in public schools....”

Reagan said his action “seeks only a return to the situation before 1962 when voluntary prayer wasn’t thought to conflict with the First Amendment.”

Although McAteer did not speak during the debate on the prayer resolution, he played a major role in shepherding it through the resolutions committee, frequently advising committee chairman Norris W. Sydnor, Jr., a Religious Roundtable leader in Maryland, and monitoring the panel’s proceedings throughout the nearly 25 hours of committee deliberations. The vote within the committee to report out favorably the prayer resolution was 9-1.

Sydnor’s dependence on McAteer’s advice also was visible during the floor debate on the committee’s 24 proposed resolutions, when McAteer repeatedly offered suggestions on the platform to

Sydnor and other committee members.

McAteer also said he did not regret the convention’s refusal to go along with a separate resolution proposed by the committee to censure Baptist Joint Committee executive director James M. Dunn for criticizing Reagan’s proposal.

“I’d like to impact the man for good,” McAteer said. “I’m not for overkill.” He is eager to give Dunn a new chance, he added, if the Washington leader will “repent.”

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION sought by Twinbrook Baptist Church. Part or full time. Compensation range: \$8,000-\$14,000. Send resumes to the church at 1001 Twinbrook Pkwy., Rockville, MD 20851.

WANTED: Full time Youth/Music Minister, Temple Hills Baptist Church. Send resume(s) to Tom Bennett, Personnel Committee Chairman, C/O Temple Hills Baptist Church, 4821 St. Barnabas Rd., Temple Hills, MD 20748.

Attitudes on War and Peace

The nuclear threat is the gravest threat confronting the world, and may indeed be, as Notre Dame President Rev. Theodore Hesburgh says, "the greatest moral problem of all times." Albert Einstein's assessment, and no one could look into the abyss with more authority, is deeply disturbing. Said Einstein: "The splitting of the atom has changed everything save our modes of thinking, and thus we drift toward unparalleled catastrophe."

The ultimate cynicism is that nothing can be done about evil—least of all against a threat so massive as nuclear holocaust. Christians who give in to that attitude are, consciously or unconsciously (the effect is the same), denying much of the power of Christ which is manifest supremely in His crucifixion and resurrection.

There can be little doubt that the widespread support for a nuclear freeze led President Reagan to set forth this proposals concerning START—the administration's proposals for talks on reduction of nuclear weapons by the super powers.

For many, however, it is not so much of a question of despairing of any effective action Christians can take to prevent war.

They start from a different point altogether. They take a stand where one otherwise faithful deacon took his. As the Vietnam War wore on and it appeared more certain that no victorious end was in sight for the United States and South Vietnam, he expressed his view unequivocally: "We ought," he asserted, "to bomb North Vietnam back to the Stone Age."

During the riots of '68, an associate minister delivered to a collection center in Washington food and clothing for those who had been burned out. He asked what more might be done to help, thinking the answer would be a plea for more food and clothing. Instead the person in charge responded: "Go back and try to change some attitudes."

That is always a key place to begin.

We commend the summary article on Professor Kenneth Cauthen's address on peacemaking (see page 3 of this issue of *Capital Baptist*) for study and reflection.

Plan to attend the American Baptist Peace Conference, which will have an outstanding array of speakers, set for Nov. 17-19, 1982, at Calvary Baptist Church in Washington.

Some Baptist Profiles in Courage

□ Elizabeth W. Spencer has resigned from a long-held position on the Montgomery County school board and will challenge fellow board member Marian L. Greenblatt for the Republican nomination for Maryland's 8th District Congressional seat.

The Washington Post reports that Spencer's decision to resign from the school board grew out of her conviction that Greenblatt, who switched from the Democratic Party to the Republican Party only a year ago, is using the nonpartisan school board for her personal political advancement.

A Republican party worker says, "Elizabeth is a highly moral woman. She doesn't regard Marian as a Republican regular, but as an opportunist who is using the party to her own advantage." Spencer is a life-long Republican.

In a letter to the county school superintendent and board president, Spencer said it was not possible to devote adequate time and energy to fulfill her responsibilities to the children and youth of Montgomery County while running for Congress. Further, she cited the National School Boards Association code of ethics that calls for avoiding conflict of interest, and for shunning the use of a board position "for personal or partisan gain." The school board adopted that code in 1981—on a motion by Greenblatt.

Mrs. Spencer, active for many years with her husband Dr. Lewis Spencer, who is a physicist—a world authority on atomic shielding—with the National Bureau of Standards, and family in First Baptist Church of Wheaton, Md., has taken a courageous step. Political campaigns, even when comparatively limited, are costly ventures in dollars, time and energy.

It requires a special toughness to take charges that may be groundless and not reciprocate in kind. If she defeats Greenblatt (and another candidate, Kurt Summers) in the primary, she will face the strong and popular Democratic incumbent, Michael Barnes in the November election.

She took a courageous stand against the majority of the board which approved several school closings and boundary changes that she attacked as self-serving and unfair. In precedent-setting

action, the Maryland Board of Education recently reversed the board's changes.

County NAACP chairman Roscoe Nix, who served with her on the school board, paid Mrs. Spencer a high compliment: "She is a person who is very much influenced by her ethical and religious upbringing... (and) guided by a sense of fairness and justice."

Elizabeth Spencer's many friends and admirers wish her well in this wider venture in the political arena.

□ On a Sunday in June, Rev. Carlton W. Veazey, pastor of the prestigious Zion Baptist Church in Washington, led in the ordination of Rev. Jocelyn W. Garland. (Rev. Garland's husband, Douglas, and Rev. Claudie Grant, Jr. were ordained in the same service.)

By ordaining a woman to the ministry, Rev. Veazey is going counter to one of the most zealously held and rigidly enforced bans of the black Baptist clergy in Washington. Though the ban is not explicit, ordination of a woman to the ministry has led to ostracism by the powerful black Baptist clergy group.

Even *participation* in such an ordination has stigmatized black ministers in the eyes of the black Baptist ministers' conference. Rev. Bernard Reid, pastor of the Johanning Baptist Church has experienced rejection for that reason. And now City Councilman Jerry A. Moore, Jr., pastor of the 19th Street Baptist Church, along with Rev. Terry Wingate, Purity Baptist pastor, who shared in Jocelyn Garland's ordination (with nearly a score of clergy including some from the Howard University Divinity School) have run that risk. They have shown courage, too.

Rev. Veazey modestly downplays this ordination as not requiring any special courage. He believes that many fellow Baptist ministers, younger ones in particular, agree with him concerning ordination of women, and that the prestige of the clergy at the

(Continued on page 5)

Riverside Celebrates 125th Anniversary

The Riverside Baptist Church of Washington, D.C. will celebrate its one hundred twenty-fifth anniversary on July 25. Affiliated with the Southern, American, and Progressive Baptist Conventions, the church held its first service on July 26, 1857 as the Island Baptist Church. Past and present church members will honor the church's past during a dinner on July 24 and the 11:00 a.m. anniversary service will emphasize the church's future development and responsibilities in the community.

Riverside, located at Seventh and Maine Avenue, S.W., has ministered to the physical and spiritual needs of its neighbors through active programs in housing, education, and other areas. Under the leadership of Rev. Robert Troutman since January, 1973, the church has tried to grow with the changes of the inner city.

The church weathered the divided loyalties of its members during the Civil War and became the Fifth Baptist Church on September 3, 1869. Its first pastor, Rev. Chastain Clark Meador, came when the church was organized in 1856 and remained at this pastorate (his only one) for forty-seven years. In the 1880s the U.S. Supreme Court upheld an award to the church from the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad in a lawsuit over the problems caused by the train yard's proximity to the church. The railroad then bought the building and the church moved to Sixth and E Street, S.W. The church became a victim of urban renewal in October, 1963 when the Redevelopment Land Authority purchased the site. The church built its present building and held its first service as the Riverside Baptist Church on Easter Sunday, 1968.

The anniversary service will feature special music and a dramatic presentation, and all are invited.



SCENES AT THE 1982 HOUSEPARTY (RETREAT)

Held at Western Maryland College, and sponsored by the Convention's Department of Baptist Women, with more than 400 in attendance. Photos by Jean Adams.

