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Church Unit

Warns on Aiding CIA

ATLANTA, March 2 (AP)—American missionaries and foreign clergy should cease giving any intelligence information to the central intelligence agency, the governing board of the National Council of Churches said today.

"We adopt a clear policy of repudiating any contacts whatsoever with the CIA," Robert A. Thomas, vice president for Overseas Ministries, told 140 delegates on the opening day of a three-day session.

Such a policy already has been adopted by the executive committee, which has the authority to act in place of the governing board of the National Council of Churches.

Thomas told the delegates, who represent 31 Protestant and Eastern Orthodox denominations, that published reports last summer had revealed contacts between the CIA and American missionaries.

The executive committee then issued a policy stating any such contacts "tend to taint the activities of the missionaries and clergy" and "undermine the trust and confidence that should be maintained with church bodies overseas."