

## GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

March 1, 1994, 10:30 a.m.

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert S Folkenberg (Ch), Gerry D Karst (Sec), Roy Adams, Ronald E Appenzeller, Karl H Bahr, Rosa T Banks, Harold W Baptiste, Enrique Becerra, Matthew A Bediako, Jose Luis Campos, G Tom Carter, Donald E Crane, George H Crumley, Rajmund Dabrowski, John M Fowler, Donald F Gilbert, Paul A Gordon, Charles J Griffin, Rudi H Henning, Eugene Hsu, Bob E Jacobs, William G Johnsson, David E Johnston, Robert E Osborn, Ruth E Parish, Gary B Patterson, Leo Ranzolin, Humberto M Rasi, G Edward Reid, Rowena R Rick, Calvin B Rock, Angel M Rodriguez, Gary M Ross, Monte Sahlin, Walter Scragg, Agripino C Segovia, Virginia Smith, John M Stephenson, Elizabeth A Sterndale, Robert L Swezey, G Ralph Thompson, Owen A Troy Jr, Juan Carlos Viera, Martin Weber, Albert S Whiting, Myron K Widmer, David S F Wong, Kenneth H Wood, F Donald Yost, Samuel Young, James H Zachary, James Zachrison.

PRAYER Owen A Troy, Jr.

SEC/ADCOM/GCC to MV

STELE, ARTUR A—FIELD SECRETARY FOR THEOLOGICAL  
EDUCATION, EURO-ASIA DIVISION - ELECTION

VOTED, To elect Artur Stele as Field Secretary for Theological Education, Euro-Asia Division. Stele will continue to serve as President of Zaoski Theological Seminary.

SEC/ADCOM/GCC to GRT

KARST, GERRY D—ASSOCIATE SECRETARY, GENERAL  
CONFERENCE - RESIGNATION

VOTED, To accept the resignation of Gerry D Karst as Associate Secretary, General Conference, effective April 1, 1994.

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March 1, 1994 - GCC

SEC/ADCOM/GCC to GRT

COOPER, LOWELL C—ASSOCIATE SECRETARY, GENERAL  
CONFERENCE - ELECTION

VOTED, To elect Lowell C Cooper as Associate Secretary, General Conference.

SEC/ADCOM/GCC to AHT

GENERAL CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (GCC-S)—  
MEMBERSHIP ADJUSTMENT

VOTED, To adjust the membership of the General Conference Executive Committee (GCC-S) as follows:

Add                Sam M Miller (NAD Pastor, Mid-America)

Delete             Walton Williams (NAD Pastor, Mid-America)

FED/TRE/ADCOM/GCC to KHB

YOUNGBERG ADVENTIST HOSPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT—  
APPROVAL

Youngberg Adventist Hospital was established in Singapore after World War II. With its 40 beds, it is now considered a small hospital with an aging physical plant. A developer is proposing to build a 200-bed hospital and a separate medical center for doctors' offices on property owned by the General Conference Corporation. The developer would build the hospital and medical center at his own expense and would donate \$4,500,000 (Singapore dollars) to be used in furnishing the hospital. The hospital would become property of the General Conference Corporation immediately, and the developer would be given a 99-year lease on the medical center, after which time it would belong to the General Conference Corporation.

The property on which Youngberg Adventist Hospital stands is across the street from a major development site and is situated in an area of rapid population growth. It is believed that if there were 12 physicians in the medical center, they could supply the hospital with adequate patients. After the new hospital is built the old one would be torn down. It was

VOTED, To authorize the Far Eastern Division to proceed in the development of the Youngberg Adventist Hospital and Medical Center, subject to final approval of legal documents by the General Conference Office of General Counsel.

(Walter E Carson was present for the above item.)

Robert S Folkenberg, Chairman  
Gerry D Karst, Secretary  
Carol Rasmussen, Recording Secretary

## GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

March 9, 1994, 11:00 a.m.

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert S Folkenberg (Ch), Athal H Tolhurst (Sec), Roy Adams, Harold W Baptiste, Richard E Barron, Maurice T Battle, G Tom Carter, James A Cress, Rajmund Dabrowski, Karen Flowers, Ronald M Flowers, Philip S Follett, Paul A Gordon, Eugene Hsu, Bob E Jacobs, David E Johnston, Alfred C McClure, Thomas R Neslund, Robert E Osborn, Walter L Pearson Jr, Leo Ranzolin, Humberto M Rasi, Angel M Rodriguez, Michael L Ryan, Calvin Smith, Virginia Smith, John M Stephenson, Elizabeth A Sterndale, Owen A Troy Jr, Mario Veloso, Albert S Whiting, Neal C Wilson, David S F Wong, F Donald Yost, Samuel Young

PRAYER     Walter L Pearson Jr

WHT/PRE/ADCOM/Cred&L/GCC to LR&HWB

## NIX, JAMES—CANDIDATE FOR ORDINATION

VOTED, To approve the recommendation of the Ellen G White Estate Board to ordain James Nix on the basis of its endorsement, the endorsements of others who have been associated with him, and the approval of the Ministerial Association.

OrdRev/Cred&L/ADCOM/GCC to LR&HWB

## GANSON, REO—CANDIDATE FOR ORDINATION

VOTED, To approve the request of the Department of Education to ordain Reo Ganson on the basis of his involvement and experience in pastoral ministry, the fact that he currently serves as a pastor in the Chesapeake Conference, and the approval of the Ministerial Association.

Robert S Folkenberg, Chairman  
Athal H Tolhurst, Secretary  
Carol Rasmussen, Recording Secretary

## SPRING MEETING

Silver Spring, Maryland, March 30, 1994

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## Minutes of Spring Meeting

## GENERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

March 30, 1994, 8:00 a.m.

## PRESENT

Malcolm J Allen, Ronald E Appenzeller, Karl H Bahr, Bryan W Ball, Rosa T Banks, Harold W Baptiste, Richard E Barron, Maurice T Battle, Matthew A Bediako, Enrique Becerra, B Lyn Behrens, Violetto F Bocala, David Brillhart, Eldon E Carman, G Tom Carter, Robert H Carter, M E Cherian, Pyung Duk Chun, Winston T Clark, Larry R Colburn, Donald E Crane, James A Cress, George H Crumley, Rajmund Dabrowski, Robert L Dale,

Ottis C Edwards, Charles R Ferguson, Karen M Flowers, Ronald M Flowers, Robert S Folkenberg, Philip S Follett, John M Fowler, Desmond L Francis, Ulrich Frikart, Romulus I Gainer, Reo Ganson, Donald F Gilbert, Malcolm D Gordon, Charles J Griffin, Joseph E Gurubatham, Rudi H Henning, Clarence E Hodges, Eugene Hsu, William J Hulsey, Bob E Jacobs, William G Johnsson, Bruce Johnston,

Gerry D Karst, Ruth C Komarniski, Robert E Kyte, Robert J Kloosterhuis, W Richard Leshner, Israel Leito, Richard Liu, Robert Lloyd, Alfred C McClure, Cyril Miller, Sam Miller, Kenneth J Mittleider, Raymond Morris, Thomas J Mostert Jr, I Nagabhushana Rao, Dwight K Nelson, J David Newman, James R Nix, Jacob J Nortey, Evelyn D Osborn, Robert E Osborn,

Orville D Parchment, Gary B Patterson, Jan Paulsen, Walter L Pearson Jr, Stoy E Proctor, L D Raelly, Sunilda Ramos, Barbara Randall, Leo Ranzolin, Humberto M Rasi, Benjamin Reaves, George W Reid, Rowena R Rick, Donald E Robinson, Calvin B Rock, W Dean Rogers, Gary M Ross, Ariel A Roth, Michael L Ryan, Monte Sahlin, Joel Sarli, William C Scales Jr, Walter Scragg, John M Stephenson, Elizabeth A Sterndale, Robert L Swezey,

David L Taylor, Fred G Thomas, G Ralph Thompson, Athal H Tolhurst, Joan Tonge, Shirley VanVliet, Mario Veloso, Juan C Viera, Ralph S Watts Jr, DeLois P Weekes, Albert S Whiting, Myron K Widmer, Neal C Wilson, Ted N C Wilson, Ron M Wisbey, Joao Wolff, Kenneth H Wood, Samuel Young, F Donald Yost, F Martin Ytreberg.

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GCC Spring Meeting, a.m.

## PRAYER

Prayer was offered by Sheila Draper.

## DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Israel Leito, President of the Inter-American Division, presented the devotional message.

I want to talk about the three crowns of Jesus Christ. All three are related to humanity. The first is the crown of glory. He is King forever and Lord above all. The greatness of our Lord also became His weakness. Many times relating to His humanity was a problem. His Lordship was challenged by Lucifer in heaven. When He was born on earth, His Kingship was the first issue that brought a threat to His life. Wisemen asked, "Where is the King of the Jews that was born?" Herod felt threatened and devised ways to destroy the King that was born. God intervened to preserve His life. His Kingship became the reason for His crucifixion. When the Jews brought Jesus to Pilate, he tried to find a legal reason why Christ should be executed. The reason was written on the cross, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." His Kingship was the reason for His crucifixion.

Christ's Lordship is still in dispute. It is the reason why men and women today struggle to accept Him. At the end of time, His Lordship will come into focus again as all knees bow before Him and accept Him as Lord.

The second crown is a crown of thorns. This crown was an instrument of torture. A crown of thorns was placed on His head, a purple robe on His shoulders, and they knelt before Him as in worship. The crown was a symbol of His suffering and pain. He would have run away except for two things—His love for humanity and His loyalty to the Father. He was willing to submit Himself to humanity and to the Father. Because He went to the cross, salvation is assured.

The third crown is a crown of victory. "At the name of Jesus every knee should bow. . . . and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord" (Phil. 2:10, 11). For many, this confession comes too late. Those who accept Christ today will be preserved throughout eternity. If today we willingly confess Him as Lord and accept Him as Lord, His grace will intervene for our salvation. If we wait until we are forced to accept Him as Lord, He will say "Depart from Me, for I know you not." Two things we should never forget. He is Saviour and He is Lord. As Saviour He says, "I gave My life for you." As Lord He says, "My daughter, My son, give Me your life." You are the one to decide when and how you will recognize Him as Lord.

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LESHER, W RICHARD—APPRECIATION

Humberto M Rasi, Director of the Department of Education, presented the Department's highest award, the Medallion of Distinction, to W Richard Leshar. The medallion was given in appreciation for Leshar's 48 years of outstanding leadership to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He will retire in July from the presidency of Andrews University.

JACOBS, BOB E—APPRECIATION

Ralph S Watts Jr, Executive Director of Adventist Development and Relief Agency International, presented a plaque of appreciation to Bob E Jacobs for serving on the board of directors for the Adventist Development and Relief Agency International. Robert S Folkenberg, President of the General Conference, added his appreciation for Jacobs' sense of humor and his faithful service. Jacobs will retire May 1 as Administrative Assistant to the General Conference President.

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Matthew A Bediako, Chairman, called to order the first session of the 1994 Spring Meeting.

Kenneth H Wood opened the business session with prayer.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL  
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Robert S Folkenberg introduced Steve Chavez, Assistant Editor of the *Adventist Review*; Sam Miller, pastor from the Mid-American Union; Joel Sarli, Associate Secretary of the Ministerial Association; and Orville Parchment, President of the Canadian Union.

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## GLOBAL MISSION - REPORTS

Matthew A Bediako introduced the division and attached union presidents who presented their reports.

### AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN DIVISION

Jacob J Nortey, President of the Africa-Indian Ocean Division, stated that January 22 was a special day of thanksgiving, prayer, and dedication in the Africa-Indian Ocean Division. Groups met in every church to sing, pray, and rededicate themselves. On December 31, 1993 the Africa-Indian Ocean Division crossed the one million member mark. Who would believe that in the midst of all the wars, commotions, and financial difficulties the membership could grow at such a rate? We came together to indicate our recognition that this had to be the doing of the Lord. We came together to thank the Lord for the sacrifices of thousands of people around the world who have made it possible for us to have missions in Africa.