America has become so tense and nervous it has been years since I've seen anyone asleep in church—and that is a sad situation.—Norman Vincent Peale

Editorial

(Continued from page 4)

Zion service will help overcome the opposition to ordaining women.

However, when ordination of women becomes a widely accepted practice among blacks, whites, and other racial groups, it may well be that Rev. Veazey's courageous example will be seen as one turning point in the long struggle to give to women access to ministry in all forms, where a high view of scripture has always placed them.

"If we are truly faithful to our vocation (of ministry) we will find ourselves not on the road to power, but on the road to powerlessness; not on the road to success, but on the road of servanthood; not on the broad road of praise and popularity, but on the narrow road of confrontation and rejection."

—Henri J. M. Nouwen

Department of
Christian Education

Baptist Men and Royal Ambassadors

A major training conference on Brotherhood, Baptist Men, and Royal Ambassador work will be held in the D.C. Baptist Convention on Saturday, September 25, 1982, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The leader will be Rev. Lloyd Jackson, Director of the Baptist Men, Virginia Baptist General Association. He will spend half of the time on men's work and half on Royal Ambassador work for boys. Mr. Jackson has had years of experience in both lines of work and as a pastor. Conference details will be announced later. Please reserve the date. This event will be of interest to churches that do not have mission work for men and boys as well as those that do.

"Guide for Brotherhood Leadership Week" and the "1982-83 Brotherhood Programs" brochure will not be produced this year. The information in those publications is included in the "1982-83 Baptist Men's Handbook" and the July-September issue of the "Brotherhood Builder."

The new Brotherhood catalog, effective August 1982, has been printed and is available from this department, 265-1526. We also have copies of a directory of Brotherhood, Baptist Men, and Royal Ambassador leaders in the D.C. Convention.

Church School Growth

October 17-22, 1982, is the time for the major thrust of the Nationwide Bold People Search. A church and its Sunday School cannot grow unless it has prospects. One glaring weakness of most Sunday Schools is that there are very few prospects in the prospect file. The People Search is an effort to locate and identify prospects. The Sunday School Board has produced a wealth of new materials on this subject, including the booklet, "People Search Church Guide," the book, "Growing and Winning Through the Sunday School," "Sunday School Preparation Week 1982 Resource Kit," and the booklet, "How to Set Up and Conduct a Weekly Visitation Program." These materials are for sale at the Baptist Book Store. A special worker from this department is available to provide consultant services to your church, without charge, on this emphasis. Call Carl Sapp or Sandy Russell (265-1526).

Baptist School Students Among Beirut Casualties

BEIRUT, Lebanon (BP)—A first-grade student at Beirut Baptist School in embattled West Beirut was killed when her house was bombed, according to Leola Ragland, one of seven Southern Baptist missionaries to leave Lebanon in June.

Lebanon has been the scene of fierce fighting since June 4 when Israeli troops invaded the country with the announced purpose of destroying Palestinian guerrilla strongholds.

The girl who was killed and another who was critically injured are the only known casualties from the school but Mrs. Ragland fears there may be others.

Her husband, Jim, had remained through the first week of July at the school in West Beirut, where he helped set up a clinic and continued to assist the injured and homeless in that Palestinian section.

'Basic Principles'

(Continued from page 1)
from "basic principles at the home base will erode and strangle what we do overseas," adding that "the basic principles have to apply at home and abroad.

The board president said the message of missions is the Bible, but goes beyond the Bible. The message of missions is the "Living Word—Jesus Christ" and that makes it unique.

"We have a God-breathed, holy, inspired, written word that, as we study it, is indeed with the Spirit of the living Christ who leads us beyond the recorded word to an encounter with the Living Word. And I learn who God is by encountering the Living Word called Jesus Christ."

The living message of missions—Jesus Christ—also is the method of missions, Parks said, explaining that the method was demonstrated as "Jesus... incarnated the truth, and walked it forth and lived it out among people."

Bible Story Time

"Bible Story Time at Church" is the title of the new Sunday School and Church Training literature for teachers of babies through fives, published by the Baptist Sunday School Board. The materials are planned to meet the needs of churches having one or more of the following characteristics:

Combined age groups, limited space, or limited resources. The literature includes a teacher's guide, a resource kit, and two sets of pupil's leaflets.

BWA Staff Visits State Department

WASHINGTON, DC—Upon the invitation of the Bureau of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, Dr. Gerhard Claas, BWA general secretary, and his two Associate Secretaries, Dr. Reinhold Kerstan and Dr. Denton Lotz, visited the State Department on June 11 to answer questions with regard to the BWA's European activities. They were received by Mr. Melvin Levitzky, senior deputy assistant secretary, and two other State Department officials.

The three BWA leaders used the opportunity to give a comprehensive account of how totally different the Baptist World Alliance is operating as compared to any political agency. As a Christian organization the Alliance is interested mainly in building bridges of understanding, trust and genuine brotherhood, without regard for racial, geographical or political differences.

They also tried to correct distorted reports about the nature of the 1982 "World Conference for Saving the Scared Gift of Life from Nuclear Catastrophe" in Moscow. Claas and Kerstan had attended this conference last May and were anxious for the State Department officials to get a true impression of the happenings. Western reporters had given rather distorted reports of the Nuclear Disarmament Conference that brought together about 600 delegates and visitors from 90 countries.

NEW RESOURCE DIRECTORY AVAILABLE

A new directory of resource materials available for free distribution, purchase, or loan through the Convention's Department of Ministries in Higher Education has been published. The department now maintains extensive files on various topics related to higher education, young adults, current issues, continuing education, international student ministry, and a variety of other topics. Additionally there are files of periodicals, audio-visual materials, college catalogs, vocational guidance literature, and other special concerns. All of these materials are listed in the resource directory in order to make them more accessible to church leaders.

Persons interested in receiving a free copy of the resources directory may call Ministries in Higher Education, D.C. Baptist Convention, at 265-1526.

Send CAPITAL BAPTIST to a friend.

LETTERS

• Permit me to add one point to the article "Makers of Peace" by Dr. Howard Roberts which you published in the May 27 issue of *Capital Baptist*. The Christian Life Commission is the agency of the Southern Baptist Convention which has the program responsibility for peace with justice concerns. As such, we have educational pamphlets on the issue which may be obtained from us for a nominal fee by writing us at 460 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, TN 37219.

We at the Christian Life Commission are vitally interested in the education of Southern Baptists on issues of peace, war, and nuclear weapons.

I hope that your readers will feel free to call on us if we may be of assistance on this or any other matter related to Christian ethics.

Ronald D. Sisk
Director of Program Development
Christian Life Commission, SBC
Nashville, TN

• Please accept our donation for *Capital Baptist* for we consider the paper a "must" to keep abreast of current information in our Baptist circle. . . .

Vi and Chan Stith
Hyattsville, MD

• Thank you for your kind courtesy in sending me your publication since I retired. I enclose a contribution toward the mailing and other costs. It is good to keep in touch with the progress of the work there, for which I continue to pray.

Rev. Wilfred E. Cholerton
Clearwater, FL
(Former Hillandale Pastor)

• It's about time I sent another contribution to help keep *Capital Baptist* coming (\$50 check enclosed), especially in view of the big mailing increase. We appreciate what you are doing; I pass many issues on to our pastor or others where I would like to expose them to some stimulating thinking.

You may be interested in our new Sun City Area Interfaith Services by which we try to provide for the frail elderly to preserve their sense of independence as much as possible and as an alternative to nursing home incarceration.

We are sponsored by 17 churches (that run the gamut) and 16 service clubs or other organizations. The Crisis Counseling Service is operated through the Catholic Social Services and is financed

by the various churches, and with \$10,000 from our Community Fund. The Ministerial Association gave us the \$2,400 from the Easter Sunrise Service offering.

The next phase of our program is an adult day health center. We're going to try to bring some of the frail and homebound in for some stimulation, a good meal, and evaluation of their physical, social and medical needs. Then we'll design a plan to meet individual needs.

It's all very exciting and I'm having a great time. . . . We do find the time to keep active in church. . . . We thank the Lord almost every day for letting us come here.

