

MONDAY MORNING

On Tuesday evening, July 1, however, a similar resolution on Vietnam was proposed by the Report Committee on the Board for Homeland Ministries and was adopted.

The General Synod then requested that these two resolutions be combined into a single unified statement, which was done. The text of the joint statement will be found in the minutes of the session on Wednesday afternoon, July 2.

National Priorities and Arms Control

The Seventh General Synod of the United Church of Christ welcomes the growing debate in our society about whether or not to deploy an Anti-Ballistic Missile system and whether to continue testing Multiple Independently-Targeted Re-entry Vehicles (MIRV). Such debate points to the momentous consequences of these decisions for the arms race, the pursuit of peace, and the priorities of our nation in every realm of domestic and foreign policy.

This General Synod acknowledges that there are risks in any conceivable United States decision. However, we believe that the risks of escalation of the arms race are immeasurably more difficult to justify in this instance than the risks of restraint.

Consistent with the 1959 declaration of the General Synod in its "Call to Christian Action in Society" that "a drastic reduction in the present level of national armaments is imperative," and in order to strengthen the nation,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Seventh General Synod urge our government

1. To press forward promptly with Strategic Arms Limitation Talks.
2. Not to deploy the Anti-Ballistic Missile system.
3. To cease testing of Multiple Independently-targeted Re-entry Vehicles,
4. To ratify the 1925 Geneva protocol against the use of chemical and biological warfare.
5. To change national priorities by directing vast human and economic resources to rebuild decaying cities and support emerging nations, instead of continuing to waste these funds on weapons systems of dubious value.

Upon motion, duly seconded, it was

69-GS-71 VOTED: The General Synod adopts the resolution on National Priorities and Arms Control and instructs the Secretary of the Church to urge points 1 and 2 upon the members of the Congress of the United States.

Investments

On behalf of the Report Committee, Chairman Parkerson proposed a substitute for the resolution to establish a Committee on Financial Responsibility which was already in the hands of the delegates.

In a series of motions during debate, the General Synod voted to amend the substitute motion by

- a. changing the name "Committee on Financial Responsibility" to "Committee on Financial Investments";
- b. making the date to report the results of deliberation to the Executive Council;
- c. including "the Council of Conference Executives" in paragraph 3, and inserting "and Conferences" after "national Instrumentalities" in paragraph 4;
- d. specifying that there be one representative from each agency comprising the committee;