

conferences, and agencies to pray for people and churches in the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa, which include South Africa's neighboring nations, and to establish sister church relations, utilize visitors from Southern Africa, and in other ways to educate themselves to the problems of nations neighboring South Africa, plagued with economic sabotage and guerrilla warfare instigated and funded by South Africa.

8. Calls upon all instrumentalities, agencies, national bodies, conferences, associations, congregations, and members of the United Church of Christ to urge the United States Government to support with economic assistance Southern African Governments which are suffering from South African military and/or economic sabotage.
9. Calls upon the United Church Board for World Ministries working with the Implementation Committee to encourage churches and ecumenical groups in Great Britain, Germany, The Netherlands, and Switzerland vigorously to pursue economic pressure strategies, full divestment and the adoption of comprehensive economic sanctions by their respective governments.
10. Calls upon the President of the United Church of Christ on behalf of General Synod Sixteen to express its solidarity with the South African Council of Churches, to extend its appreciation to Rev. Beyers Naude for his leadership as its past General Secretary, to congratulate Rev. Frank Chikane, the newly elected General Secretary, and to affirm its ongoing support of him in his new office.
11. Mandates the United Church Board for World Ministries and the Commission for Racial Justice and its Committee on the Implementation of the Pronouncement on United Church of Christ Full Divestment of All Financial Resources from All Corporations Doing Business with South Africa (Implementation Committee) to continue to provide leadership and coordination within the life of the whole church toward the fulfillment of the goals of the Pronouncement and the advocacy contained in this action and to make a comprehensive report on the progress of the United Church of Christ to the Seventeenth General Synod and to all future General Synods until the apartheid system is abolished.

#### 7. RESOLUTION "U.S. INTERVENTION IN THE PHILIPPINES"

The Moderator called on Mr. Eugene Walther, Chairperson of Committee 13, who moved the Sixteenth General Synod adopt the Resolution "U.S. Intervention in the Philippines."

A request was granted for voice without vote for this issue only to Ms. Young-Mi-Pak and Rev. Ching-fen Hsiao.

Following discussion Mr. Donald A. Ostwald moved an amendment on Page 31 of the Committee Report by striking the words in Paragraph 1: And the continued presence of the U.S. Military base.

The Business Committee suggested that the session be extended by thirty minutes, which was agreed by the delegation.

Following discussion on the amendment, the motion was defeated.

After additional discussion on the Resolution, the question was called and it was

87-GS-73 VOTED: The Sixteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution "U.S. Intervention in the Philippines."

#### U.S. Intervention in the Philippines

Theological Premise:

Habakkuk 2:6-14

"Will not all of them taunt that person with ridicule and scorn

saying, Woe to the person who piles up stolen goods and makes himself wealthy by extortion! How long must this go on? Will not your debtors suddenly arise? Will they not wake up and make you tremble? Then you will become their victim. Because you have plundered many nations, the peoples who are left will plunder you. For you have shed people's blood; you have destroyed lands and cities and everyone in them.

"Woe to the person who builds their realm by unjust gain to set his nest on high, to escape the clutches of ruin! You have plotted the ruin of many peoples, shaming your own house and forfeiting your life. The stones of the wall will cry out, and the beams of the woodwork will echo it.

"Woe to the person who builds a city with bloodshed and establishes a town by crime! Has not the Lord Almighty determined that the people's labor is only fuel for the fire, that the nations exhaust themselves for nothing? For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.' "

The Lord Almighty is indeed a God of justice! Nothing in the Biblical lore seems to anger God more than the violations of justice that the Old Testament prophets, such as Habakkuk, identify. Yet, violations of justice, the creation of injustice, continue to torment our world and mandate the prophetic role of today's church.

The Philippine Islands have been violated historically by Western imperialism, beginning with 350 years of Spanish colonialism, continuing through 48 years of direct American colonialism, and leading up to the present economic and military dependence upon foreign nations. The American role (both directly and indirectly) in creating the present situation of poverty and military oppression in a resource-rich, democratic-based country must be acknowledged.

A closer look at the context of the Philippines, its history and its present crisis, in light of the Habakkuk passage points directly at the basis for the church's prophetic role in the Philippines:

"Will your debtors suddenly arise? You have plundered many nations." Given the imperialist history of the U.S.-Philippines relationship and the present economic debt crises which the republic faces, this passage burns true to the heart. The U.S. (as the major 20th century foreign economic interest in the Philippines) has been a major contributor to the creation of the export, crop oriented economy that has repressed Filipino industrialization, economic independence, and the standard of living. Consequently, it has fueled the continuation of the feudal land-ownership system that has prevailed in this country for 400 years.

"You have shed people's blood; you have destroyed lands and cities and everyone in them." Documentation of human rights violations occurring in the Philippines has lifted up the loss of life, property, and dignity that the U.S. - supported Armed Forces "salvagin" (extra-judicial executions or murders), "Hamletting" (removal of entire villages for national security reasons), and political detention remain in the country despite the new democratic reforms (such as the ouster of former President Ferdinand Marcos). Bi-lateral military aid from the U.S. directly translates into these violations, in seeming disregard of the church-related documentation that exists (including World Council of Churches and Roman Catholic sources.)