I was in Rwanda that day meeting with eight congregations throughout the city of Kigali. I met on one of the hills with 6,000 believers. There was singing and the recognition from the people that God had been with them. Of all the countries, Rwanda had suffered most. There had been times when it was impossible for ministers to move from one town to another to baptize people who were ready. Yet they had baptized the greatest number of people in the division. You could tell the congregation was happy. They recognized that God had done great things for them. Thirty-two lay people were recognized on that day—those who had built churches, those who had run special campaigns, those who had financed evangelistic efforts—but one attracted my attention the most. He was a middle-aged man who for the last eight years had made it his project to provide furniture for every church that was built in the country of Rwanda. Each time a church was built, he provided a pulpit and chairs. You can see that everything looks alike in most of these churches. It has all been provided by one person.

Not long ago a brief fax message came from Dr Emilia Rosu and her husband Nicolae who live in Kinshasa, Zaire. It read, "An angel has visited us today." Some time later I received the explanation of the fax message. Last year we began working on a dental clinic in Kinshasa. There were high hopes that this clinic would reach a stratum of society that had not been touched in Zaire. The shipping of equipment was delayed for a year because of the political situation. Towards the end of last year it was shipped on a chartered plane. The missionaries did not know for sure when the shipment would arrive. They traveled the long distance to the airport many times to ask when the plane was coming. They always found that nothing had arrived. Early one morning a representative from the Protestant Council, an



organization to which we are forced to belong, ran to the missionaries' house and told them, "Your dental shipment is sitting at your door." The missionaries asked how it had happened and who had met the plane. The Council Representative did not know how. All he knew was that he received a telephone call in his office from an army officer who said that equipment had arrived for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and that it was on its way to his office. He asked the person on the telephone who he was, but there was no reply. They still do not know who the person was who went to the airport, brought a truck to the tarmac when the plane landed, and instructed that the shipment be put immediately and directly on the truck so the truck could be driven to the compound. It did not go through customs or any official channels.

When I was visiting Kinshasa, the missionaries decided to open the clinic. They thought they would simply have a prayer and open the clinic. But I said, "If the Lord has done such a great thing for you, why don't you tell everyone so people will know about it? Let's contact the radio and television station." So Nicolae Rosu drove to the radio and television station. About a hundred yards into the television center soldiers stopped us and said, "You cannot pass." We asked to see someone in the station so we would tell them of an event that would take place the next day. The soldier looked surprised, but he allowed us to pass. Upon arrival at the manager's office, a dignified gentleman came down the stairs, greeted us, and asked what he could do for us. We told him "Something is going to happen in this city. A dental clinic, unlike anything else in the whole region, is going to be opened, and we want you to be there." He said, "I will be there with a team." We asked him who he was. He was the director of the television services. We looked doubtful. How could he come on such a short notice? He gave us his card and said "If you don't believe I will be there, call me tomorrow morning at 10. I will be there with my team." At 10:00 a.m. we called and he said he had his team ready and he would be there at 4:55 p.m. When the time came, he was there. The television crew left the dental clinic at 7:00 p.m. At eight o'clock we were on the news. We were given 30 minutes coverage that day, and they promised to cover that event for one week. I said again that an angel had been with that clinic. We had the publicity free of charge. We believe the efforts that have been made to invest \$50,000 by individuals here will yield results that only eternity will tell. Thank you for the sacrifices. Pray for us.

#### SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION

Bryan W Ball, President of the South Pacific Division, brought a report on Global Mission in the South Pacific. It is not only a task of reaching sophisticated people groups in the cities, but also it is what happens in the hundreds of islands and thousands of villages scattered across the Pacific. Three weeks ago I spent eight days in the island territories of the Papua New Guinea Union Mission. I learned first hand of what is happening in some of those territories.

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On the island of New Britain, which is about 180 miles long by 50 or 60 miles wide, is located Sonoma College. This college provides most of the ministerial workers for the union. In late 1992 a young theology student decided, as part of his ministerial practicum, to locate in an unentered area of the island of New Britain and try to establish a new group of believers as part of Global Mission. By the end of the year there was a group of 12 people meeting, eight of whom had been baptized. In 1993 the attendance grew to 80, with 25 more people in the baptismal class. All of this was through the witnessing efforts of one young theology student who had caught a vision of what Global Mission is all about.

Northeast of New Britain is another large island called New Ireland. Not only do we have unentered areas in these islands, but we have areas which are closed through prejudice and territorial alignments. In 1992 a group of Adventist laymen from a church in New Ireland decided to make an effort to take the message through Global Mission to one of these unentered territories. They arrived at the village which was the center of their target area and began a systematic house-to-house visitation program. They came to a house where they found a little boy who was covered from head to toe with festering, running sores. There were no medical facilities. They were not medically trained. There was only one thing they could do. They formed a circle around the little fellow's bed and they prayed. The next day the sores had begun to heal. In three days they had completely healed. As a result, today we have a church in that little village with 18 baptized members.

The island of Manus has been a stronghold of Adventist belief ever since the work was established in that part of the world. There are about 3,000 members on the island. In the center of the island there is a hill. On that hill many years ago the first Adventist meeting place was established. The work on that part of the island died out until about three years ago. Peter is a local man who must be 60 or 70 years of age. Three years ago Peter had a dream. The Lord told him in the dream that he should build a church in this village. He told me that he is not an architect, has no experience in building, and knows nothing about construction. I could hardly believe my eyes when I saw the church he had built. It is the most beautiful structure that I have ever seen in the islands. It would grace any locality. Peter said that the Lord not only told him to build this church, but gave him all the instructions including the dimensions. It is 100 meters long by 40 meters wide. The whole church is lined with polished hardwood. The complete floor is made of polished rosewood. The sides of the church are lined with rosewood and other natural hardwoods from the area. This man had never been involved in any building before. Today we have a beautiful church in this locality with 200 believers meeting every Sabbath.

The people in the islands believe in Global Mission. They also believe that Global Mission is not only the Church's mission, but it is the Lord's mission. It is that conviction that is motivating the people of the South Pacific, under God's leading, to establish new groups of believers in unentered villages and islands throughout the area. Continue to pray for the work in the South Pacific.

## NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

Alfred C McClure, President of the North American Division, began his report with a question. What do the following people have in common: a Buddhist priest, the Attorney General of Samoa, Hawaii's leading Aloha shirt maker, the Dean of Students of the University of Hawaii, and the Honorable Governor of the State of Hawaii? These people, along with approximately 1,200 other people, have been regularly attending an evangelistic series being conducted in Honolulu by Mark Finley. Honolulu is not the place where evangelism has traditionally been very successful. It has been very difficult to attract a crowd in Honolulu. But as a result of a church that has been inspired and trained, and as a result of great effort in inviting people to attend, and as a result of the work of the Holy Spirit, to date 140 people have been baptized. There are 80 yet in the baptismal class. It could well be that in that difficult city, where there has been an attitude that it can't be done here, it is being done. We could well see 200 people baptized in the city of Honolulu this year. Mark Finley relates what he felt was one of the most unique experiences of his evangelistic career. There have been 30 people from one family attending this evangelistic series. Fifteen from that one family have made their decision and are planning for baptism.

Let me tell you about Norfolk, Virginia. Recently three churches in Norfolk combined their efforts to have an evangelistic series. As a result of an evangelistic priority on the part of the members and pastors, and as a result of thorough preparation, the church was overflowing with people in attendance at this evangelistic series. Every seat was filled. There were chairs in the aisle. The balcony was full. The choir loft was full, and 60 people have been baptized recently in Norfolk—including a secretary from the Pat Robertson Ministry and a police officer. It is being done in Norfolk.

One further evangelistic story is from Victoria, British Columbia. Victoria is a beautiful city. I am told it is the most secular city in North America. Only two percent of the population attend church regularly. Approximately a year ago Leo Schreven and his wife Tamara, evangelists from the Adventist Evangelistic Association at the Media Center, conducted a series of meetings in Victoria. Victoria is a place where Billy Graham went a few months ago. He expected a crowd of 20,000 and found a crowd of 3,000. But in spite of that kind of precedent, there were 100 people baptized in Victoria, British Columbia last year. I just learned this morning that the funds that the conference put into that series of meetings have now been exceeded through tithe increase by \$10,000. A medical doctor who prior to this particular evangelistic series had no time for evangelism, has now been so inspired that he has promised to completely finance the next series of evangelistic meetings in Victoria, British Columbia.

Evangelism in North America is not only public crusades. You have been hearing for some time about the attempt to reach out and redeem and love back those who once walked

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with us, who once were members of our churches. On November 20 more than 70 percent of the churches in North America participated in some special activity of rejoicing in bringing former members back. Twenty-eight thousand additional people were in church that Sabbath as a result of those efforts. Reclaiming does pay.

We have been dreaming about changing the climate for evangelism in North America. As a result we have provided for an evangelistic series to be conducted in every church during the early part of 1995. Every church who wishes to participate will be provided an evangelist, preparation, and follow-up, as well as beautifully prepared materials through a program called Net 95. As a result of the Adventist Communication Network, churches are now purchasing downlink equipment so they can receive a television broadcast that will come from Chattanooga, Tennessee, and by satellite will be made available to every church across North America. Already 300 to 400 churches have signed up and we are hoping for 1,000. Monte Sahlin contacted me the other day saying it is possible we could have 2,000 churches signed up for Net 95. How could we possibly pay for it? I would like to have that problem.

Two days ago was our first telecast on Net 95. It was a live telecast that took place in Thousand Oaks with Mark Finley, Warren Judd, and others, and a live audience there. It was beamed into churches and homes and other installations across this division. There was instruction, and questions were answered which pastors have regarding Net 95. Net 95 holds promise of being the largest evangelistic series ever conducted in the North American Division. Does this method of evangelism work? The Billy Graham Crusade recently attempted to use this very technology. One of their telecasts was beamed into 1,400 different places. They discovered that the decisions for Christ in those places where Billy Graham was only on the screen were even higher than where he appeared personally. So it does work. We are looking forward to this most unusual evangelistic crusade here in the North American Division where Global Mission is a part of every congregation and every community.

## SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION

M E Cherian, President of the Southern Asia Division, gave the following report. Over 200 years ago the story of modern missions began in the Protestant world when William Carey came to India to spread the gospel. In 1991, with the inauguration of Global Mission, a new phase began to complete the work of spreading the Adventist message in the Southern Asia Division. In the northern part of India there are four areas that have been very difficult to enter. On the western side there is the state of Kashmir—a predominately Muslim state. East of Kashmir is the small state with the name of Sikkim. We made an attempt to enter this state some years back, but because we had no results, we closed down our work there. Further east of Sikkim is Nepal where we have been working for many, many years. By the end of 1990 we had a company of only 17 people. Further east of Nepal there is a closed state known as Bhutan where no Christians are allowed to work.

What is the story of Adventist penetration into these areas? We are happy to inform you that in Kashmir we are on the road to establishing a school. In the last year we have been able to baptize two people. In the state of Nepal we have a membership of 227 today. Finally, in Bhutan—where we cannot enter—there are members working among the Bhutanese who come into India. Today there are 20 Bhutani believers. This is a story of Adventist penetration in those areas where we have not been able to go for many years.

There are over 700,000,000 Hindus in the area of the Southern Asia Division. This vast population constitutes a tremendous challenge to the church. A year and a half ago we established a Center for the Study of Hinduism. Their first evangelistic effort was in a group of four villages in south India where we did not have one single Christian. A group of 12 people worked there for two and a half months. In one village there are 13 Hindu temples. After some preparation, the workers decided to conduct an effort. They looked for a place to pitch their tent. They were directed to a place between two temples which were 150 feet apart. This is where the Seventh-day Adventist evangelistic tent was placed. An effort was conducted. Out of the four villages, three responded to the gospel message. Our people were chased out of the fourth. In the three villages we have today a membership of 90 believers. We are in the process of building three churches—one for each village. About four months ago, for the first time in the history of our work, we led a practicing Hindu priest to acceptance of the truth and baptism. With him, 27 others have become Seventh-day Adventists. Next to that village, we are right now conducting an effort in a village where there is not a single Seventh-day Adventist or a Christian. The last I heard, 41 people are preparing for baptism. That is the story of Global Mission in the Southern Asia Division.

