

eral Synod was felt that morning many television stations were present. However, at the time of reconciliation, there was no television coverage. Standing Rule #41 was cited regarding photographs on the plenary floor. The Business Committee announced that the video clips would be made available.

#### 14. ADDRESS BY COMADRES

Rev. Avery Post introduced the speakers for that afternoon who were members of the COMADRES, representing the Mothers of the Missing in Central America. Ms. America Sosa and Ms. Maria Teresa Tuilio addressed the body. Ms. Patricia Rumer, Regional Secretary for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Church Board for World Ministries, provided the translation.

Both women spoke of the plight of missing family members, of torture and psychological pain they have experienced in El Salvador and of their commitment to speak out against the government of El Salvador. (See Appendix I.)

As Ms. Tuilio first began speaking two, then three, then six, and more, and more delegates came up to the platform to stand in solidarity. Eventually all who were able in the whole body were standing.

Ms. America Sosa concluded with a Resolution for the body. She asked the General Synod to commit its faith and solidarity to the support of the El Salvadoran people and extended an invitation to the United Church of Christ to come to El Salvador in November, 1987 to attend the seventh Congress which will address the plight of family members being held by the government. Attendance will help ensure that the meeting of this Congress will be held in safety. She further stated that their family members were taken alive and that they want them back safely.

87-GS-69 VOTED: The Sixteenth General Synod adopts the statement of support in the struggle for peace and justice of the Salvadoran people.

##### Support of the Salvadoran People

WHEREAS, the existence of more than 70,000 dead from the noncombatant civilian population;

WHEREAS, there are 7,000 captured or disappeared and more than 1,000 political prisoners, and

WHEREAS, contrary to what President Duarte says, human rights continue to be violated;

WHEREAS, in the last months violence has increased against humanitarian and religious organizations as in the case of the break-in of the offices of the Lutheran Church in El Salvador and a bomb in the offices of the COMADRES;

WHEREAS, the hunger strike of the three mothers who received the threats and blows - the mothers converted into peace occupation of the cathedral, and when the mothers

asked for the aid of Bishop Rosa Chavez, he threatened them with ex-communication, because they were occupying a church;

WHEREAS, more than the attacks on all sectors, threats continue by death squads, especially to the Human Rights Commission, CODEFAM, CRIPDES, and the National University; WHEREAS, there are thousands of Salvadorans deported because of the newly passed immigration law;

WHEREAS, President Duarte has shown his weakness in three years of governing in not controlling abuses of the authorities and death squads;

WHEREAS, the United States press pays little attention to events in El Salvador which affect the work in Congress;

WHEREAS, the United States spends two million dollars in economic and military aid to prolong the civil war;

THEREFORE, the Sixteenth General Synod, committed in faith and solidarity with those who suffer most - who are the image and reflection of Christ - accompany and support in the struggle for peace and justice the Salvadoran people.

#### 15. SUNDAY OFFERING RECEIPTS ANNOUNCED

The Assistant Moderator, Rev. G. Melvin Palmer was welcomed back to the podium. He announced that the Sunday Offering for the Archives of the United Church of Christ totaled \$12,653.45. He then called for the report of Committee 11.

#### 16. THE LOCATION OF THE NATIONAL OFFICES

Mr. Malcolm McLean, Chair of Committee 11, gave a brief history of the work of the Committee on Location of the National Headquarters under the leadership of Rev. David Jamieson. The Synod discussed this issue at length.

A motion was made by Mr. William Cousins (ILL) to amend the committee recommendation by deleting the words "select one of the following three cities as National headquarters site: Cleveland, New York, St. Louis" and adding the following: "Be free to consider all feasible metropolitan areas and will select one site as the national headquarters site." The motion failed.

The Moderator announced that deliberation on the Resolution "Location of the National Headquarters" would continue at the evening plenary.

Rev. Elizabeth Endicott, Business Committee, called for the order of the day. The motion carried.

#### 17. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Assistant Moderator, Rev. G. Melvin Palmer, called on Secretary Carol Joyce Brun for the announcements.

#### 18. RECESS

The Sixteenth General Synod was declared in recess until 7:00 p.m.

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Assistant Moderator, Rev. G. Melvin Palmer, called the Sixteenth General Synod to order. He indicated that the matter before the Synod was the Location of National Headquarters.

#### 2. LOCATION OF NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

The matter under discussion was the substitute motion, "The Location of the National Headquarters of the United Church of Christ," submitted by the Missouri and Illinois South Conferences, and found on Page 25 of the Advance Materials,