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NRB Convention Doesn't Invite Clinton

INDIANAPOLIS - National Religious Broadcasters (NRB) held its 53rd annual convention, February 3-6.

On the whole, NRB '96 seemed to be quite pro-Israel. The morning the exhibits opened, NRB sponsored an Israel Prayer Breakfast. NRB President E. Brandt Gustavson began the prayer breakfast with prayers for the people of Israel and the Peace of Jerusalem.

Breaking with NRB tradition, an invitation was not extended to the President of the United States to address the convention. NRB Presi-

dent Gustavson said Mr. Clinton "was not invited because the organization didn't want to invite him." It was explained that, "As Believers, we are admonished to pray for those in authority. However, we cannot give a platform to a leader who so aggressively supports and sets forth policies and positions that are blatantly contrary to scriptural views."

Among the many exhibitors, there was a Messianic presence. Ted Simon and Jeffrey Miller had a booth for their radio show, "Messianic Minutes." There was also

"Yeshua's Ministry," run by Mike Hodapp, which is a home in Colorado for handicapped children.

Some interesting NRB facts:

Religious radio is 12.5 percent of the entire radio industry and 1,463 radio stations claim to have formats that are primarily religious. Religious radio has seen a 48% increase in the last 10 years.

Religious television is 7% of the entire television industry, 111 television stations claim to have formats that are primarily religious. Religious television has grown 34 percent in the last 10 years.