The city of Calcutta was considered to be a dead city for Adventist work for many years. It was in 1895 that the first Seventh-day Adventist worker entered the Southern Asia Division and established a flourishing church in Calcutta. But through the years, because of migration and other factors, the church virtually died. In 1990 we had only four Seventh-day Adventist lay families in Calcutta. In the outskirts of the city there lives a 72-year-old church member. He got a vision of Global Mission and volunteered to serve the church. In 1993 in the city of Calcutta, where all other Adventist workers feared to enter to evangelize, P K Gan conducted an evangelistic effort and on December 16 baptized 80 people. There are 70 others who are preparing for baptism. That is the story of Seventh-day Adventist penetration and Global Mission in the Southern Asia Division. We crave your prayers and your support.

#### MIDDLE EAST UNION

Svein B Johansen, President of the Middle East Union, presented his report. Normally these reports are ended with requests for prayer. I will start my report by requesting your prayers for an evangelistic campaign that is starting tomorrow in Alexandria,

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Egypt, by Sven Jensen, the Union Church Ministries Director. A year and a half ago we had a campaign in Alexandria. Then we had threats of the church building being burned down unless we took down the large banners which were on the church. We carried on with the campaign and a number were baptized. We are starting another campaign in Alexandria tomorrow. In your private petitions remember this campaign.

Dr Cherian referred to several firsts. We also have several firsts in the Middle East. Probably the most important first is that now for the first time in the history of the Adventist work in the Middle East the Adventist message is broadcast every day for six hours throughout the Middle East in Arabic. From our FM station in Beirut, Lebanon, with the antenna on top of the boys' dormitory, we are broadcasting eight hours over Beirut and the area around Beirut. That makes a total of 14 hours of broadcast in Arabic every day. We are receiving beautiful letters from various countries in the Middle East as a result of these broadcasts. Those letters tell us that we are building up a listening audience. The letters are coming from Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Syria, even from as far away as the southern part of Sudan. We also have letters from Middle Easterners living in Europe. They express appreciation for the messages. We are now getting the results for which we have been working for years.

A few months ago, together with the President and Treasurer from the Sudan Field, we went to the Upper Nile Region in Sudan. That is the area towards the Ethiopian border. We had two workers there, and for two years we had not been able to contact them because of the civil war. We went to Addis Ababa and traveled to the Sudan border to meet the workers. It is a difficult area in which to work because of the civil war. We were happy to learn that in the past two years they have baptized over 600 people. Let me tell you of some of the difficulties they are meeting because of the suffering of the population. People found it difficult to accept baptism because they didn't have clothing. They felt it would be a dishonor to God to go into the baptismal water in their rags—especially the ladies. The pastors were able to obtain two cloths to wrap around the ladies. From place to place where they went to baptize they built a shelter close to the water and then they used the two cloths to put over the ladies. After their baptism they went into the shelter, removed the cloths, and the next two used the cloths to be baptized. In this way they baptized hundreds.

As a sequel to this story, let me say that it is not always without risk to go into these areas. The day after I left this area, the field president, an Eritrean, along with our two pastors and two Ethiopian pastors from that area, were all arrested and interned for almost three weeks. It was only because of the intervention of the authorities in Addis Ababa and the help of the union leadership in the Ethiopian Union and the governor of the state close to the Sudanese boarder, that these people after almost three weeks were released and could carry on with their work. We thank God that this help was available.

A few months ago we attempted to enter one of the two or three countries that have not been entered in the Middle East. This is the country of Yemen. We wanted to enter with ADRA. All of the non-government organizations said we had no chance. As we approached officialdom in Yemen, the response was negative. The next time we came this attitude had changed. What we did not know was that a higher official from Sudan had made an official government visit to Yemen. The officials in Yemen had asked him what he knew about ADRA in his own country. This Sudanese government representative gave a glowing report about our work in Sudan, saying that this is one of the best and most prominent non-government organization agencies working in Sudan; and further that the best thing about ADRA is that they do not mingle with politics. Because of that, the attitude of the Yemen government changed entirely. About four weeks ago we received a fax from Yemen saying that now we can come, and that they are ready to sign an agreement. The ADRA worker went about three weeks ago, right in the middle of Ramadan, to sign the contract. He was told he would not get anybody to sign the contract during that religious period, but five government officials came, the contract was signed, newspaper people were present and reported in the newspaper about ADRA—the Seventh-day Adventist Relief Agency coming into Yemen to start activities there. This is the way we are entering Yemen.

Another country that we are just entering now, that we have not even been able to get visas for, is the small country of Qatar on the Persian Gulf. About five weeks ago our secretary-treasurer and his wife went into Qatar. They were able to meet with about 20 believers of Asian origin who are working there. Now we are organizing a company in Qatar. Through them we hope to be able to reach out to others.

I am also happy to report to you that last September we established an English language school in Istanbul, Turkey. It started with an enrollment of about 30 students. A couple from Canada are directing the activities in that school. In the second period we have an enrollment of 60 students. We hope that the enrollment will soon go to 100 or more.

Maybe this is one of the last reports that will come directly from a representative of the Middle East Union. A process is going on for a grafting or transplanting of the Middle East Union into a division. The Middle East has had the privilege for many years of working in various ways as a division, as a detached union, and attached union directly with the General Conference. Of course we feel very much a part of the World Church by this direct link. So it is going to be a new experience for the brothers and sisters in the Middle East, but we believe it is going to even be a greater blessing. As I started by asking you to pray for the work in Alexandria, I end by asking you to continue to pray for the work in the Middle East.

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## INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION

Israel Leito, President of the Inter-American Division, presented the report from the Inter-American Division. God is still busy in Inter-America. Every day He is showing us new challenges and new places to go. And He opens new ways of reaching those places. I want to tell you about the educational work in Inter-America. Montemorelos University is becoming more and more a player in the world field of education. The university offers several doctoral degree programs. Students come from many parts of the world to study. The reasonable prices enable it to compete with the universities in the United States. Students learn Spanish, and we hope Spanish will soon overtake English as the lingua franca for the church. Many divisions are sending their students to our university. Montemorelos has found its place among institutions in Inter-America and in Mexico to such a degree that high government officers are looking to Montemorelos to send their children to study there. We are afraid of this tendency, because it tends to make the university a place for the elite, and we do not want it to be that way. We want it to be a place where everybody can come and study and relate to each other.

There is a special incident that I would like to tell you about. Not too long ago the wife of the Mexican president visited our university. She was looking for a place for her son to study. She was visiting universities in the area of Nuevo Leon, and so she came to Montemorelos and looked around. She arrived there at the end of a service on Sabbath. When the university president learned that she was coming he asked the choir to stay and sing just for her. She left, and nobody expected anything. A few weeks later a caravan of security men arrived at the university. They had come to secure the place because the president's son was coming there to study. He studied for a semester at Montemorelos, was very happy, and he left. During December when the revolution broke out in Mexico, the president felt that it was too dangerous to keep his family in the country. So he sent his children out—some to France, and this particular son was sent to Dublin, Eire, to be away from the dangers in Mexico. But the son was not happy in Dublin. Every day he called his father, the president, to say that he wanted to come back to Montemorelos. He harassed his father so much that he was allowed to come back. A few weeks ago I was in Montemorelos during the week of prayer and I met this boy. Security is extremely tight at the school. Wherever you turn you can see the security men walking around. He cannot move without two or three of them with him. He lives in the dormitory as any other student does. He eats in the cafeteria and works cleaning the dormitory floors. He is very, very happy with our university. We are so happy that through this boy we can break through to that higher level of society in Mexico.

I want to tell you how Global Mission is penetrating areas of our division. One pastor went to a little town to conduct a series of meetings. He could not find a hall and there was no church, so he decided to hold his meetings in the open air under the trees. The first night



60 people attended. Most of them were members of an evangelical church in that area. He continued preaching under the trees in the forest. After presenting the Sabbath truth, he invited people to come and worship with him in his cathedral of the forest on Sabbath. He was certain that a large crowd would come on Sabbath. But to his surprise no one showed up. He was very disappointed that no one came to worship with him on Sabbath. He inquired why. He learned that people went to church on Sabbath, but they did not come to his church. It happened that this particular church, which was a Sunday-keeping church, had a problem. Sunday was the day for the open market in that place, so everyone had to go to the market. This particular church had allowed its members to meet on Saturday, so that on Sunday they could go to the market. They were Sabbath keepers not because of conviction, but because of convenience. When they learned about the Sabbath truth they went back to their church and decided to keep Sabbath because of conviction. They thought that their pastor would preach the Sabbath to them, but he refused to do that. They came back and told our minister that they wanted to be Seventh-day Adventists, but they needed someone to continue preaching the Sabbath truth to them. This pastor continued preaching and after a while 15 of them were baptized. That was more than half of the church membership. That is not the end of the story. The evangelical minister came to our pastor and said, "You have my congregation, why don't you take over the church as well." He offered to sell the building to us. We are in the process of acquiring that building and a congregation has been established in that place.

Maranatha International is very active in our division and we want to pay tribute to these men and women who have built hundreds of churches in our division. Right now they are building churches in the North Mexican Union and the South Mexican Union. Something resulted from this Maranatha involvement in our division. For the first time we have our own Maranatha-like organization. Some young people in our division caught the vision of Maranatha, and they have organized what they call "Builders for the Faith." They have gone out with the Maranatha builders—some to the Dominican Republic and others to Mexico. Right now they are organizing themselves to operate as Maranatha International does. They plan to get the money and material and then go out and do it themselves. We hope that this will grow to be a major partner in our division. Maranatha is very active helping us in more than building churches. They have penetrated Cuba where we want to build at least a hundred churches. It is very difficult. Churches are suppressed in that place. But through Maranatha International, we are finding wedges to penetrate the situation, and we hope that soon we can start building churches in Cuba. We are thankful for Maranatha International and their support. We ask you to continue remembering the Inter-American Division in your prayers.

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## FAR EASTERN DIVISION

Pyung Duk Chun, President of the Far Eastern Division, announced that the Far Eastern Division would soon be joining the millionaire club of world divisions. They expect to reach 1,000,000 members before the 1994 Annual Council. Every member of the Far Eastern Division plans to participate in and contribute to the speedy attainment of the 1,000,000 membership goal.

Out of a population of 800,000,000 in the Far Eastern Division, we have 300,000,000 Muslims and 300,000,000 Buddhists. Reaching these two major religious groups is our largest challenge. We were not very successful in reaching these two major religious groups until the launch of Global Mission. In order to address this challenge, a year and a half ago we established a Buddhist Evangelism Study Center. This center is working on models of how to reach different Buddhist populations. They are now field-testing the models. We led one currently active Buddhist monk in Thailand to accept Christ and baptism. We temporarily hired him as a research assistant at the Buddhist Evangelism Study Center. He is very actively participating in this program.

The Far Eastern Division is not known as a predominately Muslim division, but I think we have more Muslims than any other world division. This is one of the greatest challenges we have to address. We have also established a Muslim Evangelism Study Center. We have just begun studying how to reach and communicate with the Muslim population. In the country of Bangladesh, about 90 percent of the population is Muslim. That small country has more than 100,000,000 people. While we were laying plans to reach the major population segment of this great country, we were repeatedly told that, in 83 years of Adventist work in Bangladesh, we were only able to baptize 16 Muslims. If we continued with conventional methods of evangelism among Muslims, the progress would be more or less the same. So we felt we must introduce some extraordinary method. Through this new approach, we were able to baptize 621 Muslims in the last two and a half years. We are going to expand the method throughout other Muslim countries in our division.

We decided to use the immense resources of the young people in soul winning and Global Mission. We established on the campus of the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies, the One Thousand Missionary Movement Training Center. Our goal is to train 1,000 young people every year and send them to the mission field. Most of them would be sent to unentered territories to establish new congregations and churches. Last year was the first year of implementation. The first group numbered 60. Next we sent out 45 people. The first group of missionaries finished their one year of service in February. I attended their celebration service. They brought many encouraging and difficult reports. Many of them were attacked by malaria, typhoid, many other diseases, and rattle snakes. Their lives were threatened by village people, and they had many other difficulties, but they were able to

establish 20 new congregations in unentered areas. These young people were able to construct 18 chapels. These 60 people brought 442 precious souls into the baptistry. This work will be expanded. At the time of celebration they celebrated their survival. Every single young missionary had faced some sort of difficulty or threat of death. I am happy that one of the survivors was my own daughter. Please remember the Far Eastern Division in your prayers.