William T. (Bill) Wolfrey
President, Interfaith Services, Inc.
Sun City, AZ

AN OPEN LETTER TO SOUTHERN BAPTISTS

• I want to express to all of you my gratitude for the high privilege of representing you as president of our convention. I do not accept the position lightly, but seriously and prayerfully.

I realize these are days of great stress for the entire Christian community and especially for our Southern Baptist Convention. I understand the tremendous pressures we're facing. Both my father and my grandfather pastored Southern Baptist churches for a total of 90 years. Because of this background, I have a grasp of where we have been and where we must go. Our major challenge now is to join hands and hearts to complete Bold Mission Thrust. To that end I pledge myself this year as your president.

I need your prayers. Pray for the two vice-presidents, John Sullivan and Gene Garrison. We will meet in Euless several times during the year to pray together and to discuss plans. I value the suggestions and guidance of these two co-workers. Pray also for the appointments which I must make. The individuals selected must have impeccable credentials both as Christians and as Southern Baptists. Their names will be released well in advance of the convention in Pittsburgh. I pray that these actions—consultation with the vice-presidents and early release of appointees—will help to build confidence and trust among us all so that we can convene in Pittsburgh next year with a renewed vision of reaching our world for our Lord Jesus Christ.

Because reckless accusations and slanderous charges have no place among Christians, I am determined not to dissipate my energies in responding to such behavior. I urge each of you to join me in prayer that we will turn our energies in-

Rice Bicentennial Planning Launched

A special committee of the D.C. Baptist Convention has been appointed by President Vivian Nielsen in order to plan for a commemoration of the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Luther Rice. Rice, a missionary organizer, educator, and denominational statesman, spent a major portion of his life and career in the District of Columbia.

The Committee, chaired by Convention staffer Joseph M. Smith, includes persons from D.C. Baptist churches who can also represent institutions with which Rice was connected—Prof. Robert G. Jones of The George Washington University, Dr. Everett C. Goodwin of First Baptist Church, Dr. Lee Westrate, representing the Board of Educational Ministries, ABC (the descendant of Rice's Baptist General Tract Society). Additional denominational agency appointees are expected. Others on the committee are Clarence C. Goen, Howard D. Rees, Helen McKee (designated by the Historical Commission, SBC), and Jerry Baringer (representing the Luther Rice Memorial Baptist Church of Silver Spring, MD).

Among the plans under discussion currently by the committee are a scholars' symposium on Rice the educator, to be cosponsored with George Washington University; a missions conference, to be hosted by First Baptist Church; the publication of a digest of Rice's journals, through the American Baptist Historical Society; and a feature on Rice at the 1983 annual meeting of the D.C. Baptist Convention. Persons interested in making suggestions to the committee may contact the chairman at the Baptist Building.

The committee also expects to remain in close communication with a local Luther Rice observance planned at the Luther Rice Memorial Baptist Church and with the national committee of the Home Mission Board, SBC, which is redeveloping the Rice homesite in Northborough, MA.

stead against Satan and the forces of evil. Truly we are in a spiritual warfare, and we must put on the whole armor of God in order to claim the victory that Christ has already won for us. May God lead us as we continue to be an even greater army for Him in these days.

Again, thank you for letting me be your president this year.

Jimmy Draper, President
Southern Baptist Convention

First Baptist Church of Silver Spring Loses Tax Appeal Over Home Used By Staff Member

By Stan Haste

WASHINGTON (BP)—A Southern Baptist congregation in Maryland failed to convince the U.S. Supreme Court to decide if the state may deny property tax exemption to a residence owned by the church and used by its minister of music.

First Baptist Church, Silver Spring, Md., asked the Montgomery County supervisor of assessments seven years ago to exempt a parsonage housing the congregation's minister of music. The request was denied, setting in motion a long legal dispute that finally ended June 21 with the high court's refusal to review the case.

Between its original application in 1975 and the final resolution of the case, the church appealed to a property tax appeals board, the Maryland Tax Court, a county circuit court, the Maryland Court of Special Appeals, the Maryland Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court.

At each level the supervisor of assessment's original decision to deny tax exemption to the parsonage was left standing.

Attorneys Garland E. Lowe and John W. Baker, both members of the suburban Washington, D.C. congregation, asked the nation's high court to review the case, arguing that "the state has no authority to examine the religious doctrines of a church or to determine ecclesiastical matters for a church."

They argued further that Montgomery

County became excessively entangled in their congregation's affairs by an intensive examination into the minister of music's contributions to the "spiritual" needs of the church.

In addition, they noted that the county exempts three Roman Catholic parsonages and convents, thus favoring one religion over another.

For its part, the state of Maryland argued in a written brief that denying property tax exemption to an "alleged parsonage" for an "alleged minister" did not interfere with the free exercise of religion nor did the county review of the minister of music's duties to the congregation improperly entangle the state in church affairs.

"Governmental decision-making affecting only property taxation, rather than ideology, is not an area where strict separation of church and state entanglement must apply, the argument continued.

Further, according to Maryland Attorney General Stephen H. Sachs, the distinction made by the church between its parsonage and Roman Catholic properties was invalid, since "a state may impose different standards of taxation on different classes of property if the distinction rests upon reasonable consideration of the distinctions between those classes as a matter of public policy."

As is customary, the high court did not indicate its reason for rejecting the case.

Sex Harassment Suit Settled Out of Court

(Continued from page 1)

Smith, commission executive director; Norman Godfrey, associate director, and David Haney, who was director of the men's division, but has since left the commission to open a consulting firm in Memphis.

Horton's ruling orders that a settlement reached Aug. 4, 1981, is to be enforced.

Court papers indicate the settlement includes eight months of salary for Minor, up to \$1,000 for medical expenses, a flat \$5,000 fee for her attorney, Lillian E. Dykes, and other incidental expenses, for a total settlement estimated at \$14,000.

Minor contended a settlement was not reached, although she admitted she signed a letter which set out the terms of the agreement, which was negotiated by Dykes and Ernest G. Kelly, Jr., attorney for the Brotherhood Commission.

Horton wrote in his order: "The Court,

after careful consideration, discredits that part of Mrs. Minor's testimony where she states that she thought she was simply signing the letter to show that she had read it. That part of her testimony is just totally inconsistent with her conduct throughout the settlement negotiations."

He further found that Minor "did authorize, agree to and approved the terms of the settlement" and that the "terms of the settlement agreement were freely, voluntarily and understandingly consented to by Mrs. Minor."

In her suit, Minor contended that Haney declined to promote her to division level secretary in 1980, after she refused to respond to what she described as a request for sexual favors on behalf of an associate. It further alleged that Haney, Godfrey and Smith made public statements questioning Minor's mental stability and morality, causing her grave embarrassment and humiliation.

MR & MRS ERLE COOKE JR
& FAMILY
5116 CAMMACK DRIVE
BETHESDA MD 20816

ADDRESS

Tuition Tax Credits Bill Sent To the Hill

WASHINGTON (BP)—Making good on an April pledge to Catholic educators, President Reagan has sent Congress a tuition tax credit bill designed to help parents who send their children to non-public elementary and secondary schools.

In a June 22 letter to Vice President George Bush and Speaker of the House of Representatives Thomas P. (Tip) O'Neill Jr., Reagan said "parents who, for whatever reason, are not satisfied by the education available in their local public schools should be able to seek an education better suited to their children elsewhere."

Reagan's announcement that he was sending the bill to Capitol Hill came during a White House meeting to which about 20 advocates of tuition tax credits were invited. The one Southern Baptist in the group was Edward E. McAteer, president of the Religious Roundtable, a New Right organization which has lobbied heavily for tuition tax credits, prayer in schools and other conservative causes.

Reagan's bill, "The Educational Opportunity and Equity Act of 1982," faces an uphill battle in Congress, where a 1983 budget projecting a deficit of more than \$100 billion was passed June 23.

FYI

Copies to

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Bob Dugan

Revised Page 2!!!

