

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,

Section III, for the pending motion to adopt the report of Committee."

During discussion the Moderator called for a vote to suspend the rules and extend debate for fifteen minutes. Debate was closed at 7:40 p.m.

Rev. Jody Ondich-Batson (NEB) moved that written ballots be used. The motion was defeated.

In accordance with a request from the floor, a moment of silence and prayer was observed.

The vote on the substitute motion was defeated—335 in favor, 366 opposed.

Mr. Walter Thyng (ILL) moved to change the list of cities in the last sentence of the second paragraph of the resolved section so that it reads: Chicago, Cleveland, New York, and St. Louis metropolitan areas. Following discussion the motion was defeated.

Mr. Jim Jensen (IK) moved to amend in Paragraph 2 after "Therefore, be it resolved" the following: "Building on the effective work conducted by the previous committee on location of the national headquarters, the new committee will select one of the following two cities as national headquarters site—Cleveland or St. Louis." Following discussion the motion was defeated.

Rev. David Stephens (SC) moved to amend Paragraph 3 under the first "Therefore, be it resolved" on Page 29 of the Committee Report to delete the sentence: "The committee is expected to follow the criteria accepted by the previous committee with additional attention directed to worship opportunities, taking into account the diversity of the United Church of Christ." Following discussion the motion was defeated.

Following additional discussion on the Committee recommendation, it was

87-GS-70 VOTED: The Sixteenth General Synod adopts the recommendation on the Location of the National Offices.

Resolution Regarding The Location Of The National Offices

WHEREAS, the Twelfth General Synod in 1979 expressed its "concern that our national offices be operated in an efficient, cooperative, economical and accessible location," and

WHEREAS, the Twelfth General Synod voted that the Executive Council, in consultation with the instrumentalities, agencies and the Council of Conference Ministers, study, evaluate and report to the General Synod on the location of the national offices on a two-Synod lead time prior to expiration of the present leases, and

WHEREAS, the Fifteenth General Synod (1985) received the report of the Executive Council on the Location of the National Headquarters and authorized the Executive Council to explore alternate sites as outlined in the report and present recommendations to the Sixteenth General Synod (1987), and

WHEREAS, the recommendations of the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ call for a delay to the Seventeenth General Synod to name the city where the national headquarters will be located,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Sixteenth General Synod asks the Executive Council to appoint promptly a Committee on Location of the National Headquarters, representing the diversity of the United Church of Christ and including the following persons:

one representative from each of the six regions of the United Church of Christ;
 one executive from a recognized instrumentality;
 one executive from an established instrumentality;
 one person from the COREM representation on the Executive Council;
 one member of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Executive Council;
 one conference minister; one of the three officers of the church.

It shall be the responsibility of this committee to conduct appropriate site research, to maintain continuing dialogue and consultation with the Executive Council, and to make a final site selection report to the Executive Council in the Fall of 1988. Building on the effective work conducted by the previous Committee on Location of the National Headquarters, the new committee will select one of the following three cities as national headquarters site: Cleveland, New York, St. Louis. The new committee will review with, and seek the approval of, the Executive Council for criteria to be used in carrying out its responsibilities. The committee is expected to follow the criteria accepted by the previous committee with additional attention directed to worship opportunities, taking into account the diversity of the United Church of Christ.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Sixteenth General Synod asks the Executive Council prior to the Seventeenth General Synod (1989) to seek favorable decisions from the recognized and established instrumentalities and national bodies to locate their major offices at the national headquarters, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Sixteenth General Synod instructs the Stewardship Council, in consultation with the Finance and Budget Committee of the Executive Council, to conduct a study and develop a plan to secure the necessary funds from the United Church of Christ beyond those provided by the city and the state of the site city. A preliminary report on methodology will be presented at the Fall 1987 meeting of the Executive Council, with a final report and recommendation to the Fall 1988 Executive Council meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Sixteenth General Synod asks that at the Fall 1988 meeting of the Executive Council, the site to be recommended to the General Synod will be reported. If a new site is selected, the Committee on Location will negotiate the appropriate details for the move following discussion with the Executive Council. The Committee on Location will make its final report to the Executive Council at the Spring, 1989 meeting, noting the details of the recommendation the Committee on Location will make to the Seventeenth General Synod.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Seventeenth General Synod (1989) will give final approval of the site for the national headquarters. If necessary, the Seventeenth General Synod will authorize temporary offices to be established in the site city immediately, until permanent offices can be established, with the understanding that all elected officers of the United Church of Christ and all other offices located at 105 Madison Avenue will assume their responsibilities at the selected site before the end of the lease in 1989 at 105 Madison Avenue, with all other national offices' moves encouraged to be completed by the next General Synod meeting in 1991.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Sixteenth General Synod asks the Executive Council to authorize funds for the work of the Committee on Location of the National Headquarters from interest earned on time deposits of the United Church of Christ.