### EASTERN ASIA COMMITTEE

Eugene Hsu, Secretary of the Eastern Asia Committee, gave a report from China. In 1993 there was an increase in membership of 25,413, which is about 20 percent of the entire membership. This increase is larger than the last official report received from China in 1951 when the China Division was still in existence. The increase is larger than the membership of the entire division in 1951. I believe each baptism represents a miracle. These figures are exciting! We know these baptisms are done under extremely difficult conditions. We cannot send in foreign missionaries. We cannot conduct public evangelism. We have no church organization. We have no institutions to speak of. All of the honor and glory goes to our heavenly Father and our members—especially the lay preachers in China.

There is some good news, and at the same time there are some challenges. For the first time the government is willing to recognize the Adventist congregation, at the local church level. Pastor David Lin was able to receive permission to visit provinces and cities other than Shanghai where he was located. He was able to conduct baptisms, to ordain pastors and elders, to officiate at church dedication services, and even to conduct lay preacher training sessions. The plan to conduct many lay preacher training sessions in China is feasible. In the next three years 1,000 lay preachers will be trained all over China. Recently, Pastor Lin officiated at a church dedication service in Manchuria. The church, with a seating capacity of 600, was entirely funded by the members. Three thousand attended the service.

We also have tremendous challenges. Many of you have read that in January the government—in fact the Premier himself—issued two regulations. One specifically limits the religious activities that foreigners can conduct in China. The other one restricts activities that the Chinese Christians themselves are allowed to conduct in China.

Finally, I would like to report that for the first time, the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is invited to send an official delegation to visit the official church, and the Christian leaders, in China. A delegation of about 13, including some spouses, led by Robert J Kloosterhuis, one of the General Vice Presidents, will visit the officials, seminaries, and some other Christian institutions. We inquired whether or not we

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will be able to preach to our believers. The reply came back, "You are official visitors and we will want you to preach in the churches, but why don't you preach on Sundays as well as on Saturdays." We will spend two Sabbaths in China, and we replied saying that on those two Sabbaths we would like to preach in five churches, and in each church we would preach both on Sabbath and on Sunday. So for these two weekends we will have ten Adventist preachers from the General Conference to preach in China, for the first time in the history of the church since 1949. We have not received our visas yet. So please pray for the visit. We hope that this trip will be successful to reestablish official contact between the official Chinese Christian church and the Seventh-day Adventist Church world headquarters. In doing so we believe that it may help to further the Adventist work in China. We solicit your prayers and your support, not only for this visit, but for the entire Adventist work throughout the great country of China.

#### EURO-AFRICA DIVISION

Ulrich Frikart, Secretary of the Euro-Africa Division, told the following story. It is my privilege and honor to greet you on behalf of Edwin Ludescher, our division president, and the approximately 400,000 members of the Euro-Africa Division. When I was a student at the Geneva University, I had the privilege of being invited to the birthday celebration of a famous psychologist, Jean Piaget. The major point of the celebration was a big banquet. There were some speeches and Professor Piaget had to make a presentation just before the banquet. Time was going by. The speech before him was a little bit long, and when the time came for his presentation, he said simply, "Ladies, and gentlemen, time is running. I hope that you enjoy the banquet." So I say the same. Time is running. The major piece this morning is the Spring Meeting. I thank you for your prayers, for your support, and for your help. The time will come in which we will present the report from the Euro-Africa Division. Enjoy your working day.

#### TRANS-EUROPEAN DIVISION

Jan Paulsen, President of the Trans-European Division, presented a report for the Trans-European Division. Let me share with you three major challenges we face. First, in parts of our division which are growing rapidly and which have potential for very rapid growth—such as the Baltic Union and other parts of Eastern Europe, and in Albania where two years ago we had no believers, but today we have six congregations—there is an enormous shortage of houses of worship, churches, homes for these congregations. The problem is made even more acute by the fact that when these countries open to the west, business interests in the west flood in, and they are prepared to pay western European prices for properties. Therefore, the cost of building churches is rapidly increasing in Eastern

Europe to the extent that it is almost beyond our reach. We have no church buildings in Albania. We are sending a team to build the first church there May 1. In the Baltic Union nine out of ten congregations do not own their own church homes. They worship in rented halls. The potential for explosive growth of the church is checked by the inability of the church to provide houses of worship for themselves that they own and in which they can meet regularly for worship. The financial problem is all the more acute because, while the price of building is almost the same as in Western Europe, or rapidly nearing those prices, the income of the average worker is five percent or less than that of Western Europe. Please bear with us when we ask for your help. It is a genuine cry for help, because they cannot do it by themselves.

The second major challenge that we face is Islam. Pastor Chun mentioned it regarding the Far Eastern Division. If the Middle East Union, through the wisdom of the brethren, is attached to our division, it will mean that in 1995, two-thirds of the total population of the Trans-European Division will be Moslem. Four hundred million people are Moslems. It requires major rethinking and strategy by our church to know what we are going to do, how we are going to reach them, and what the nature and extent of our witnessing work should be. The church has some major rethinking to do on approaches and goal setting among Moslems. How much should we try to achieve? Is it enough to just simply witness? Where and to what extent is it possible to engage in contextualized witnessing work, since situations are so different from one Moslem country to another? Some are so rigid that you place the lives of people and institutions in jeopardy if you go in too boldly. To what extent is it possible for the church to establish a presence, an entity, which somehow carries an identity other than that of our own church? I look forward to our church addressing these critical issues, and by the Spirit's wisdom, guidance, and strength finding a fruitful approach to witnessing and sharing our faith among the Moslems.

The third major challenge is the challenge of nationalism. I sense new waves of it sweeping through Europe again. There was a difficult time many decades ago in the 1930's and 1940's. There is a recurrence of nationalism coming in the wake of a large influx of refugees spreading across all of Western Europe. There are more refugees in Europe today than there were at the end of the Second World War. They are there because of ruptures such as those taking place in the Balkans at this time, or because large multitudes of people are just moving, migrating, seeking to improve their financial lot. The social systems of various countries in Western Europe are being tested beyond the limits of their financial and social structures. Hostility builds up. It is a challenge for the church to serve as a healing instrument and to make sure that the church stays as one family, held together by common faith and common love, so we can reach people of all ethnic compositions and all parts of the community. Thank you for your interest, for your prayers, and for your financial support.

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PRE/GCDOUP94SM/94SM to RSF

PATTERSON, GARY B—GENERAL CONFERENCE FIELD  
SECRETARY - ELECTION

VOTED, To elect Gary B Patterson as General Conference Field Secretary with an assignment as Director of Mission Awareness.

PRE/ADCOM/94SM to RSF

BRILLHART, DAVID—ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,  
COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT - ELECTION

VOTED, To elect David Brillhart as Associate Director, Communication Department, General Conference.

SUD/GCDOUP94SM/94SM to GRT

ABRAHAM, DITTU—DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATION  
DEPARTMENT, SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION - ELECTION

VOTED, To elect Dittu Abraham as Director of the Communication Department, Southern Asia Division.

EAD/GCDOUP94SM/94SM to GRT

WANGAI, PAUL—DIRECTOR, HEALTH AND TEMPERANCE  
DEPARTMENT, EASTERN AFRICA DIVISION - ELECTION

VOTED, To elect Paul Wangai as Director of the Health and Temperance Department, Eastern Africa Division.

StratPl&Bud/94SM to DER

170-94G ANNUAL SACRIFICE OFFERING - GLOBAL MISSION

VOTED, To implement changes to the Annual Sacrifice Offering as follows:

1. Allocate 100 percent of the Annual Sacrifice Offering that is received by the General Conference to Global Mission, effective January 1, 1995.
2. Assign the full Annual Sacrifice Offering as the principal source of income to fund Global Mission operations throughout the world.
3. Cover the Global Mission in-house operating costs by income received from the Global Mission Endowment Fund.
4. Study the possibility of incorporating into the Annual Sacrifice Offering the concept of sacrificing one day of income for this offering.

Admin/ADCOM/PRADCO/ADCOM/GCC/GCC/HOOUP81AC/SEC/SEC/GCC/  
191-92G/134-93G/CA/94SM to MV

**135-94G IAD HEADQUARTERS STAFF—EMPLOYMENT CRITERIA  
AND PROCEDURES**

**VOTED,** To adjust the Inter-American Division Headquarters Staff—Employment Criteria and Procedures as voted by the General Conference Committee (see GCC 81-5 and 81-32) as follows:

1. To recognize that the following general policy principles serve as the basis for the procedures proposed in paragraph 5 below.
  - a. To qualify for service credit in a division the following criteria must apply:
    - 1) The individual must be an employee of the division or one of its component organizations, or a regular missionary appointee from that division.
    - 2) The employing organization must contribute to the retirement plan of the division. (This is not required for regular missionary appointees.)
  - b. Service credit earned in one division is not transferable to another division except under the provisions of GC Z 25 70 and GC D 17 25-3.
2. To state for information purposes that the types of interdivision moves recognized in policy with corresponding service credit/retirement responsibilities are as follows:

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a. Regular Interdivision (missionary) Call. The individual is called to serve in a division other than the base division but continues to receive service credit for that service in the base division.

b. Independent Transfer of an Employee and/or Local Employment of a Nondenominational Employee in the Adopted Division. The individual is employed locally (without a call) by the adopted division or one of its component organizations and receives service credit for that employment in the adopted division.

c. Call/Permanent Return to Home/Base Division. The individual is called by or returns permanently to the home/base division and is employed by the home/base division or one of its component organizations and receives credit for that service in the home/base division. (For exception see GC Z 25 70 Employee Returning on Special Arrangement.)

3. To record the following points regarding the status of the headquarters office of the Inter-American Division:

a. It is a component organization of the Inter-American Division although located physically in the territory of the North American Division.

b. Its unique situation in the territory of the North American Division allows it to have unusual access to employee sources in the North American Division.

4. To recognize that the unique status and situation of the Inter-American Division headquarters office requires special employment procedures to ensure:

a. That its headquarters staff employees be fully informed regarding their division and service relationships.

b. That the North American Division retirement plan not be required to assume retirement obligations incurred by the decisions of an organization which does not contribute to its funding.

5. To adopt procedures for employment by the Inter-American Division of individuals to serve on the division headquarters staff in Coral Gables, Florida, and guidelines for determining service record and retirement responsibilities as follows:

a. Employment on a regular interdivision basis

1) Applicable to



a) Elected staff members and their spouses from any division, except elected staff members from the North American Division who are not eligible for regular interdivision allowances

b) Nonelected staff members called in the regular way from any division except the North American Division

- |    |                           |   |
|----|---------------------------|---|
| 2) | Employment procedure      | Regular call according to policy                                  |
| 3) | Retirement responsibility | Individual's base (home/adopted) division as determined by policy |

b. Employment on a regular intradivision call basis

1) Applicable to elected or nonelected staff members based in the territory of the Inter-American Division

- |    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 2) | Employment procedure                         | Regular intradivision call according to IAD policy |
| 3) | Service Record and Retirement responsibility | Inter-American Division                            |

c. Employment on a Local or Independent Transfer Basis

1) Applicable to

a) Nonelected staff members from any division except the North American Division and with no previous service record in any division

b) Nonelected staff members from any division except the North American and Inter-American Divisions who have service records in their divisions but who advisedly choose not to continue adding to their previous service records but attempt to earn Inter-American Division service credit

- |    |                      |   |
|----|----------------------|---|
| 2) | Employment procedure | Local Employment Basis:<br>Employee notified in writing of his/her local employment and retirement status as an |
|----|----------------------|---|

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Inter-American Division adopted  
base employee.