"... the people's labor is only fuel for the fire, that the nations exhaust themselves for nothing!" Again, the implication is that the Philippines, in its economically dependent role, is a windfall for the U.S. while at the same time being a moral liability. When the minimum wage set in the Philippines for

farmworkers (a large segment of the population) is only equivalent to \$1.50 per day, questions naturally arise concerning the global economic structure.

The analysis of this situation to this point has been arrived at by many people in and out of the Philippines. Many in the church, however, have observed that this relatively recent history of indirect U.S. imperialism has been most clearly manifested in the continued presence of the U.S. military bases. It is widely felt among the community-based organizations and churches that U.S. intervention—economically, politically, and militarily—is being fueled by the U.S. interest in maintaining its global strategic military supremacy through the presence of Clark Air Force and Subic Naval Bases.

The United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP), our partner church for 40 years, has been one of the church bodies to make this analysis and to move towards fulfilling its prophetic role. A letter from the UCCP bishops states clearly the UCCP's stand against continued U.S. intervention and the continued presence of the U.S. bases.

The United Church of Christ must also fulfill its prophetic role here in the United States to stand in solidarity with its partner churches on issues of global justice and peace, so that, "The earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea (Habakkuk 2:14)."

#### Resolution

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP), our partner church for 40 years, has taken a stand against U.S. and foreign intervention in their sovereign nation's economic and political affairs; and

WHEREAS, we, the United Church of Christ, are partners in faith and in direct relationship with the UCCP; and

WHEREAS, the present problems of the Philippines have a history that can be attributed in major part to its history as a Spanish and U.S. colony; and

WHEREAS, this history continues through Filipino dependence on the U.S., economically and militarily; and

WHEREAS, the whole church of God, the United Church of Christ being part, is called to be a prophetic witness and especially in contexts where its voice can be heard;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Sixteenth General Synod calls upon the United Church of Christ, through its appropriate agencies - the United Church Board for World Ministries and the Office for Church in Society, to pursue the following measures:

1. Stand with the United Church of Christ in the Philippines, our partner church for 40 years, in its position against further U.S. intervention and the continued presence of the U.S. military bases, as expressed through its bishops' letter.
2. Communicate both the United Church of Christ and United Church of Christ in the Philippines stands on the issue of U.S. intervention to the U.S. government and to the American public.
3. Educate the United Church of Christ constituency about the Philippine issue and the subsequent prophetic stands that the church must take.
4. Support the development of an economic plan by the Filipinos in the Philippines for any economic foreign aid to be channeled through that plan.

#### 8. REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTH KOREA

Mr. Eugene Walther moved the recommendation of Commit-

tee 13 that the Sixteenth General Synod adopt the Resolution "Human Rights in Korea."

Following discussion it was

87-GS-74 VOTED: The Sixteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution "Human Rights in Korea."

#### Human Rights in Korea

WHEREAS, the present oppressive economic conditions and repressive political structure in South Korea have increased the depth of suffering among its people, especially young people who are imprisoned and tortured, at times, to the extent of death, and

WHEREAS, the government of Chun Doo Hwan continues to use violent repression to maintain its power despite opposition from many levels of the South Korean citizenry, and

WHEREAS, the United States government continues to support and aid the dictatorship of Chun Doo Hwan, which intensifies the anti-Americanism among South Koreans, and

WHEREAS, the National Assembly election is scheduled for the Fall of 1987, and the presidential election for February 1988, and

WHEREAS, the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea is resolved to work for the restoration and extension of human rights, for protection of freedom of the press, for more direct participation of the citizenry in the decision making of the government and for a revision of the Constitution of South Korea to allow a direct election of the President, and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ entered into partnership with the Presbyterian church in the Republic of Korea, and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ seeks to advance the cause of basic human rights;

THEREFORE, the Sixteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ expresses and pledges its support to and partnership with the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea in its efforts to work for human rights and a more democratic government; and

FURTHER, the Sixteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls upon the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries and the Office for Church in Society to find ways to demonstrate our support of and partnership with the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea and call upon the United Church Board for World Ministries, the Office for Church in Society, and the Office of Communication to provide timely news to our local churches, conferences, and youth and young adult task force about human rights efforts in South Korea and resources for local churches and conferences about how to work in partnership with the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea and how to take actions to advance the cause of basic human rights in South Korea; and

FURTHER, the Sixteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls upon President Reagan and Congress to urge President Chun to step down at the end of his term and to hold a direct popular presidential election in South Korea, and

FURTHER, the Sixteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls upon the government of the United States of America to make termination of human rights violations a clear condition for any continuation of our military and economic aid.

FURTHER, the Sixteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ requests that President Post and appropriate officials