Morton Beckley
791

THE VICE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

For Immediate Release:
June 13, 1982

Contact: Peter Teeley
202-456-6772

Remarks of Vice President George Bush Before The Southern Baptist Convention, New Orleans Louisiana, June 13, 1982

I want to thank you for asking me to be with you this evening, I've never spoken to 75,000 people before. I feel a little faint actually. This is quite an event and I'm honored to be part of it. My home is Houston, so I can speak with great authority about Ed Young, and his marvelous influence.

I told Ed I would not be political, feeling that you didn't want to hear about deficits, interest rates, or the missile capabilities of the Soviet Union.

As I was contemplating what I would say, I got a letter from a friend, here tonight, saying "Baptists are wise enough to know that America's future hopes do not rest upon the shoulders of political parties, neither Democrat or Republican -- but upon the shoulders of the Almighty God in whom we must trust."

But since I do come from the world of politics or at least inhabit that world for the time being, I thought I might say a few words about a matter that is often in the news, and perhaps often misunderstood.

There is a part of America that is wary of what it calls the "Religious Right". A great many people, Republicans and Democrats alike, including large numbers who are unquestionably conservative on political issues, frankly fear that this Religious Right as they call it wants to impose its moral values on American society as a whole.

Now if that really were the aim of the people in this country who worry about the moral drift, concern might be justified. Certainly one can find among the statements of some individual spokesmen of this new movement, as among individual spokesmen for almost any sizeable persuasion, ill-advised utterances to almost any desired effect.

But I think careful analysis of the movement as a whole does not justify a conclusion that the Religious Right has a serious intention to impose its own moral activity in any way. On the contrary, I think this awakened concern in recent years has been an essentially healthy development in our politics. I think wisdom counsels us not to fear it, or to condemn it, but to welcome it,

and I embrace the constructive contributions it can make to strengthening the United States as one nation under God.

Let's remember that in the first place there is nothing in the least Un-American -- let alone unprecedented -- about organizing politically in support of principles and policies approved by those having a particular religious viewpoint. The long history of the Temperance Movement, not to mention the more recent political involvement of such famous Americans as Reverend Martin Luther King, Reverend William Sloan Coffin -- and many Protestant and Catholic Bishops and leading Jewish Rabbis, to say nothing of today's heartfelt concern on nuclear weapons expressed so eloquently by many religious leaders make it clear that the famous wall of separation between Church and State is there to keep the State from interfering with the Churches, not to keep the Churches or individual religious leaders, or ordinary church members from participating in our politics.

And, in the second place, let us recognize that the organization of the Religious Right has been, in the strictest sense of the word, a reaction -- many would say inevitable and some would say belated -- to earlier, highly controversial developments in the history of this country.

Let us remember, without in anyway attempting to judge the merits of these various complicated issues, that only a quarter century ago abortion was a felony in almost every State of the Union that the use of drugs was not nearly as widespread as it is today that pornography, while available, was sold "under the counter" and that the public standard in matters of sexual conduct, and with regard to marriage, was notably different than many would consider it to be today.

In such circumstances it was surely to be expected that individuals whose religious beliefs have been affronted by the striking social developments of these past 25 years would band together to take political action in defense of those beliefs.

Taught by my own church and by parents devoted to the teachings of Christ, I for one deplore the weakening of the family and the acceptance of the drug culture. In sum I deplore the condoning of things I learned early on to condemn.

Others, with other beliefs, may disagree strenuously. That is their privilege -- perhaps even their obligation. But the process, point and counterpoint, is as American as apple pie.

It would be very dangerous for society to condemn, or to resist unthinkingly, the fundamental impulse represented by this point of view. For that impulse, correctly understood -- and however imperfectly it may be expressed or applied in some cases -- is simply to bring this nation into a closer accord with the One from whom all blessings flow. Just a few months ago, our President said, "there is a great hunger on the part of our people for a spiritual revival in this land". Our country was born out of a spirit of renewal. We as a people must make our country anew. It will not happen on its own.

In that same talk the President went on to say that "many people are praying and waiting for God to do something...I just wonder if maybe God isn't waiting for us to do something".

Looking out on such a group as this one, on this extraordinary expression of your faith, I think the renewal is well begun. And I think of the words of Isaiah who said "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint".

Thank you very much.

#

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

file

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS
1982

Resolution No. 11 on Abortion and Infanticide

WHEREAS, Both medical science and biblical references indicate that human life begins at conception, and

WHEREAS, Southern Baptists have traditionally upheld the sanctity and worth of all human life, both born and pre-born, as being created in the image of God, and

WHEREAS, Current judicial opinion gives no guarantee of protection for pre-born persons, thus permitting the widespread practice of abortion on demand, which has led to the killing of an estimated four thousand developing human beings daily in the United States, and

WHEREAS, Social acceptance of abortion has begun to dull society's respect for all human life, leading to growing occurrences of infanticide, child abuse, and active euthanasia.

Therefore, be it RESOLVED, That the messengers to the 1982 Southern Baptist Convention affirm that all human life, both born and pre-born, is sacred, bearing the image of God, and is not subject to personal judgments as to "quality of life" based on such subjective criteria as stage of development, abnormality, intelligence level, degree of dependency, cost of medical treatment, or inconvenience to parents.

Be it further RESOLVED, That we abhor the use of federal, state or local tax money, public, tax-supported medical facilities, or Southern Baptist supported medical facilities for the practice of selfish, medically unnecessary abortions and/or the practice of withholding treatment from unwanted or defective newly born infants.

Be it finally RESOLVED, That we support and will work for appropriate legislation and/or constitutional amendment which will prohibit abortions except to save the physical life of the mother, and that we also support and will work for legislation which will prohibit the practice of infanticide.

(202) 347-8686

4-Vict

JOHN P. MACKAY, ESQ.
DIRECTOR
WASHINGTON INFORMATION BUREAU

THE AD HOC COMMITTEE
IN DEFENSE OF LIFE

810 NATIONAL PRESS BLDG.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20045



AEL Industries, Inc.

March 10, 1983

CONRAD J. FOWLER
Chairman

The President
The White House
1700 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As a member of the American Baptist Church, I am writing to let you know that I do not agree with the statement on the budget which was given to you by our church leadership a few days ago, and I do not think that their viewpoint necessarily reflects that of the majority of the church congregations. The latter is difficult to determine since the church leadership makes little or no effort to poll the opinions of the members of the various churches before issuing statements or resolutions of this kind.

While I would agree that military expenditures should be kept to a minimum through increased efficiency in the procurement of military hardware and the operation of the armed forces, I cannot agree that maintaining a strong military posture is basically immoral. I would, of course, urge that every effort be made to maintain a reasonable balance between military and social expenditures.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Conrad J. Fowler".

Conrad J. Fowler

CJF:hga

cc: Mrs. Faith Whittlesey
Office of Public Liaison

June 30, 1982

Dear Jerry:

Thank you for your thoughtful invitation to address the Baptist Fundamentalism '84 Convention to be held in the new Washington Convention Center in April 1984. While a firm commitment cannot be made at this time, I assure you that this invitation will receive careful consideration as we approach that time.

I want to take this opportunity to commend your efforts to assemble outstanding ministers to form the Executive Council to plan and guide this major event.

My Administration greatly appreciates the strong and active support shown by the fundamentalist Christian community for my programs. By furthering the spiritual strength of the American people, your movement helps fulfill the promise of this great land.

My thoughts and prayers are with you as you begin this important project.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jerry Falwell
The Old Time Gospel Hour
The O'Hare Hilton
Chicago, Illinois 60666

SENT AS A TELEX 254292 ON JUNE 30, 1982

CALL CAROLYN SUNDSETH IN MORTON BLACKWELL'S
OFFICE FOR PICK-UP

RR:Wells:-

cc: K.Osborne/D.Livingston/M.Blackwell/F.Ryan(FYI)/CF

DUE: ASAP

Requested by Morton Blackwell

File Southern Baptist

TEXAS & SOUTHWEST

Bush supports New Right in politics

Helen Parmley
Religion Editor of The News

NEW ORLEANS — Vice President George Bush told almost 40,000 conservative Christians gathered in the Superdome Sunday that the political activity involving the New Right is as "American as apple pie."

Bush said there are Americans from both political parties who fear that the religious right wants to impose its moral values on U.S. society as a whole.