- 3) Service Record and  
Retirement responsibility

Inter-American Division for  
service given in IAD; other  
division(s) for any previous  
service in the respective  
division(s)

d. Employment on a Special Basis

- 1) Applicable to

a) Nonelected staff members whose home division is the  
Inter-American Division but who also have an adopted division and qualify under the  
provisions of GC D 17 25-3 and GC Z 25 70

b) Nonelected staff members whose base division is the  
North American Division

- 2) Employment procedure

Approval by the Inter-American  
Division Committee

Approval by the General  
Conference Appointees  
Committee

Approval by the individual's  
adopted division if under  
1)-a) above (GC for NAD)

Employee notified in writing of  
his/her employment and retirement  
status

- 3) Service Record and  
Retirement responsibility

Base (home/adopted)  
division service record processed  
through the General Conference and  
base division secretariat upon  
employment by and disconnection  
from IAD

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IAD pays into the retirement fund of the home/adopted division 15% of that division's wage factor for each month of service given by the individual

6. To adopt the following procedures when an Inter-American Division-based employee serving within the territory of the North American Division as an interdivision employee, is called to the Inter-American Division headquarters:

- a. A permanent return will be voted terminating the interdivision status.
- b. All expenses relative to the transfer of the interdivision employee will be distributed according to the General Conference *Working Policy M 35 15*, except for rehabilitation allowance which shall be omitted.
- c. The Inter-American Division will be responsible to apply the service accrued outside the territory of the Inter-American Division since the last furlough to the service requirement of the Inter-American Division for intradivision furlough entitlement.

7. To apply the procedures in paragraph 5. above to all Inter-American Division headquarters staff members effective January 1, 1981.

8. To apply the procedures in paragraph 6. above to all Inter-American Division headquarters staff members effective March 30, 1994.

FED/ADCOM/GCDOUP94SM/94SM to AHT-94AC+GCDO95GCS+95GCS

157-94G FAR EASTERN DIVISION—NAME CHANGE TO ASIA-PACIFIC DIVISION

There was considerable discussion regarding the time when the name change for the Far Eastern Division should become effective. In order that the decision could be made by the larger group which will be present at Annual Council, it was

VOTED, To refer changing the name of the Far Eastern Division to Asia-Pacific Division to the 1994 Annual Council.

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GRIBd/94SM to CBR

**GIBSON, L JAMES—DIRECTOR, GEOSCIENCE RESEARCH  
INSTITUTE - APPOINTMENT**

VOTED, To accept the recommendation of the Geoscience Research Institute Board to appoint L James Gibson as Director of the Geoscience Research Institute, effective October 1, 1994.

SEC/GCDOUP92SM/92SM/SEC/GCDOUP92AC/92AC/105-92Gc/SEC/GCDOUP93SM/  
93SM/SEC/SEC/SEC/GCDOUP93AC/93AC/105-93Gb/GCDOUP94SM/94SM to  
HWB(DIV)-GCDOUP94AC+94AC

**102-94Ga AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 1994**

RECOMMENDED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 1994 with the understanding that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>March 1994</u>			
29(eve)	Tue	Home Study International Board	Silver Spring MD
29,30	Tue	GC & Division Officers & Union Pres	Silver Spring MD
30,31	Wed	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
<u>April 1994</u>			
7	Thu	PPPA Board	Nampa ID
10-16	Sun	Oakwood Col Student Recruit/Pub Wknd	Huntsville AL
13	Wed	Review & Herald Board	Hagerstown MD
17-20	Sun	Asia Pacific Health Care Council	Sydney AUST
20	Wed	Andrews Univ Executive Committee	Ber Spgs MI
21	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
<u>May 1994</u>			
3-5	Tue	Latin American Lit Min Coordinating Board	Sao Paulo BRAZIL
4-6	Wed	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Ber Spgs MI
9,10	Mon	Oakwood College Board	Huntsville AL
13(am)	Fri	LLU Budget & Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
15	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
16,17	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>June 1994</u>			
1	Wed	Risk Management Services Board	Silver Spring MD
14	Tue	Adventist Media Center Exec Committee	Newbury Park CA
14-18	Tue	Div and Att Un Global Mission Coord Mtg	Cohutta Spgs GA
16	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
22-July 23	Wed	Institute of World Mission	Ber Spgs MI
<u>July 1994</u>			
22	Fri	Andrews Univ Finance Committee	Ber Spgs MI
24	Sun	Andrews Univ Subcommittees	Ber Spgs MI
24(am)	Sun	Andrews Univ Seminary Subcommittee	Ber Spgs MI
25	Mon	Andrews University Board	Ber Spgs MI
28	Thu	Christian Record Services Board	Lincoln NE
<u>August 1994</u>			
2-6	Tue	World Education Advisory	Silver Spring MD
2-6	Tue	Intl Youth Evangelism Workshop	
7-10	Sun	Seminar for College/Uni Board Chairmen	Silver Spring MD
10	Wed	Risk Management Services Board	Burlington VT
12-16	Fri	Biblical Research Inst Science Council	Ogden UT
14	Sun	ICPA	Hamburg GER
17,18	Wed	Asia Pacific LMCB	Singapore
19	Fri	LLU Budget & Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
21(pm)	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
22,23	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
24	Wed	Adventist Media Center Board	Newbury Park CA
25	Thu	PPPA Board	Nampa ID
<u>September 1994</u>			
6-16	Tue	GC Staff Travel Moratorium	
13	Tue	Review and Herald Board	Hagerstown MD
19-21	Mon	Risk Management Conference	Palm Springs CA
22	Thu	RMS Personnel Workshop	Tucson AZ
22(am)	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
22,23	Thu	GC & Division Officers Interviews	Silver Spring MD
25	Sun	GC & Division Presidents	Silver Spring MD
25	Sun	GC & Division Secretaries	Silver Spring MD
25	Sun	GC & Division Treasurers	Silver Spring MD
26	Mon	General Conference Commissions	Silver Spring MD

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>September 1994 contd</u>			
27	Tue	GC Institution Interviews	Silver Spring MD
28	Wed	Strategic Planning & Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
29-Oct 2	Thu	GC & Div Officers & Union Presidents	Silver Spring MD
<u>October 1994</u>			
3(am)	Mon	ADRA Board	Silver Spring MD
3(pm)	Mon	AWR Board	Silver Spring MD
3(eve)-10	Mon	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
5(eve)	Wed	Home Study International Board	Silver Spring MD
6(eve)	Thu	International Board of Education	Silver Spring MD
14(am)	Fri	LLU Budget & Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
16	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
17,18	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
17-Nov 5	Mon	Institute of World Mission	Loma Linda CA
23,24	Sun	Oakwood College Board	Huntsville AL
23-25	Sun	Christian View of Human Life Committee	Silver Spring MD
31-Nov 4	Mon	SDA-LWF Conversation	Darmstadt GER
<u>November 1994</u>			
16	Wed	Andrews Univ Executive Committee	Ber Spgs MI
<u>December 1994</u>			
7	Wed	Risk Management Services Board	Silver Spring MD
14	Wed	Adventist Media Center Executive Committee	Thousand Oaks CA
15	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA

SEC/GCDOUP93SM/93SM/SEC/GCDOUP93AC/93AC/105-93Gc/GCDOUP94SM/94SM to  
HWB(DIV)-GCDOUP94AC+94AC

#### 102-94Gb AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 1995

RECOMMENDED, To approve the updated list of Authorized Meetings 1995 with the understanding that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity as follows:

94-37  
March 30, 1994  
GCC Spring Meeting, a.m.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>January 1995</u>			
11	Wed	AHS/LL Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
12	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
18,19	Wed	Eastern Asia Committee	Silver Spring MD
<u>February 1995</u>			
6	Mon	Adventist Media Center Board	Newbury Park CA
8	Wed	Geoscience Institute Board	Loma Linda CA
10	Fri	LLU Budget and Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
12(am)	Sun	LLU & GC Officers Committees	Loma Linda CA
12(pm)	Sun	LLU Planning Committee	Loma Linda CA
13,14	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
14(pm)	Tue	AHS/LL Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
14-17	Tue	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Loma Linda CA
15	Wed	AHS/LL Board	Loma Linda CA
16	Thu	Inst of World Mission Admin Council	Ber Spgs MI
17-21	Fri	PPPA & R&H ABC Marketing Seminar	Glendale CA
24	Fri	Andrews Univ Building/Finance Committee	Ber Spgs MI
26(am)	Sun	Andrews Univ Subcommittees	Ber Spgs MI
26(am)	Sun	Andrews Univ Seminary Exec Committee	Ber Spgs MI
27	Mon	Andrews University Board	Ber Spgs MI
<u>March 1995</u>			
1	Wed	Christian Record Services Board	Lincoln NE
6-11	Mon	GC Colloquium	Silver Spring MD
6-25	Mon	Institute of World Mission	Loma Linda CA
15	Wed	Risk Management Services Board	Silver Spring MD
22	Wed	AHS/LL Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
23	Thu	PPPA Board	Nampa ID
23	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
26-28	Sun	Christian View of Human Life Committee	Loma Linda CA
27	Mon	Review & Herald Board	Hagerstown MD
27,28	Mon	GC & Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
29	Wed	GC & Division Presidents	Silver Spring MD
30	Thu	Strategic Planning & Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
31	Fri	General Conference Commissions	Silver Spring MD

94-38

March 30, 1994

GCC Spring Meeting, a.m.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>April 1995</u>			
2,3	Sun	GC & Division Officers & Union Pres	Silver Spring MD
4,5	Tue	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
19	Wed	Andrews Univ Executive Committee	Ber Spgs MI
19	Wed	AHS/LL Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
20	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
<u>May 1995</u>			
2-4	Tue	Latin American LMCB	
3-5	Wed	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Ber Spgs MI
8,9	Mon	Oakwood College Board	Huntsville AL
12(am)	Fri	LLU Budget & Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
14	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
15,16	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
16(pm)	Tue	AHS/LL Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
17	Wed	AHS/LL Board	Loma Linda CA
29-June 19	Mon	GC Staff Travel Moratorium	
31	Wed	Risk Management Services Board	Silver Spring MD
<u>June 1995</u>			
5-24	Mon	Institute of World Mission	Ber Spgs MI
13	Tue	Adventist Media Center Exec Committee	Newbury Park CA
14	Wed	AHS/LL Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
15	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
19-22	Mon	EGW-SDA Research Ctr Directors	Newbold Col ENG
25,26	Sun	GC & Division Presidents	Utrecht NETH
25,26	Sun	GC & Division Secretaries	Utrecht NETH
25,26	Sun	GC & Division Treasurers	Utrecht NETH
27,28	Tue	GC & Division Officers	Utrecht NETH
29-July 8	Thu	General Conference Session	Utrecht NETH
<u>July 1995</u>			
9-Aug 5	Sun	European Institute of World Mission	
21	Fri	Andrews Univ Finance Committee	Ber Spgs MI
23(am)	Sun	Andrews Univ Subcommittees	Ber Spgs MI
23(am)	Sun	Andrews Univ Seminary Subcommittees	Ber Spgs MI
24	Mon	Andrews University Board	Ber Spgs MI
27	Thu	Christian Record Services Board	Lincoln NE
31	Mon	Eastern Asia Committee	Silver Spring MD



94-39  
March 30, 1994  
GCC Spring Meeting, a.m.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>August 1995</u>			
4-8	Fri	Biblical Research Institute Sc Council	
9	Wed	Risk Management Services Board	Burlington VT
18	Fri	LLU Budget & Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
20	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
21,22	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
23	Wed	Adventist Media Center Board	Newbury Park CA
24	Thu	PPPA Constituency and Board	Nampa ID
<u>September 1995</u>			
5-15	Tue	GC Staff Travel Moratorium	
12	Tue	Review & Herald Constituency & Board	Hagerstown MD
18	Mon	RMS Personnel Workshop	
19-21	Tue	Risk Management Conference	
20(am)	Wed	AHS/LL Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
21(am)	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
21,22	Thu	GC & Division Officers Interviews	Silver Spring MD
24	Sun	GC & Division Presidents	Silver Spring MD
25	Mon	General Conference Commissions	Silver Spring MD
26	Tue	GC Institution Interviews	Silver Spring MD
27	Wed	Strategic Planning & Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
28,29	Thu	GC & Division Officers & Union President	Silver Spring MD
<u>October 1995</u>			
2(am)	Mon	ADRA Board	Silver Spring MD
2(pm)	Mon	Adventist World Radio Board	
3	Tue	Eastern Asia Committee	Silver Spring MD
3	Tue	GC & Division Officers Interviews	Silver Spring MD
3(eve)-10	Tue	Annual Council	Silver Spring MD
4(eve)	Wed	Home Study International Board	Silver Spring MD
11,12	Wed	Asia Pacific LMCB	
13(am)	Fri	LLU Budget & Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
15	Sun	LLU Constituency	Loma Linda CA
16,17	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
17(pm)	Tue	AHS/LL Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
18	Wed	AHS/LL Board	Loma Linda CA
18-Nov 7	Wed	Institute of World Mission	Ber Spgs MI
22-24	Sun	Christian View of Human Life Committee	Silver Spring MD
22	Sun	Oakwood College Board Committees	Huntsville AL

