



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

31 August 1979

*Prime Minister**Agreed M.I.?**Paul 31/8**Dear Michael,*

RHODESIAN REPRESENTATION IN LONDON: MESSAGE FROM BISHOP MUZOREWA

In addition to his message about the Constitutional Conference (Stephen Wall's letter of 29 August), Bishop Muzorewa has sent the Prime Minister a further letter about Rhodesian representation in London. I enclose a copy of Mirimba Salisbury telegram no 579 which gives the text.

When Bishop Muzorewa asked last month to be allowed to appoint Government representatives in London to carry out information activities, the Prime Minister replied, in her letter of 14 August, that the best way of doing this would be to expand the UANC office in London. As Paul Lever explained in his letter of 30 July to Pattison, it would put us in breach of our UN Treaty obligations to permit the establishment of a Zimbabwe Rhodesia Government Office in London before Rhodesia has been brought to legal independence.

Bishop Muzorewa will be here with a large delegation for the Constitutional Conference. If, after the Conference, he prefers not to attach more senior representatives to the UANC Office in London, there would be no objection to his appointing a personal representative here, who could undertake the information activities which Bishop Muzorewa has in mind, and in practice have access to the FCO on a basis similar to diplomatic officials. If the Prime Minister agrees, we would propose to instruct Mr Day to reply verbally to the Bishop either direct or through his Private Secretary, Mr Kamusikiri, to explain the position on the Prime Minister's behalf. I enclose a draft telegram to Mirimba Salisbury.

Officials of the US State Department raised this question during talks on Rhodesia at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on 28 August. You will be aware from Paul Lever's earlier letter that they had been in touch with us last month about Bishop Muzorewa's request to them to appoint Rhodesian representatives in Washington and New York. The Americans had not yet taken a decision and asked our advice. We explained the general lines of our approach as set out in this letter and they said that they would be replying on similar lines.

*Yours etc**Rodric Lyne*

(R M J Lyne)

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