"Now if that really were the aim of the people in this country who worry about the moral drift, concern must be justified," Bush said. "On the contrary, I think this awakened concern in recent years has been an essentially healthy development in our politics."

Bush defended the politics of the New Right in a speech at an evangelistic rally held before the opening of the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention.

There is nothing un-American or unprecedented about political activity in support of principles and policies of a particular religious viewpoint, he said.

He pointed to the temperance movement, religious leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr. and William Sloan Coffin, and "today's heartfelt concern on nuclear weapons" expressed by religious groups as examples of the rights of church members to participate in the political process.

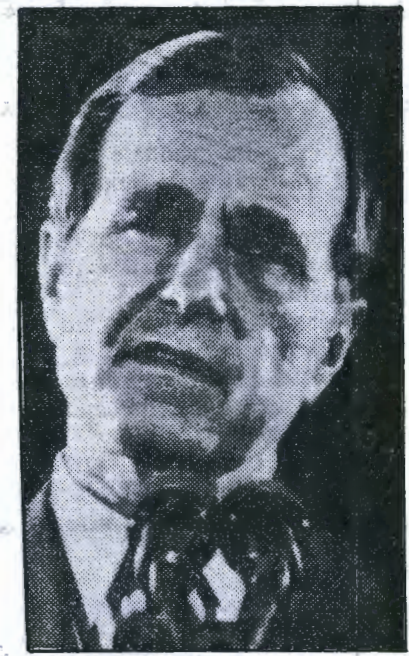
The religious right, Bush said, was organized as a reaction to a rapid social change that oc-

curred in this country during the past two decades.

A quarter of a century ago, Bush reminded the Baptists, abortion was a felony in almost every state, the use of drugs was not so widespread, pornography was sold under the counter and sexual conduct was "notably different" than today.

"In such circumstances," he said, "it was surely to be expected that individuals whose religious beliefs have been affronted by the striking social developments of these past 25 years would band together to take political action in defense of those beliefs."

He said he deplores the weakening of the family and the acceptance of the drug culture, saying they go against what he was taught by his church and parents.



"I think this awakened concern in recent years has been an essentially healthy development in our politics."

— Vice President
George Bush

PRESERVATION COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 25, 1982

TO: Morton Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President

FROM: Carol McCain, Director
White House Visitors Office

SUBJECT: Special Group Tours

Thank you for your phone request concerning a White House tour for 43 members of the First Baptist Church from Enid on Friday, June 11.

Because of the large number of visitors requesting reservations for the same day, we will be unable to provide the members of your group with a reserved tour. We hope, however, that they will take advantage of the public tour, which is from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Tuesday through Saturday. Entrance for the public tour is through the East Gate on East Executive Avenue.

Please express to your friends our best wishes for a most enjoyable visit to the White House.



Calvary Heights Baptist Church

9611 SEIGEN LANE • BATON ROUGE, LA. 70810 • 1 [504] 766-7000

August 3, 1982

Mortan C. Blackwell
The White House
Washington D. C. 20003

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Let me take this opportunity to share with you how much I appreciate you taking time to give my family a guided tour of the executive office building and the White House. I was honored that you took time from your busy schedule and that you were late for an appointment with your wife to give us a tour of our President's office area.

If at any time I can return the favor to you or be of any service to you, please do not hesitate to contact me. I remain,

Yours for Souls,

Richard White

ck

*Dr. Richard White,
Pastor*

Southern Baptist votes reflect Religious Right's influence

By Ed Briggs
Times-Dispatch Religion Writer

NEW ORLEANS — When it began in 1845, it was a group of churches that would get together annually for preaching, singing and evangelism.

The Southern Baptist Convention was the last body that a political group would want to control. It met only once a year and its proclamations were binding on no one.

But with 13.7 million members in the denomination today — the nation's largest Protestant body — the convention's annual meeting has been courted by presidents and vice presidents. This year it was influenced by those in the Religious Right in the hope of using it as a voice for their political aims.

This week found the convention endorsing voluntary prayer in public schools and the teaching of scientific creationism, both on the agenda of the Religious Right.

A resolution in support of Israel — coming as that nation invaded Lebanon and surrounded Beirut — was tabled only after Dr. R. Keith Parks, president of the Richmond-based Foreign Mission Board, convinced the author of the motion that such a measure now would damage missionary relations with the Arabs.

Those aims, all Religious Right goals, are mostly the same as

Times-Dispatch

Religion

those of fundamentalists who are dissatisfied with the theological direction of the denomination and want to change its confessional nature to that of a creedal church.

In simple terms, the confessional nature of the Southern Baptist Convention holds high the traditional Baptist concept of the "priesthood of the individual believer," which means any Baptist is free to interpret Scriptures in any way.

The fundamentalist forces, steeped in their rigid belief in a literally true Bible, want an imposition of a creedal view that says the Bible is "inerrant" — without error in its original manuscripts.

During the Southern Baptist Convention's meeting this week, the resolutions committee — which, among other stands, reported out one favoring voluntary prayer in public schools — was visited by Edward McAteer. McAteer is president of The

Religious Roundtable, one of several Religious Right groups in the nation.

On each of the controversial issues, McAteer said, he "counseled" the group in its deliberations.

Dr. Parks presented to the committee his case on the resolution supporting Israel and the damage it would do to missionary work, but the group voted 4-3 to send the measure to the floor, where like-minded fundamentalists were in control. It was then that Dr. Parks privately convinced the author of the motion to go to the convention floor and withdraw it.

One of the resolutions committee members is affiliated with The Religious Roundtable and two are members of Moral Majority Inc. Both organizations are part of the Religious Right, which made its impact on U.S. politics in the last elections.

Since its inception in 1980, The Religious Roundtable has pushed for the enactment of the school prayer amendment.

And the Rev. Jerry Falwell of Lynchburg, the founder of Moral Majority, is vitally concerned with getting accreditation from the state Board of Education for biology teachers who have been taught scientific creationism at Mr. Falwell's Liberty Baptist College.

The membership on the committee is the fruit of the work of

a group of fundamentalists, some of whom are aligned with the Religious Right. They want control of the denomination's institutions, boards and agencies.

Control of the convention's committees is determined through an appointive process that begins with the denomination's president.

For the past three years, fundamentalist delegates from churches close to the convention site have been rallied by leaders in the movement to flock to the convention and elect a fundamentalist president.

Normally they have stayed only for the election. But this year they stayed for the entire convention and, with the exception of a few setbacks, controlled it from the opening prayer until the benediction.

The connection between McAteer and the convention lies in the participation by this year's president, the Rev. Bailey Smith, in the National Affairs Briefing sponsored by McAteer's Religious Roundtable in 1980 in Dallas. Also, Dr. Adrian Rogers, who preceded Mr. Smith as president, is pastor of McAteer's church in Memphis, Tenn.

The connection also was seen Sunday when Vice President George Bush came to the convention and embraced the Religious Right by name.

PRESERVATION COPY

southern Baptist moderates asked throughout the week whether Bush really understood Southern Baptists with their broad range of theological and political views or whether he believed they are the soldiers — and voters — in the Religious Right.

Several Virginia pastors at the convention said it is unlikely that Southern Baptists in Virginia would involve themselves with the Religious Right. Their strong heritage of separation of church and state — stemming from Colonial days when they were jailed for refusing to seek preaching licenses from the state church — is more important in Virginia than, say, the West, where the heritage is revivalistic and fundamentalist, those pastors explained.

One of the enemies of the Religious Right is Dr. James Dunn, executive secretary of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, the nine-denomination Washington lobby for Baptist concerns.

Dr. Dunn was left angered by the convention's actions on the Religious Right issues. Thursday he accused the fundamentalist-Religious Right coalition of a "scurrulous, National Enquirer-type" of "carefully orchestrated and heavily organized" campaigns to push their issues through.

Next year's convention

Next year's convention in Pittsburgh will be controlled by moderates in the denomination by virtue of its location. Delegates from Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina — a moderate stronghold — are expected to be there in force.

But several in the moderate camp believe that unless moderates mount a challenge to the two-year customary tenure of the newly elected fundamentalist president, the Rev. Jimmy Draper of Euless, Texas, the denomination will continue under fundamentalist control at the convention level.