94-40  
March 30, 1994  
GCC Spring Meeting, a.m.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>October 1995</u> contd			
23	Mon	Oakwood College Board	Huntsville AL
30-Nov 2	Mon	GC & Div H & T Leader's Council	Silver Spring MD
<u>November 1995</u>			
15	Wed	Andrews Univ Executive Committee	Ber Spgs MI
<u>December 1995</u>			
6	Wed	Risk Management Services Board	Silver Spring MD
13	Wed	Adventist Media Center Executive Committee	Thousand Oaks CA
13	Wed	AHS/LL Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
14	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA

SEC/GCDOUP94SM/94SM to HWB(DIV)-GCDOUP94AC+94AC

102-94Gc AUTHORIZED MEETINGS 1996

RECOMMENDED, To approve Authorized Meetings 1996 with the understanding that attendance at these meetings must also be approved by the administration of each entity as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>January 1996</u>			
10	Wed	AHS/LL Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
11	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
17,18	Wed	Eastern Asia Committee	Silver Spring MD
<u>February 1996</u>			
5	Mon	Adventist Media Center Board	Newbury Park CA
7	Wed	Geoscience Institute Board	Loma Linda CA
9	Fri	LLU Budget and Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
11(am)	Sun	LLU & GC Officers Committees	Loma Linda CA
11(pm)	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
12,13	Mon	LL Board	Loma Linda CA
13(pm)	Tue	AH LL Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
13-16	Tue	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Loma Linda CA
14	Wed	AHS/LL Board	Loma Linda CA

94-41  
March 30, 1994  
GCC Spring Meeting, a.m.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>February 1996</u> contd			
15	Thu	Inst of World Mission Admin Council	Ber Spgs MI
23	Fri	Andrews Univ Building/Finance Committee	Ber Spgs MI
25	Sun	Andrews Univ Constituency	Ber Spgs MI
26	Mon	Andrews University Board	Ber Spgs MI
28	Wed	Christian Record Services Board	Lincoln NE
<u>March 1996</u>			
1-5	Fri	PPPA & R&H ABC Marketing Seminar	West Coast
4-9	Mon	GC Colloquium/Travel Moratorium	Silver Spring MD
11	Mon	GC Women's Ministries Advisory	Silver Spring MD
13	Wed	Risk Management Services Board	Silver Spring MD
13-April 6	Wed	Institute of World Mission	Loma Linda CA
20	Wed	AHS/LL Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
21	Thu	PPPA Board	Nampa ID
21	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
24-26	Sun	Christian View of Human Life Committee	Loma Linda CA
25	Mon	Review & Herald Board	Hagerstown MD
25,26	Mon	GC & Division Officer Interviews	Silver Spring MD
27	Wed	GC & Division Presidents	Silver Spring MD
28	Thu	Strategic Planning & Budgeting Committee	Silver Spring MD
29	Fri	General Conference Commissions	Silver Spring MD
31-April 1	Sun	GC & Division Officers & Union Pres	Silver Spring MD
<u>April 1996</u>			
2,3	Tue	Spring Meeting	Silver Spring MD
17	Wed	Andrews Univ Executive Committee	Ber Spgs MI
17	Wed	AHS/LL Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
18	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
30-May 2	Tue	Latin American LMCB	
<u>May 1996</u>			
1-3	Wed	Biblical Research Institute Committee	Ber Spgs MI
5	Sun	Oakwood Constituency	Huntsville AL
6	Mon	Oakwood College Board	Huntsville AL
10(am)	Fri	LLU Budget & Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
12	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
13,14	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
14(pm)	Tue	AHS/LL Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA

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March 30, 1994

GCC Spring Meeting, a.m.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>May 1996</u> contd			
15	Wed	AHS/LL Board	Loma Linda CA
20,21	Mon	Eastern Asia Committee	Loma Linda CA
29	Wed	Risk Management Services Board	Silver Spring MD
30	Thu	H&T Directors Council	
<u>June 1996</u>			
11	Tue	Adventist Media Center Exec Committee	Newbury Park CA
12-July 11	Wed	Institute of World Mission	Ber Spgs MI
12	Wed	AHS/LL Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
13	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
16-28	Sun	Faith & Learning Seminar	
17-20	Mon	EGW-SDA Research Ctr Directors	
19-July 20	Wed	Institute of World Mission	
<u>July 1996</u>			
15	Mon	AAFLP Board	Ber Spgs MI
19	Fri	Andrews University Finance Committee	Ber Spgs MI
21	Sun	Andrews Univ Subcommittees	Ber Spgs MI
21(am)	Sun	Andrews Univ Seminary Subcommittee	Ber Spgs MI
22	Mon	Andrews University Board	Ber Spgs MI
25	Thu	Christian Record Services Board	Lincoln NE
29	Mon	Eastern Asia Committee	Silver Spring MD
<u>August 1996</u>			
2-6	Fri	Biblical Research Institute Sc Council	
7	Wed	Risk Management Services Board	Burlington VT
16	Fri	LLU Budget & Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
18(pm)	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
19,20	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
21	Wed	Adventist Media Center Board	Newbury Park CA
22	Thu	PPPA Board	Nampa ID
<u>September 1996</u>			
3-13	Tue	GC Staff Travel Moratorium	
5	Thu	GC Women's Ministries Advisory	Silver Spring MD
16	Mon	RMS Personnel Workshop	
17	Tue	Review and Herald Board	Hagerstown MD
17-19	Tue	Risk Management Conference	

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>MEETING</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
<u>September 1996 contd</u>			
18(am)	Wed	AHS/LL Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
19(am)	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
20,22	Fri	GC & Division Officers Interviews	Costa Rica
23	Mon	Strategic Planning & Budgeting Committee	Costa Rica
24,25	Tue	GC & Division Presidents	Costa Rica
24,25	Tue	GC & Division Secretaries	Costa Rica
24,25	Tue	GC & Division Treasurers	Costa Rica
26	Thu	GC Institution Interviews	Costa Rica
27-30	Fri	GC & Div Officers & Un Presidents	Costa Rica
<u>October 1996</u>			
1(am)	Tue	ADRA Board	Costa Rica
1(pm)	Tue	AWR Board	Costa Rica
1	Tue	GC & Division Officers Interviews	Costa Rica
1(eve)-8	Tue	Annual Council	Costa Rica
2(eve)	Wed	Home Study International Board	
9,10	Wed	Asia Pacific LMCB	
11(am)	Fri	LLU Budget & Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
13	Sun	LLU Board Committees	Loma Linda CA
14,15	Mon	LLU Board	Loma Linda CA
15(pm)	Tue	AHS/LL Finance Committee	Loma Linda CA
16	Wed	AHS/LL Board	Loma Linda CA
16-Nov 9	Wed	Institute of World Mission	Ber Spgs MI
20-22	Sun	Christian View of Human Life Committee	Silver Spring MD
20,21	Sun	Oakwood College Board	Huntsville AL
<u>November 1996</u>			
20	Wed	Andrews University Ex Committee	Berrien Springs MI
<u>December 1996</u>			
4	Wed	Risk Management Services Board	Silver Spring MD
11	Wed	Adventist Media Center Executive Committee	Thousand Oaks CA
11	Wed	AHS/LL Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA
12	Thu	LLU Executive Committee	Loma Linda CA

94-44

March 30, 1994

GCC Spring Meeting, a.m.

PRE/GCDOUP94SM/94SM to RSF

**171-94G ERITREA FIELD—ATTACHED FIELD TO EASTERN  
AFRICA DIVISION**

VOTED, To deny the request of the Eastern Africa Division to attach the Eritrea Field to another world division, or attached union, and to recommend to the Eastern Africa Division that the Eritrea Field become an attached field to the Eastern Africa Division.

CM/StewCon/GCDOUP94SM/94SM to MAB

**161-94G STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY -  
DEFINITION OF A FAITHFUL TITHE**

VOTED, To approve the Stewardship Renewal and Fiscal Responsibility - Definition of a Faithful Tithe, as follows:

**What Constitutes a Faithful Tithe?**

The principle that has been followed since the beginning of the Seventh-day Adventist Church is that a faithful tithe is a full tithe returned to God in recognition that we and all creation belong to Him. "All the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the Lord's; it is holy to the Lord" (Lev. 27:30, RSV). "Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house . . . says the Lord of hosts" (Mal. 3:10, RSV). The tithe is as holy as the Sabbath is holy. Because all tithe belongs to God, human beings have only one responsibility—to return the full tithe to God, the Owner of the universe. "This is a matter of simple honesty" (*Education*, pp 138, 139).

A faithful tithe on personal income means returning the tithe as first fruits of personal income. "But the tithe was . . . to be given from the first fruits of all the increase" (*Counsels on Stewardship*, p. 71; Prov. 3:9). The following recommendations are based on the biblical principles of tithing. A faithful tithe on personal income should be computed on the gross amount of a wage or salary earner's income before legally required (federal or state) income taxes or other employee authorized deductions. (Personal income includes: salary, hourly wages, tips, commissions, perquisites, job-related allowances, benefits, pension income, investment income, trusts, inheritances, annuities, net gain on the sale of securities and real estate, etc. Allowances and benefits are personal income to the extent that they are not offset by actual job-related expenses.)

A faithful tithe on business or professional operations is based on net income after having deducted all expenses involved in running the business or profession. Business tithe should also include net income received on the sale of capital assets such as capital gains realized on investments sold or gain on the sale of securities. In businesses where actual net income is determined only at the end of a long accounting period, tithe should be returned on a systematic and timely basis based on estimated income. An adjustment should be made at the end of the accounting period as to the actual tithe due. In determining profits from businesses or professions, accepted accounting procedures applied in a consistent manner from year-to-year should be followed.

CM/StewCon/GCDOUP94SM/94SM to MAB

162-94Ga SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST OFFERING PLAN -  
PERSONAL CHOICE GIVING

VOTED, To approve the simple, uniform giving plan for the World Church called *Personal Choice Giving*. This plan provides options, in addition to the Lord's tithe, by which church needs would be covered either by a budgeted or a designated offering. Either of these options would include Sabbath School World Missions as integral to the giving plan.

*Personal Choice Giving* is recommended as the name for the Seventh-day Adventist giving plan. It is based on the understanding that God has always permitted His creation to choose freely in all decisions of life and expresses the individual's personal choice. Part of our covenant relationship with the Lord will be manifested in our giving response to Him. The giving plan expresses our love and gratitude to God and our commitment to participate in His mission.

94-46

March 30, 1994

GCC Spring Meeting, a.m.

*The Lord's Tithe*

Tithe	10%	To support the gospel ministry
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*Personal Choice Giving*

Local Church	5%*	To support the mission of my local church
Local Conference	2%*	To support the non-tithe needs of my local conference
World Church	3%*	To support world missions through the Sabbath School and annual appeals
Special Projects	%*	To support selected designated projects beyond my regular giving

\*Offering percentages are only suggestions and represent the average needed for each offering category.

It is understood that tithe is nonnegotiable. All the tithe belongs to God and should be returned to the local conference through the local church. Offerings are separate from the tithe and may be designated as the member chooses or a budget option may be chosen for Local Church, Local Conference, or World Church. It is the responsibility of Division Stewardship Commissions to recommend to their constituencies either a budget option or a plan for supporting individually designated offerings. It is understood that divisions recommending a budget option must submit to General Conference officers a plan for



supporting World Missions and for auditing local churches. Seventh-day Adventists support systematic giving as the foundation to properly operate the entire Church in a responsible and balanced manner.

CM/StewCon/GCDOUP94SM/94SM to MAB-PolRev&Dev + ADCOM + 94AC

162-94Gc FINANCIAL SUPPORT (Tithes and Offerings) -  
POLICY AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDED, To amend GC T 05, Financial Support, section T 05 15, Tithes and Offerings, paragraph 3, Giving Guide, to read as follows:

3. Giving Guide—For systematic giving a second 10% of income in addition to the tithe is suggested as the minimum goal for individual giving. giving, reflecting local church needs, conference needs, and the worldwide needs of the Church.

