

No.8729

RESOLUTION CONCERNING CONTRA AID AND U. S. CENTRAL AMERICAN POLICY

ADOPTED by the General Assembly

WHEREAS, the United States government's support for the Contra war in Nicaragua threatens the sovereignty of a government supported by the majority of its people and with whom it has diplomatic relations; and

WHEREAS, this support has led to the death and suffering of thousands of innocent men, women and children; and

WHEREAS, U.S. support of this war is contrary to our ideals of the right of self-determination, non-interference in the internal affairs of other nations and contrary to international law; and

WHEREAS, U.S. refusal to negotiate a peaceful solution through the Contadora process and U.S. insistence on a military solution in concert with Honduras continues to militarize the whole region,

diverting large sums of money from economic and social services to the poverty-stricken people of the area; and

WHEREAS, the San Antonio General Assembly adopted Resolution 8349, "Concerning U.S. Foreign Policy in Central America countries," urging "the U.S. government and all outside governments to halt military aid in armaments, in personnel, and in training and equipping of armies in El Salvador and other Central American countries," and that we strongly support a strategy endorsed by our Central and South American allies, particularly Mexico and Venezuela, to work for negotiated settlements of these complex issues in the several countries, seeking also to strengthen representative governmental processes honoring human rights, human dignity, and self-determination, and, that we assist with programs of economic aid and relief to the suffering people of the region.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) oppose U.S. government's legislative and covert support of the contra war against the people of Nicaragua and actively urge the Congress of the United States to deny all funds to the contras and actively seek a peaceful solution to all of the problems of Central America in concert with those nations which are urgently requesting our peaceful cooperation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this General Assembly encourage and support the education of U.S. congregations concerning the death of civilian men, women and children and the destruction of property as a result of the activities of the contra forces; that it encourage the members of congregations in the U.S. to write to their members of Congress opposing more contra support and that the members engage in non-violent protest as a witness to the countless thousands of victims of U.S. tragic policy.