The following year, when there is an open election, the convention will be in Kansas City, Mo., a strong fundamentalist area.

Normally, the election would be open in Pittsburgh, but two years ago, Dr. Adrian Rogers, a fundamentalist pastor from Memphis, Tenn., resigned after only a year in office.

The resignation at that time put the denomination on a two-year election cycle that would see the presidency up for grabs only in fundamentalist areas.

Dr. Rogers said at the time that he was resigning because the job took too much time from his work at his church. Moderates have observed, however, that his resignation allowed for open elections only in areas friendly to fundamentalists.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
DC 20500

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WSHC

THE REV. CLEVELAND SPARROW
SPARROW WORLD BAPTIST
CORPORATION
1906 H STREET, NW
WASHINGTON DC 20006

Handwritten signature: JTB
Handwritten signature: Moran

YOU ARE CORIDALLY INVITED TO A WHITE HOUSE BRIEFING
ON PRESIDENT REAGAN'S ECONOMIC PROGRAM, WITH
SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF THE
PROGRAM ON ALL AMERICANS.

THE SPEAKERS WILL BE:

1. DR. PAUL CRAIG ROBERTS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF
TREASURY.
2. DR. JAMES MILLER, ADMINISTRATOR FOR INFORMATION
AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND
BUDGET.
3. ROBERT CARLESON, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE
PRESIDENT FOR POLICY DEVELOPMENT WHO IS EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY OF THE CABINET COUNCIL ON HUMAN SERVICES.

THE BRIEFING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, JULY 13, FROM
10AM TO 12 NOON IN ROOM 450 OF THE OLD EXECUTIVE
OFFICE BUILDING, 17TH AND PENNSYLVANIA AVENUES,
WASHINGTON, D.C. PLEASE ENTER BY 9:45 AM THROUGH
THE 17TH STREET ENTRANCE TO THE OLD EXECUTIVE OFFICE
BUILDING.

THE INVITEES INCLUDE A REPRESENTATIVE CROSS SECTION
OF D.C. AREA RELIGIOUS LEADERS AND NATIONAL DENOMI-
NATIONAL STAFF LOCATED IN THE D.C. AREA. FUTURE
BRIEFINGS WILL BE HELD FOR HEADS OF DENOMINATIONS.

WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL ATTEND AND ASK YOU TO R.S.V.P.
TO KATHY CHRISTIANSEN OR MAISELLE SHORTLEY, 456-2657
BY FRIDAY NOON, JULY 10.

ELIZABETH H. DOLE
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR PUBLIC LIAISON

06:45 EST

MGMCOMP MGM

Handwritten note: rec'd 7/20/81

5241 (R1/78)

TO REPLY BY MAILGRAM, PHONE WESTERN UNION ANY TIME, DAY OR NIGHT:

FOR YOUR LOCAL NUMBER, SEE THE WHITE PAGES

OF YOUR TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

OR

DIAL (TOLL FREE) 800-257-2241

(EXCEPT IN NEW JERSEY 800-632-2271)

OR DIAL WESTERN UNION'S INFOMASTER SYSTEM DIRECTLY:

FROM TELEX 6161

FROM TWX 910 420 1212

March 19, 1981

Dear Reverend Hall:

The President asked that I pass along his thanks for your suggestion regarding speech interpretation for the deaf. We will be looking into that.

I have passed along your interest regarding religious involvement to Mr. Morton Blackwell, Special Assistant to the President, who heads these matters.

Again, thank you for taking the time to write the President. I appreciate your blessings and thoughts.

Sincerely,

Red Cavaney
Deputy Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

John Hall, Jr.
Pastor
First Free Will Baptist Church
Post Office Box 150A
Reidsville, NC 27320

cc: Morton Blackwell

RC: c - 14

file

*Religious
group*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM

17 MARCH 1981

TO: RED CAVANEY

FROM: TRICIA RODGERS *TR*

The attached letter from the Reverend John Hall is forwarded for your reply. Reverend Hall is suggesting that the President's remarks be signed for the deaf, and is requesting to attend a breakfast or serve on a religious council.

Thank you.

*For the
Conferences*

FIRST

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Rte. 2 • Box 150A • Reidsville, North Carolina 27320
(919) 349-2571
JOHN HALL, JR. • Pastor

Grey

February 12, 1981

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

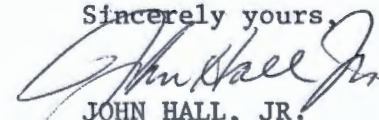
Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to first say congratulations on a great victory against an incumbent president. I am a fundamentalist and very conservative Republican. I pastor the fastest growing church in my town. We are opening a Day Care and Family Center in March of this year.

My second reason for writing is to offer a suggestion. There has never been a President in modern history who has had interpreters for the deaf. I believe it would be a tremendous asset to your Presidency to see all of your press conferences and speeches interpreted for the deaf. You are a man who has great magnitude and tremendous influence; and these people who are so many times in the dark could really see for the first time someone in the White House who cares. In a time of much talk about minorities and minority interest, this could and would not only be impressive to them; but think of others (such as myself, who can speak and converse normally) how they would believe and know that Ronnie Reagan is a man with compassion.

Thirdly, is there a Prayer Breakfast or a council on Religion or Religious Ethics that I could attend? Mr. President, I pray for you daily. It would be a very high honor to meet you, I know you are very busy; but if I could have but a half minute, it would be an experience I've treasured since your election. We all love you here. May God bless you and continue to lead you as you lead our country.

Sincerely yours,


JOHN HALL, JR.
Pastor

JLH:soh

"A CHURCH WHERE YOU ARE MORE THAN
WELCOME... YOU ARE WANTED."

Bellvue

BAPTIST CHURCH

70 NORTH BELLEVUE BOULEVARD
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38104

February 25, 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell
128 Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Because you receive so many calls and letters, let me remind you of our telephone conversation.

Ed McAteer called you about the possibility of our group (The Metro Youth Ministers Association) presenting a scripture plaque to President Reagan. But, by the time we made connection with you by phone, we had already toured the White House and taken the plaque to the mail room.

You very graciously offered to have the President send each of our group a response letter if I would enclose a list of names.

I want to thank you on behalf of the group for your kindness and willingness to serve. I hope to meet you in person some time.

With Sincere Thanks in Christ,


Dan W. Carter, Chairman
Metro Youth Ministers Association

DWC:eh
Enclosure

response
w/draft
for Pres. sig.

OK

Lloyd Arnsmeyer
South Main Baptist
4100 South Main
Houston, TX 77002

Ron Beckner
First Baptist-Ferguson
333 N. Florissant Road
St. Louis, MO 63135

Richard Blythe
First Baptist
100 E. Pine Street
Orlando, FL 32801

Eddie Cantu
Hoffmantown Baptist
2335 Wyoming Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM
87112

Dan Carter
Bellevue Baptist
70 N. Bellevue
Memphis, TN 38104

Jon Cook
First Baptist
403 S. Cincinnati
Tulsa, OK 74103

Greg Davis
First Baptist
1200 Ninth Street
Wichita Falls, TX 76301

Rick Dill
Wieuca Road Baptist
3636 Peachtree Rd. NE
Atlanta, GA 30326

Bruce Edwards
Eastside Baptist
2450 Lower Rosewell Road
Marietta, GA 30067

Jeana Fortenberry
Dawson Memorial Baptist
1114 Oxmoor Road
Birmingham, AL 35209

Roger Glidewell
Trinity Baptist
319 E. Mulberry
San Antonio TX 78212

Ted Kitchens
Sagamore Hills Baptist
4400 Panola
Ft. Worth, TX 76103

Keith Kline
Sunday School Board
127 Ninth Avenue, North
Nashville, Tn 37234

Franklin Krause
Green Acres Baptist
1612 Leon Lynn
Tyler TX 75701

Don Mapes
North Phoenix Baptist
5757 North Central
Phoenix, AZ 85012

Robbie Mullins
First Baptist
P. O. Box 188
Hurst, TX 76053

Val Robinson
2nd Ponce de Leon Baptist
2715 Peachtree Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30305

David Self
First Southern Baptist
P. O. Box 15039
Del City, OK 73115

Lynn Bullock
First Southern Baptist
P. O. Box 15039
Del City, OK 73115

Sonny Smith
Walnut Street Baptist
Corner 3rd and St. Catherine
Louisville, KY 40203

Steve Ware
Briarlake Baptist
3715 LaVista
Decatur, GA 30033

Doug Wood
Champion Forst Baptist
12501 Champion Forest
Houston, TX 77066

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 22, 1981

TO: Mary Power - Gifts

FROM: Kathy Christiansen - Morton
Blackwell's office x. 2657

Per our phone conversation, I am forwarding to you this letter. If appropriate thank yous have not been sent out, we would appreciate your office - or correspondence - to send these out.