CM/StewCon/GCDOUP94SM/94SM to MAB

169-94G WORLD STEWARDSHIP CONSULTATION -  
RECOMMENDATIONS

VOTED, To approve World Stewardship Consultation - Recommendations as follows:

1. Encourage Stewardship Ministries and the Department of Education to work together in developing curricular and practical dimensions of broad stewardship concepts at the elementary, secondary, and college levels, touching, for example, on courses in Bible, business, and the sciences.

2. Request that the General Conference Administrative Committee include a Sabbath School quarterly devoted to the broad spectrum of stewardship at the earliest possible date.

3. Appoint the Stewardship Director as a member of the Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee at each level of church organization.

94-48  
March 30, 1994  
GCC Spring Meeting, a.m.

RUSComm/ESD/94SM to MV-95GCS

**172-94Ga DISSOLUTION OF RUSSIAN UNION CONFERENCE**

In harmony with the findings of the Russian Union Survey Commission and the recommendation of the Euro-Asia Division, it was

**RECOMMENDED, To dissolve the Russian Union Conference.**

RUSComm/ESD/94SM to MV-95GCS

**172-94Gb EAST RUSSIAN UNION—APPROVAL**

**RECOMMENDED, To organize the East Russian Union Mission covering the territory of Russia east of the Ural Mountains comprised of the West Siberian Conference, the East Siberian Mission, and the Far Eastern Mission. (A session will be held July 1994 and operations will begin October 1994.)**

RUSComm/ESD/94SM to MV-95GCS

**172-94Gc WEST RUSSIAN UNION CONFERENCE—APPROVAL**

**RECOMMENDED, To organize the West Russian Union Conference covering the territory of Russia west of the Ural Mountains comprised of the Central Conference, North Caucasus Conference, Northwestern Conference, Southern Conference, Ural Conference, Volga Conference, and Volga-Vyatskaya Conference. (A session will be held July 1994 and operations will begin October 1994.)**

**Adjourned.**

Matthew A Bediako, Chairman  
Mario Veloso, Secretary  
Athol H Tolhurst, Editorial Secretary  
Carol Rasmussen, Recording Secretary

## SPRING MEETING

March 30, 1994, 2:30 p.m.

Calvin B Rock called the afternoon session to order.

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### PRAYER

Prayer was offered by Winston T Clark.

94SM to DFG

### CURRENT FINANCIAL REPORT

Donald F Gilbert, Treasurer, reported on the current financial situation of the Church. There is cause for concern since many of the usual sources of income showed a slight decrease during 1993. It is hoped that there will be improvement in 1994.

StratPl&Bud/GCDOUP94SM/94SM to DER

### 146-94Gb OPERATING EXPENSE CAP 1993 - REPORT

In fulfillment of the requirements of two 1991 Annual Council actions (see GCC 91-443) which confirmed and accepted the operating expense cap for the General Conference at 4.85 percent of gross North American Division tithe and world tithe received as approved by the 1991 Spring Meeting, it was

VOTED, To record the Operating Expense Cap 1993 - Report, as follows:

#### Operating Expense Cap for the General Conference 1993

Total Income Basis	\$457,477,833
Expense Cap at 4.85 Percent of Above	22,187,675
Net Expense for 1993	21,083,033
Expense as a Percentage of Cap	95.0%
Amount Under the Cap	1,104,642

94-50  
March 30, 1994  
GCC Spring Meeting, p.m.

StratPl&Bud/94SM/94SM to DER

170-94G ANNUAL SACRIFICE OFFERING - GLOBAL MISSION

VOTED, To implement changes to the Annual Sacrifice Offering as follows:

1. Allocate 100 percent of the Annual Sacrifice Offering that is received by the General Conference to Global Mission, effective January 1, 1995.
2. Assign the full Annual Sacrifice Offering as the source of income from the General Conference to fund Global Mission operations throughout the world.
3. Cover the Global Mission in-house operating costs by income received from the Global Mission Endowment Fund.
4. Study the possibility of incorporating into the Annual Sacrifice Offering the concept of sacrificing one day of income for this offering.

StratPl&Bud94SM/94SM to DER

173-94G GENERAL CONFERENCE BUDGET PROJECTIONS  
FOR 1995

Donald E Robinson, Undertreasurer, presented a report from the Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee outlining the General Conference budget projections for 1995. It was

VOTED, 1. To accept the General Conference budget projections for 1995 based on present trends which indicate a decline of 7 percent in World Mission Offerings and .5 percent in Tithe.

2. To encourage the membership throughout the world field to make the spiritual commitment of being God's channels to meet the opportunities of the Church throughout the world today.

94-51  
March 30, 1994  
GCC Spring Meeting, p.m.

TRE/94SM to DFG

#### AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 1993 - REPORT

Donald F Gilbert and Donald E Robinson expressed appreciation to the Treasury and Accounting staff for their help in the preparation of the monthly and yearly financial statements for 1993.

Jack E Powers of Maner, Costerisan and Ellis read the auditors' opinion for each of the following financial statements which were presented by Donald E Robinson:

- Combined Financial Statements
- Operating Fund
- Estates Fund
- Plant Fund
- Other Funds

Robert E Osborn expressed appreciation to his Investment staff for their help in the preparation of the financial statements for the year 1993.

Jack E Powers of Maner, Costerisan and Ellis read the auditors' opinion for each of the following financial statements which were presented by Robert E Osborn:

- Money Fund
- Investment Fund
- Income Fund
- International Fund

VOTED, To accept the Audited Financial Statements of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for the period ended December 31, 1993 and the auditors' opinions included in the reports.

TRE/94SM to GHC

#### AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 1993—NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION RETIREMENT PLAN - AUDITORS' OPINIONS

Jack E Powers of Maner, Costerisan and Ellis gave a general statement regarding the auditors' opinions of the various Financial Statements of the Seventh-day Adventist

94-52

March 30, 1994

GCC Spring Meeting, p.m.

Retirement Plan of the North American Division which will be presented following the 1994 Spring Meeting to a North American Division Audit Review Committee.

94SM to RSF

158-94G EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION AND ALLOWANCE  
REVIEW COMMITTEE—1994 SPRING MEETING

VOTED, To appoint the following Employee Remuneration and Allowance Review Committee for Spring Meeting 1994:

MEMBERS

Presidential

FOLKENBERG, ROBERT S, Chairman  
Ball, Bryan B  
Cherian, M E  
Chun, P D  
Leito, Israel  
Ludescher, Edwin  
McClure, Alfred C  
Nortey, Jacob J  
Paulsen, Jan  
Raelly, L D  
Wilson, Ted N C  
Wolff, Joao

Secretariat

Thompson, G Ralph  
Veloso, Mario

Treasury

Gilbert, Donald F, Secretary  
Crumley, George H  
Rick, Rowena R  
Robinson, Donald E

Departments and Services

Appenzeller, Ronald  
Carter, G Tom

Institution Heads

Kyte, Robert E  
Reaves, Benjamin

Lay Persons

Coy, Robert  
Gilley, James  
Hulsey, William  
Komarniski, Ruth  
Morris, Raymond  
Ramos, Zunilda  
Randall, Barbara  
Thomas, David  
Tonge, Joan

Pastors

Fortin, Dennis  
Nelson, Dwight  
Ward, E C

94-53  
March 30, 1994  
GCC Spring Meeting, p.m.

Union Presidents

Carter, Robert H  
Gordon, Malcolm D  
Johnston, Bruce  
Miller, Cyril  
Mostert, Thomas J Jr  
Parchment, Orville D  
Taylor, David L  
Tompkins, Joel O  
Wisbey, Ron M

94SM to RSF

**EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION AND ALLOWANCE REVIEW  
COMMITTEE—POWER TO ACT**

**VOTED,** To give the Employee Remuneration and Allowance Review Committee power to act since it will be meeting following the 1994 Spring Meeting.

Adjourned.

Calvin B Rock, Chairman  
Gerry D Karst, Secretary  
Larry R Colburn, Editorial Secretary  
Rowena J Moore, Recording Secretary

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**TERMS OF REFERENCE AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE PRESENT  
RUSSIAN UNION AND PROPOSED NEW UNION MISSION**

Moscow, Russia  
November 7, 1993

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

During the 1993 Annual Council in Bangalore, India, the Euro-Asia Division requested that a survey commission be set up to discuss the possible division of the Russian Union Conference into two unions.

On October 6, 1993 the Annual Council took the following action:

VOTED, To appoint a Russian Union Survey Commission (RUSComm) as follows:

**MEMBERS:**

FOLLETT, PHILIP S, Chairman  
Veloso, Mario, Secretary

Krushenitsky, V P  
Link, Robert R  
Panchenko, P G  
Predolyak, V  
Prestol, Juan R  
Wilson, Ted N C  
Ytreberg, F Martin

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

Seventh-day Adventist work in Russia began as a lay missionary movement. The seeds were planted by German colonists who had emigrated from Russia to America in the 1870's and had become Seventh-day Adventists there. They then began sending Adventist books, tracts, and magazines in the German language to their acquaintances in Russia. Interest in the Bible was evident not only among the foreign settlers but also among the native Russians. However, barriers set up by the government and the state church for a long time prevented the Russians from participating in the study of the Bible. Disaffection from the Russian Orthodox Church was treated as a crime of state and punished by banishment to Siberia. One early Russian Adventist recounted in the *Review and Herald* on December 5, 1883 how her father, a Russian army officer, discovered from his study of the Bible that the seventh day is the Sabbath and taught his children to observe it; and how for keeping it he was exiled to Siberia some time in the 1860's or 1870's. There were others who also risked

personal freedom in order to study the Bible and a number of these embraced the Sabbath truth.

In November 1883, Philipp Reiswig, a 60-year-old German emigrant in the United States, returned to Russia with a trunk full of SDA tracts and papers. He traveled at his own expense, even selling his good boots to pay his fare for the last stage of his journey to the Crimean peninsula. As a result largely of his work, in 1886 there were 13 persons keeping the seventh-day Sabbath. In July 1886 Conradi who had been sent by the General Conference to Switzerland earlier that year, went to Odessa. He traveled in several areas meeting Russian Sabbath-keepers. It was agreed that the scattered believers would meet in Berdebulat, near the Black Sea, for a baptism. There the first Seventh-day Adventist church in Russia was organized in 1886 with 19 members, among whom was G Tetz who later became one of the pioneer workers in southern Russia and Siberia.

In 1886 or 1887 Theofil Babience, who had been exiled to the northern Caucasus region for becoming a Sabbath-keeper, became one of the first Russian converts. The new members began traveling and spreading the gospel wherever they went even in the face of persecution. In November 1890 the first general meeting of Seventh-day Adventists was held at Eigenheim in the Caucasus and was attended by more than 100 members out of a total of 356 believers then recorded in Russia.

Although various tracts had been sent into Russia by believers in other parts of the world, Russian-language publications were not permitted into the country in great quantity. Some materials were printed in Riga in 1899, but the majority of publications still had to be printed in Finland or Germany and then shipped into Russia. Early evangelistic workers for the Church in Russia were trained at the SDA training school in Hamburg, Germany and later at Friedensau Mission School.

In 1907 the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Russia was organized as a separate union conference with 2,566 members, 41 churches, and 31 workers with J T Boettcher as the first president. In 1911 the Russian Union Conference achieved self-sustaining status, not only paying the expenses of the work in Russia itself, but also contributing to the support of the Russian department at the Friedensau Missionary School. Shortly before World War I, the membership in Russia was organized into 240 churches and served by 40 ministers with a membership of 5,880. During World War I many Seventh-day Adventists were treated by the czarist government as revolutionaries. A good number were banished to Siberia or to distant regions for preaching the Bible. The majority of Seventh-day Adventists inducted into the army (a total of some 500—including many of the workers) were assigned to medical and other noncombatant services. After the war it was learned that at least 70 Adventists had been sentenced to hard labor in chains, with terms ranging from 2 to 16 years for their noncombatant stand.

During the early years following the 1917 Revolution, Protestants enjoyed a degree of religious freedom unknown in czarist times, and the Seventh-day Adventist membership more than doubled, although not without difficulties. In 1925 a medical clinic was opened in Boronsk and was quite successful, but the attitude of the government changed and the Adventist medical work in Russia ended only after a year or two of operation. Also in 1925 and 1926 Seventh-day Adventists began again to print some periodicals in Russia, but this privilege was withdrawn in 1929. At that time the new collectivization and industrialization programs began and there was a marked change in the government's policy toward religion. By the end of that decade, all official contacts between the Russian SDA Church and the world church were cut off. By 1938, reports from the Soviet Union stated that no congregational worship services were allowed in the country and many lay members were being arrested and later vanishing from their communities.

