

Office of Religious Policy

The General Association of Regular Baptist Churches in session in Chicago, Illinois, May 11, records its unalterable opposition to the establishment by the United States Information Agency, an agency of the United States Government, of an office of "Religious Policy" and the appointment of a "Chief of Religious Policy."

It is our conviction that the establishment of such an office and the appointment of such an officer are direct violations of the First Amendment of the Federal Constitution which guarantees the separation of Church and State.

The implementation of this office will result in evil in many directions, not the least of which will be discrimination against minority religious groups as already evidenced by the reaction of Dr. Elton Trueblood, present "Chief" to the resolution on this subject passed by the American Council of Christian Churches meeting in its Spring rally in Johnson City, NY, April 29, when he released to the press the statement that the American Council of Christian Churches "do not have enough standing in American church circles to warrant further comment."

Dr. Trueblood's above statement is characteristic of the modernistic, socialistic, and pacifistic religious groups represented by Dr. Trueblood, and is not only a violation of the constitutional guarantee of the equality of all religious bodies before the law, regardless of creed or size, but constitutes a contemptuous disregard for the religious convictions of God-fearing and American-loving people.

We therefore, call upon the people of America, regardless of their religious affiliations, to petition the Congress for redress of this justifiable grievance.

*Chicago, Illinois
May 10-13, 1954*