Thank you.

MEMORANDUM

FOR: SCHEDULING

FROM: CORRESPONDENCE ANALYSIS

Do you want to respond to scheduling *no*
request?

If not, please forward to:

Staff _____

Special Reply _____

Reply Processing _____

Central Files
for Referral

*E. Dale - MORTON: for
your attention*

file

American Baptist Churches of Pennsylvania and Delaware

Valley Forge, Pennsylvania 19481

Dr. R. Eugene Crow, Executive Minister Phone: 215-768-2224



Scheduling

March 10, 1981

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As one who was a co-signer for the open letter from national religious leaders asking you to speak out on human rights in order to save lives, I'm writing to you to urge that you be open to the reception of a delegation of national religious leaders to meet with you personally to express the concerns voiced in the letter.

I call attention to the fact that among those who are signers are not only people of my own denomination but people of a very wide variety representing the religious community in America.

I would certainly hope that your office will be open to receiving this delegation.

Respectfully yours,

R. Eugene Crow

REC:ngm

cc: Clergy and Laity Concerned

SEARCH - QUERY
00006 CLERGY AND LAITY

012742 DOCUMENT= 1 OF 1

ACTDATE = 810316
ADDNUMB =
CREDATE = 810314
DOCDATE = 810311
DSPDATE = 810316
NAME = BELLAGAMBA
RCVDATE = 810313
RECID = 012742
STATE = DC
UPDATE = 810317
ZIP = 20036

RECTYP IBA
MEDIA L
STAFF PRESIDENT REAGAN
PRREAG
NAME THE REVEREND ANTHONY BELLAGAMBA
TITLE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
ORG UNITED STATES CATHOLIC MISSION
COUNCIL
ADDR WASHINGTON DC 20036
STREET SUITE 702
1302 EIGHTEENTH STREET, NW
SUBJECT REFERS TO OPEN LETTER IN THE NEW YORK TIMES
REQUESTING PRESIDENT TO SPEAK OUT ON HUMAN
RIGHTS. SUPPORTS PROPOSAL OF CLERGY AND LAITY
CONCERNED THAT THE PRESIDENT MEET WITH
THEM
SUBCODE HU
PRO07 RM031
INDCODE 4500
RPTCODE MI
ACTION SCRAWL ORG 810316 NAN C 810316
PLDOLE RSA 810317

R0601 * END OF DOCUMENTS IN LIST - ENTER RETURN OR ANOTHER COMMAND.

*File
Pres Messages*

May 8, 1981

Dear Dr. Rogers:

The celebration of your 30th anniversary in the Baptist ministry is a very special and memorable occasion, and Nancy and I are delighted to join with your family and friends in saying congratulations.

Your accomplishments and dedication are well known. You not only serve as minister of the second largest Baptist Church in the United States but also as President of the Southern Baptist Convention.

We are proud to be a part of this tribute to you and, again, send our congratulations and warm personal regard.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

The Reverend Adrian Rogers, D.D.

Memphis, Tennessee 38104

Sent to: The Reverend Elmer Bailey
Post Office Box 40837
Memphis, Tennessee 38104

RR:Livingston:sew
cc: H.vonDamm/M.Shortley/A.Higgins(FYI)/D.Livingston/CF
EVENT: MAY 17

*Copy sent to
Ed McAteer*

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Pending

May 6, 1981

TO: Claudia Korte

FROM: Maiselle Shortley

A message should be prepared for

Dr. Adrian Rogers
P.O. Box 40837
Memphis, Tenn. 38104

on behalf of his 30th anniversary in the Baptist ministry. He is also President of the Southern Baptist Convention. However, the message should be sent to Rev. Elmer Bailey at the above address before May 17, who will present it to Dr. Rogers at a special event.

THANKS

May 4, 1981

Answer [initials]

*file
Baptist*

Dear Mr. Younger:

Thank you for your letter to the President. He deeply shares your concerns about human rights in El Salvador and in every nation.

The President would appreciate being able to converse personally with you and a delegation from the American Baptist Churches of New Jersey about the issues you have discussed in your letter and regrets that he is unable to meet with you at this time.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Newell
Special Assistant
to the President

The Reverend George D. Younger
American Baptist Churches of
New Jersey
161 Freeway Drive East
East Orange, NJ 07018

cc & inc: Red Cavaney
GJN:cv:emb-22a

REQUEST FOR FILE SERVICE

Tricia

To: Chief of Files, Central Files

From: Mary Rowland

Name
Please furnish the following

Office

- Communication(s) referred to me
- Entire file on writer
- Entire file on organization
- Request(s) other than above (Specify) _____

NO FILE

by 4/21/89

??
 Review p
 found p
 Red action
 for
 TA
 4/22

- Salutation (The President)
- Salutation (other) _____

Specify

- Address (Business)
- Address (Home)

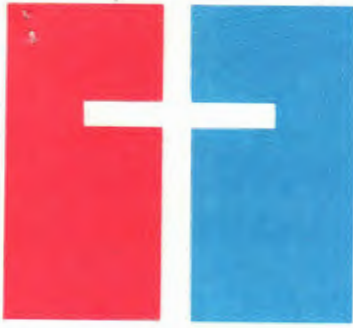
Not ready to be
 used + ...

DATE: 4/20

TO: Scheduling

(see A 3)

FROM: J. Cave
Sharleen Volpe
 Special Reply
 Presidential Correspondence
 Room 91, Ext. 2278



AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF NEW JERSEY

161 FREEWAY DRIVE EAST, EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY 07018

(201) 676-5015

Executive Minister, GEORGE D. YOUNGER

February 18, 1981

JMH
President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Reagan:

I am one of the religious leaders who helped to develop and signed a letter which was hand delivered to you, as well as mailed to your Washington, D.C. transition office, on December 17, 1980. We were deeply concerned about your possible stand and action in the field of human rights.

I understand that the only response you have made to the letter was an acknowledgment, dated January 6, 1981, that it had been received. I am deeply disappointed that you did not take our statement more seriously or consider directly the substance of the issues we were raising.

I am writing to request that you receive a delegation from our group to talk further about the substance of the letter. Since I have known Ernest V. Lefever for a number of years, I know that he brings a questionable stance to the field of human rights. Also, the situation in El Salvador continues to worsen and more lives are being lost. We need to consider the situation of many persons who, while sympathetic to the needs of the people, have not joined the guerillas nor have given aid and comfort to the overthrow of the present leadership. However, these are the precise persons who are being killed and wounded at the present time, not those on either of the extremes.

I am sorry that your administration will not take a more forthright stance in relation to human rights in nations like El Salvador. We need, of course, to consider the issues that have resulted in armed conflict. However, we need even more urgently to address the economic, social and political issues which have kept that country from being served by its properly elected leadership and from having the legitimate aspirations of its citizens realized.

I look forward to receiving some form of correspondence from your office which is more than a formal acknowledgment. In addition, I hope that you will have the decency to be willing to converse directly with those of us who have a deep concern for our brothers and sisters around the world, as well as for the achievement of peace and justice in all parts of the world.

Shalom,

George D. Younger
George D. Younger

GDY:bab

cc: Rev. John Collins
Sr. Blaise Lupo, MM

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
(Classified)

S/S-I

S/S # 8115235

Date 5/14/81

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR: Mr. Richard V. Allen
National Security Council
The White House

REFERENCE:

TO: The President FROM: Robert C. Campbell
DATE: 3/26/81 SUBJECT: Opposes and invitation
to the President of South Africa to visit the United States
WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: 5/11/81 NSC #
(if any)

THE ATTACHED ITEM WAS SENT DIRECTLY
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION TAKEN:

- A draft reply is attached.
- A draft reply will be forwarded.
- A translation is attached.
- An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.
- Other.