In the early 1950's another change took place in the religious climate in the Soviet Union. The party leader proclaimed that religious people should not be considered as enemies of the state and an amnesty was proclaimed. By that time, however, many Adventist ministers and former leaders were dead. Meetings for public worship were again allowed under certain conditions, but no new congregations were permitted to be formed. According to the record of the Seventh-day Adventist All-union Council at the end of 1958, the membership was 18,595 in 187 officially registered churches. In December 1960 the government dissolved the Seventh-day Adventist All-union Council. By 1974 the Seventh-day Adventist membership in the Soviet Union was estimated to be between 23,000 and 28,000 and there were approximately 350 Adventist churches. In the 1970's Michael P Kulakov, an ordained minister, began to take a leadership role in the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Soviet Union.

With the advent of glasnost and perestroika, new freedoms came to the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Soviet Union and now in Russia.

## **HISTORY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH IN SIBERIA AND THE FAR EAST**

The exact date for a Seventh-day Adventist presence in Siberia and the Far East is not known. However, it can be assumed that the first Adventists in Siberia were exiled there from western Russia as a result of their beliefs. G A Grigoriev, who later served as the second president of the Seventh-day Adventist All-union Union from 1934-1952, was transported under guard to Siberia twice from 1910-1915. Russian soldiers who were German captives during World War I became believers from 1917-1919 and took their new beliefs back to their homes.

From 1918 to 1938 Russian, German and Baltic missionaries were sent from Moscow to Siberia. American Adventist missionaries who came through China and Mongolia played a

great part in the Harbinskaya Missionary School which did much to prepare ministers during 1920-1933. After 1933 the borders were closed to foreign ministers. From 1937 onward all ministers were subject to persecution. All the churches were closed. At the end of 30 years, 95 percent of the church was destroyed because of persecution.

A second period of church development began after World War II. In 1948 Pastor Babkeen was released from one of Stalin's camps (he was the only pastor to survive from those imprisoned in 1937). He continued to work in the Far East of Siberia. In 1954 Pastors Danielion and Oriol came back from China to work in western Siberia.

A third period of church life began in Siberia in 1960. A group of young ministers was sent to Siberia, including M S Zozulin, N M Ignatove, V I Kucheryavenko, and others. Church organization was revived. Church membership in Siberia at that time was about 300 members.

## **THE RUSSIAN UNION CONFERENCE**

The Russian Union Conference was first organized in 1977. In 1981 (due in part to the efforts of Neal C Wilson, president of the General Conference) the Seventh-day Adventist Church was legalized in Russia and the Russian Union Conference was reorganized. At that time, in the Far East and East Siberia there were 765 members and in Western Siberia 866 members. At this time two mission fields in Siberia were established, Western Siberia Mission and Eastern Siberia Mission. In 1992 the Far Eastern Mission was organized with 18 churches and 2,153 members.

Today the territory of the Russian Union comprises the whole country of Russia, which was the core of the former Soviet Union. Even though 14 republics have declared their independence and separated from Russia, the country of Russia is still a large federation of 16 autonomous republics, five autonomous regions, and ten autonomous areas. From Kaliningrad in the west to Kamchatka Peninsula in the east, the country stretches 5,500 miles. It encompasses 172 degrees around the globe and eleven time zones. It is an immense territory.

In 1993 the Russian Union Conference with headquarters in Moscow, Russia had 196 churches and 32,063 members with four conferences and one mission.

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED NEW UNION MISSION (EAST RUSSIAN UNION MISSION)**

### Boundaries of the Proposed Union

The boundaries of the proposed union are:

- a) from the West: Ural mountains line, Permsky region, Komi Republic, Ekaterinburg region, Kurgan region which belongs now to the Volga-Ural Conference;
- b) from the Southwest: Kazakhstan Republic
- c) from the South: China, Mongolia, Northern Korea;
- d) from the Northeast: Alaska
- e) from the North: Arctic Ocean

The size of the proposed union is 10,000 square kilometers.

### People Groups and Languages Represented in the Proposed Union

West Siberian Conference with headquarters in Novosibirsk—In this conference the following people groups and languages would be represented:

Tumen Region -	Russian, Ukrainian, German
Omsk Region -	Russian, Tatar, German
Novosibirsk Region -	Russian, German
Kemerovsky Region -	Russian
Tomsk Region -	Russian
Altay Region -	Russian, German, Kirgыз, Altay
Khanty-mansy Region -	Russian, Khanty
Yamal-nenets Region -	Russian, Nentsy

East Siberian Mission with headquarters in Irkutsk—In this mission the following people groups and languages would be represented:

Irkutsky Region -	Russian
Chita Region -	Russian, Buryat
Krasnoyarsky Region -	Russian, German, Kirgыз, Evenk, Nentsy, Dolgan
Buryat Region -	Russian, Buryat
Sakha Republic (Yakutia) -	Yakut, Russian
Tuvinskaya Republic -	Tuvin, Russian, Kirgыз

Far Eastern Mission with headquarters in Khabarovsk—In this mission the following people groups and languages would be represented:

Amursky Region -	Russian, Ukrainian
Khabarovsky Region -	Russian, Ukrainian, Korean
Primorsky Region -	Russian, Ukrainian, Korean
Evreysky Region -	Jewish, Russian
Sakhalin Region -	Russian, Korean
Kamchatsky Region -	Russian
Chukotsky Region -	Chukty, Russian
Koryazhsky Region -	Koryak, Russian

#### Total Population of the Proposed Union

The total population of Siberia and the Far East areas is 50,000,000.

#### Geography and Characteristics of the Proposed Union

Siberia and the Far East are situated on the continent of Asia. It is in a latitude of severe climatic conditions. In the territory of Eastern Siberia the temperatures are among the coldest in the world, reaching to -78 degrees Celsius. Most of the Siberian territory is a zone of permafrost. In southern Siberia there are only 60 days a year without frost. Nevertheless, Siberia is extremely rich in resources and is a highly developed industrial part of Russia. Eighty percent of Russia's oil and 90 percent of Russia's coal come from Siberia. The territory is about 10,000 square kilometers. The length of the territory from West to East is 6,500 kilometers; from North to South about 3,500 kilometers.

#### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE REMAINING TERRITORY OF THE FORMER RUSSIAN UNION CONFERENCE (WEST RUSSIAN UNION CONFERENCE)**

The remaining territory of the former Russian Union Conference will be renamed the West Russian Union Conference with headquarters in Moscow. The following fields will make up this union:

<u>Conference</u>	<u>Headquarters Location</u>
Central Conference	Moscow
North Caucasus Conference	Rostov
Northwestern Conference	St Petersburg
Southern Conference	Tula
Ural Conference	Ekaterinburg
Volga Conference	Volgograd
Volga-Vyatskaya Conference	Nizhniy-Novogorod

**REPORT OF THE RUSSIAN UNION SURVEY COMMISSION  
REGARDING THE SEPARATION OF THE RUSSIAN UNION INTO TWO UNIONS**

Moscow, Russia  
November 7, 1993

**PRESENT** Philip S Follett (Ch), Mario Veloso (Sec), Gaspar F Colon,  
V P Krushenitsky, J Kulakov, R R Link, P G Panchenko, Juan R Prestol,  
V Predolyak, Ted N C Wilson, F Martin Ytreberg

**PRAYER** V P Krushenitsky

**DIVISION PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Ted N C Wilson, president of the Euro-Asia Division, reported on the difficulties that the administration of the Russian Union, with its headquarters in Moscow, faces due to the vast territory of the union. The union has only four conferences and one mission and its 32,063 members and 196 churches are scattered throughout the whole territory of Russia. Distances are long, travel is becoming more expensive, and the administration cannot devote as much time as needed to the far distant areas since the fast-growing western section requires almost full-time attention. The church in Siberia and the Far East needs immediate attention so it can have the opportunity to grow as it is in the West.

Russia is divided naturally by the Ural Mountains and it would be appropriate to have two unions, one to the west of the Urals and one to the east.

**DIVISION SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Victor P Krushenitsky, secretary of the Euro-Asia Division, gave a brief summary on the fields in the Russian Union:

<u>Conference/Mission</u>	<u>Churches</u>	<u>Membership</u>	<u>Population</u>
Central Conference	60	11,512	52,741,680
Far Eastern Mission	18	2,153	
North Caucasian Conference	53	4,883	21,033,975
Trans-Siberian Conference	23	4,694	31,035,935
Volga-Ural Conference	42	8,821	44,471,410
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>32,063</b>	



## CONFERENCE/MISSION REPORTS

The administrators of each local field gave a detailed report on their particular conference/mission including the number of churches, membership, workers and pastors, and finances. In general each field follows the same pattern for distribution of economic resources: 10 percent is sent to the union; 20 percent to the division; 45 percent goes for salaries and travel; and 25 percent is used for the various operations of the local field. In this way each field is self-sufficient. Church growth throughout the fields is very high, between 28-33 percent during the first three quarters of 1993.

## REASONS FOR DIVIDING THE UNION

1. Geographical considerations include the fact that it is virtually impossible for the Russian Union Conference to give adequate attention to the entire country of Russia which has eleven time zones. The huge distances in the country cause problems in communication and transportation.
2. Siberia and the Far East have tremendous potential for growth through evangelization, but immediate attention must be given to this large area with its important cities while the present possibilities for evangelization exist.
3. The new West Russian Union Conference needs to devote its energies and resources for evangelization of the western section of the country. Membership is growing rapidly and immediate attention needs to be given.
4. Leaders are needed in Siberia and the Far East who can relate to the particular mind set of those living in the east and provide appropriate evangelistic programs and outreach.
5. There is an urgent need to give direct attention to the local fields in Siberia and the Far East, particularly as far as evangelism in the small towns and villages is concerned.

## RECOMMENDATION

*To accept the recommendation of ESO*

**RECOMMENDED,** 1. To recommend to the General Conference Executive Committee the organization of the East Russian Union Mission covering the territory of the present Russian Union Conference east of the Ural Mountains which presently belongs to the Far Eastern Mission and Trans-Siberian Conference effective July 1994 when a session will be called. The beginning of operations will be October 1994.

2. To recommend to the General Conference Executive Committee the organization of the West Russian Union Conference at the time of the July 1994 session.

*East Russian*  
 OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE ~~SIBERIA~~ UNION MISSION

East Russian Union Mission  
 Operating Budget for 1994  
 May through December

<u>Operating Income</u>	<u>Tithe</u>	<u>Non-Tithe</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tithe from Local Conferences	3,140,502		3,140,502
Direct Tithe	0		0
Less: Tithe to ESD	314,050		314,050
Retirement	157,025		157,025
Net Retained Tithe	2,669,427		2,669,427
Miscellaneous Income	0		0
Subsidies from ESD	10,000,000	26,800,000	36,800,000
Subsidy for Stewardship Director	1,306,000		1,306,000
Total Operating Income	13,975,427	26,800,000	40,775,427
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Expenses and Appropriations

Salary and Allowances	27,566,555		27,566,555
Administrative Expenses	6,000,000		6,000,000
Departmental Allocations	3,000,000		3,000,000
Appropriations and Allocations	4,208,872		4,208,872
Total Operating Expenses	40,775,427	0	40,775,427
NET INCOME (NET LOSS)	-26,800,000	26,800,000	0
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PROCEDURE

Questions were raised as to the procedure to follow for the redistribution of the territory. Mario Veloso, secretary of the Russian Union Survey Commission, explained the procedure based upon General Conference *Working Policy* B 06 20. It was also explained that the Russian Union Conference will call a session that will in effect separate the Russian Union into two unions. Each union will then meet independently to set up its organization. It was pointed out that according to GC *Working Policy* B 06 20-6 the session of the new union should be called as soon as possible once it is approved and the session of the former union may be called at the division's discretion (GC WP 07 15-4).

PRAYER     F Martin Ytreberg

Adjourned

Philip S Follett, Chairman  
Mario Veloso, Secretary