

Air Force Manual

WHEREAS the subject of Communist infiltration of the National Council of Churches has been made a public issue through the Air Force Reserve Manual controversy; and

WHEREAS the Defense Department initially yielded to pressure from the National Council of Churches to withdraw the manual containing this study of Communist infiltration techniques; and

WHEREAS the House Committee of Un-American Activities has since disclosed that "the leadership of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America . . . has over 100 persons in leadership capacity with either Communist-front records or records of service to Communist causes" with "aggregate affiliations . . . into the thousands;" and

WHEREAS the contents of the manual, which never have been successfully disproved, are being falsely described by critics as a slanderous attack on faithful churches and clergy in general; and

WHEREAS the Communist Party USA in the 1930s reportedly adopted the strategy of future infiltration of religious circles as a "major tactic;" and

WHEREAS various of our affiliated pastors have, through the years, called attention to the identification of many liberal clergyman with known Communist-front activities; and

WHEREAS the Honorable J. Edgar Hoover has called on all Americans to join in resisting the renewed internal Communist menace;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the messengers of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, numbering over 900 congregations, assembled at Long Beach, California, for the 29th annual conference, June 20-24, 1960, go on record as expressing regret that the Air Force manual was withdrawn and urging that the Defense Department reconsider issuance of this vital information; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we commend the members of the House Committee on Un-American Activities for their patriotic service in exposing Communist infiltration of religious organizations and refusing to retreat under pressure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge the House Committee on Un-American Activities be continued and that it carry out a full and complete investigation into the extent of Communist penetration of religious organizations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon our affiliated churches to join in the effort of exposing Communism in whatever way possible.

*June 20-24, 1960
Long Beach, California*