REMARKS:

for Angel Ruben
L. Paul Bremer, III
Executive Secretary

June 2, 1981

Mr. Robert C. Campbell
General Secretary
American Baptist Churches in the U.S.
Valley Forge, Pennsylvania 19401

Dear Mr. Campbell:

I am responding to your mailgram of March 20, 1981 to President Reagan concerning the possibility of an invitation being issued for a U.S. visit by the South African Prime Minister.

This Administration's approach toward South Africa is predicated on the assumption that consultation and communication with the South African Government are necessary elements of our diplomatic relations and will contribute to peaceful solutions to many of the outstanding problems of southern Africa, such as the Namibia question. Although we are not planning to invite South African Prime Minister P.W. Botha to the U.S., we are prepared to discuss the problems of Namibia and southern Africa with officials of the South African Government as well as the governments of other interested parties. It is in this context that events such as the May 13-16 visit of South African Foreign Minister R.F. Botha to the United States should be viewed.

In closing, let me emphasize that this Administration abhors apartheid, a policy of the South African Government repugnant to American values. We will support peaceful evolutionary change leading to a stable, nonracialist political system in South Africa.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Hare
Director, Office of Southern
African Affairs

04
200
THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

MAY 11, 1981

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 015853

MEDIA: MAILGRAM DATED MARCH 26, 1981

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. ROBERT E. CAMPBELL
GENERAL SECRETARY
AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES IN THE
USA
VALLEY FORGE PA 19481

SUBJECT: OPPOSES ANY INVITATION TO THE PRESIDENT OF
SOUTH AFRICA TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL — IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7496.

RETURN BASIC CORRESPONDENCE, CONTROL SHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 33, THE WHITE HOUSE

BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT:
LESLIE SORG
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

81 MAY 15 11:07

R

ROLETOWN, VA. 22645



1-012002I085 03/26/81 TWX AMBAPCHUR KOPR WSHC
006 KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 3/26/81

8115235

E. Pale

PRESIDENT REAGAN
WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002

015853

AMERICAN BAPTISTS HAVE CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED AFRICAN PEOPLE IN THEIR DESIRE FOR LIBERTY AND JUSTICE AND HAVE CONDEMNED APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL BOARD OF THE DENOMINATION EXPRESSES ITS CONCERN AND DISMAY FOR YOUR INVITATION TO INVITE THE PRESIDENT OF SOUTH AFRICA TO OUR COUNTRY. WE BELIEVE A WITHDRAWAL OF THIS INVITATION WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE YOUR STATURE AT HOME AND ABROAD.

ROBERT C. CAMPBELL
AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES IN THE USA
GENERAL SECRETARY
VALLEY FORGE, PA 19481
TWX 510-660-2443

15:20 EST
MGMCOMP MGM



Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs

200 MARYLAND AVENUE, N. E. WASHINGTON, D. C. 20002
(202) 544-4226

August 17, 1981

James M. Dunn
Executive Director

J. Scott Leake
First Baptist Church
2103 Tarleton Drive
Charlottesville, Virginia 22901

Dear Brother Leake:

Thank you for caring enough about your Christian citizenship to outline your concerns in a letter to several of us. The greatest danger faced by our democracy is the apathy of citizens who do not care enough.

However, I would hope that you and others will hear the basic message we want to communicate. You might be right about the long-term economic policies. At several points on the program each one of us tried our best to make it clear that we were not addressing overall economic philosophy.

We did want to alert churches and churchmen to several concerns:

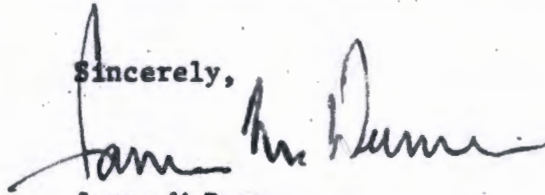
1. In the immediate future, at least, there will be a significant number of people who will suffer from various aspects of the budget cuts. This is not mere opinion. It is carefully researched, documented, and agreed upon by virtually all authorities including several administration spokespersons and the President himself who has indicated that he anticipates the need for the churches, individuals, and the private sector to do more in meeting human need. We agree with him on that.
2. The churches are doing much and can and should do more to meet the needs of those who are hungry, naked, homeless. (Matthew 25) In Jesus' name, we certainly cannot do less.
3. It is highly unlikely that all the churches forces together can bridge the gap. We live in a complex, urban world in which the churches for years have been depending upon community, public delivery of services. That cannot be remedied overnight. In the meantime, children, especially, go hungry.

J. Scott Leake
August 17, 1981
Page - 2 -

4. There is great potential for growth in the entire situation. Church members could become more aware of those about them who are neglected and in need. The churches could assume a greater responsibility in working for justice, meeting basic human needs, and proclaiming the whole Gospel for the whole person.

Our Home Mission Board is striving valiantly to lead us in this regard: ethnic ministries, human needs surveys, a national hunger consultant, etc. etc. It is my prayer that we may all channel our energies and critical faculties into that constructive work. It's the very work of God.

Sincerely,



James M. Dunn

JMD/klm

cc: Dr. Julian Pentecost, The Religious Herald
✓ Mr. Morton Blackwell, Special Assistant to the President
Dr. Jimmy Allen, Radio & TV Commission, S.B.C.



JIMMY R. ALLEN
President

RADIO AND TELEVISION COMMISSION
SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION
6350 West Freeway / Fort Worth, Texas 76150 / 817-737-4011

August 20, 1981

Mr. J. Scott Leake
2103 Tarleton Drive
Charlottesville, Virginia 22901

Dear Brother Leake:

I appreciate your sharing a copy of your letter expressing concern about the NBC television program "Unto the Least of These." As you know, the Radio and Television Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention responds to NBC's request for assistance in fashioning its religious programming. In this instance, the program was designed to examine the increased responsibility of churches in light of the directions of funding which our society is taking concerning programs to assist the poor.

The program was timed to follow the time of congressional decision making on the budget cuts to diffuse the partisan political impact and try to examine the real issue. The real issue is what will the religious community and the private enterprise community be called upon to do to reflect the compassion that Christ has commanded in meeting the needs of human beings who are trapped in poverty.

Participants in the program were selected for their particular exposure and expertise to the problem. An attempt was made to balance the program on points of view as to whether or not the budget cuts should have been done. More than one point of view was certainly expressed about that part of the issue.

The program had in it two persons who were directly related to the poor in their ministries with a Black Southern Baptist pastor from the Bronx in New York and an Anglo home missionary who works among the Yaqui Indians in Tucson, Arizona. Two Southern Baptist executives, one charged with keeping up with the impact of government on church state relations and the other charged with the responsibility for fashioning strategy of missions among the poor across the nation, were included in the panel.

In examining the material sent out to stir viewer interest in the program, I concur with your concern that too much attention was given to the differing opinions of the participants about the wisdom of the action and not enough about the positive response which must be taken

in light of the action. However, I believe it is the task of Christians in media to raise moral questions about response to gospel principles for our action with the prayer that the Spirit of God will help us to reflect Christ's attitude in our actions.

If you would like to be in further discussion about the ideas raised in the program, I'm listing the names and addresses of the participants.

Sincerely yours,

Jimmy R. Allen

jb

cc: Dr. James Dunn, Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs
✓ Mr. Morton Blackwell, Special Assistant to the President for
Public Liaison
The Editor, The Religious Herald

Dr. William Tanner
Home Mission Board
Southern Baptist Convention
1350 Spring Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

Dr. James Dunn
Baptist Joint Committee
on Public Affairs
200 Maryland Avenue, NE
Washington, D. C. 20002

Reverend Sammy Simpson
Bronx Baptist Church
331 East 187th Street
Bronx, New York 10458

Reverend Ross Hanna
P. O. Box 50381
Tucson, Arizona 85703