

No. 8367

**EMERGENCY RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE RECENT
DOWNING OF A CIVILIAN AIRLINER**

ADOPTED by the General Assembly

WHEREAS, Christians in the United States and throughout the world are called to witness to the love and concern of God for all peoples; and

WHEREAS, the current state of the world (such as nuclear proliferation, depleting natural resources, ecological imbalances, overpopulation, etc.) dictates that actions by one nation or country directly affect the well-being of others in the global village; and

WHEREAS, acts of hostility and aggression threaten to disrupt the delicate balance of overall peace in the world; and

WHEREAS, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has consistently supported and stressed positions of peace with justice, having made this a major priority during the General Assembly in Anaheim in 1981;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meeting in San Antonio, Texas, September 23-28, 1983, call upon the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to:

1. communicate to the leadership of the Soviet Union our concern and dismay over the blatant and tragic loss of life involved in the recent downing of a civilian airliner;
2. appeal to the Orthodox, Protestant, and Catholic Churches of the Soviet Union for solidarity and peace, and that they convey to their congregations the grief that the world shares over the loss of 269 of its citizens;
3. write to the President of the United States,
 - a. condemning this action and urging peaceful but stringent responses to demonstrate our Christian concern for such wanton destruction; and
 - b. encouraging the President to urge other world leaders to adopt appropriate methods of censure; and
 - c. urging the continued emphasis on omni-lateral arms-reduction talks; and
 - d. encouraging the United States, Japan, or other appropriate country to take a more active involvement in radio and/or satellite communications, alerting future planes of possible errors in their course and taking direct steps (short of armed confrontation between Soviet and American aircraft) to supply whatever aid necessary to avoid such a catastrophe in the future.