

Rhodesia peace pact praised

By DOUG FICK
Of the Emerald

The peace treaty being negotiated in Great Britain by members of the Zimbabwe-Rhodesia government, the Patriotic Front and the British government is a viable blueprint for peace in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, said Bishop Jonah Shiri of the Zimbabwe Lutheran Church.

Shiri spoke Tuesday to a crowd of about 50 people at the Central Lutheran Church. He traced the history of the black struggle in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia and urged support for the proposed treaty.

"Justice must be done," Shiri said. "We must accept anything that gives us peace and justice."

The 10-year war has ravaged Zimbabwe-Rhodesia and ratification of the treaty is imperative if the nation of 7.25 million people is to have peace, he said.

"Children are dying in the thousands," Shiri reported. "There is no medical help in the rural areas. People who have had good homes

are living in homes of cardboard or thin plastic. This is terrible."

Shiri said the 1978 internal settlement, which provided for black majority rule in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia was unacceptable, but he said the new treaty is a real move toward black rule.

Although the 1978 settlement did not include the Patriotic front, the present treaty is being drafted with input from the guerrilla leaders and Robert Mugabe.

Shiri said their participation in the negotiations is critical.

The treaty is the result of an effort by Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to bring the Zimbabwe-Rhodesian factions together.

Although the British government has predicted a cease fire within two weeks, Shiri said a total cease fire will not be possible that soon.

"After all they have to go into the bush to tell these boys to quit fighting," he said. "It may take two months."

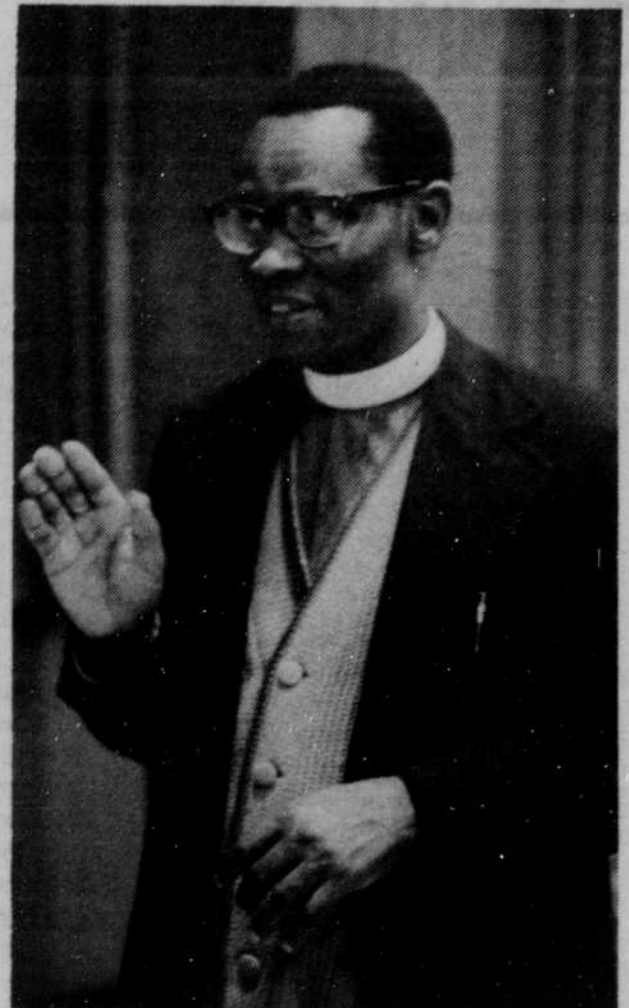
The treaty calls for free elections within four months, and Shiri said, British supervision of the elections will insure fairness. The treaty's guarantee of black control in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia makes unimportant the question of which black faction will win the election.

"We are not worried who wins," Shiri said. "They are all black men. We are not fighting for a leader, we are fighting for justice."

Shiri dismissed concern about communist infiltration into the country, stressing that there is little likelihood of Russian or Cuban involvement.

"We have been oppressed for many years," he said, "We don't want anyone else to oppress us."

Shiri advocated lifting of American trade sanctions against Zimbabwe-Rhodesia as soon as black rule is guaranteed. He urged American aid to the impoverished country and acceptance of Zimbabwe-Rhodesian students into the United States.



Jonah Shiri Photo by Ken Kromer

Group revives international student week activities

By DAVID STEINMAN
Of the Emerald

The Foreign Students Organization will restore the long-dormant International Student's Week during spring term, FSO Director Dominic Okon said Tuesday night at a meeting of the organization's executive council.

"The last International Student's Week held at the University was 10 years ago," Okon said. "Staging the event during this school year will bring a new visibility and personality to the Foreign Students Organizations."

The week's activities would include cultural and traditional events — dance, music and displays of art and artifacts from different nations, Okon said.

"We'll stage the event in the EMU Ballroom," Okon added. "We've also considered holding the event in Mac Court if there is a good probability we'll have a large-enough audience."

In addition to International Student's Week, the FSO decided it would stage several international forums in which topics of interest to foreign students would be discussed. The FSO executive council is considering the Middle East problem and foreign students' rights as possible topics.

The FSO is considering actively working with the Eugene and Springfield school districts.

"Teachers want their students exposed to University events that center on foreign cultures," Okon said. "I've also been asked to have representatives from the FSO speak to students at local high schools."

The FSO decided unanimously that it would support the Iranian students' boycott of visa inspection.

"Violation of Iranian students' rights is happening now, but in the future it might happen to students from another country," said Cosmas Nwerem, president of the Nigerian

Students Association.

In his opening address, Okon complained the FSO was funded at much too low a level. The FSO currently receives \$4,000 per academic year for its activities, but will spend more than \$2500 to stage the International Student's Week and International Forum this year, assistant FSO director Janet Tann said.

"Increasing your activity level and showing an ability to work with other ASUO organizations would increase the FSO's chances for receiving more money from the Incidental Fee Committee," ASUO Pres. Scott Bassett said.

Only seven foreign students' associations had representatives attending the meeting, but Okon is hopeful that most of the FSO's 24 member associations will become active.

The FSO represents one-sixteenth of the University student

population, Okon said. Among the associations at the meeting were the Indian Students Association, the Organization of Arab Students, the Nigerian Students Association, the Muslim Students Association, the

Supporters of Muslim Students Society and the Japanese Students Association.

Some of the other nations represented by the FSO include Germany, Canada, Holland, Mexico and China.

Correction

The dean of the College of Arts and Sciences is John Baldwin, not John Bowlin, as spelled in Tuesday's Emerald story on the director of the University Film Studies program.

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