



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

F : African Matters

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March 28, 1969

Honorable Charles C. Diggs, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Diggs:

I have received your letter of March 17 requesting the Department's rationale in continuing to maintain Consular representation in Salisbury.

At the time of the illegal declaration of independence in Southern Rhodesia by the Smith regime, the United States recalled its Consul General and terminated the activities of the United States Information Service. A small Consular staff was, however, left in Salisbury, primarily to perform essential citizenship, passport and welfare services for the approximately 1,100 American residents in Southern Rhodesia, three-fourths of whom are missionaries and their dependents. There are no United States trade representatives in Salisbury nor does the small Consular staff perform any commercial or trade promotional functions.

The Consular officers operate under authority of exequaturs issued by the Queen of England and are accredited to the Government of the United Kingdom. They have no official contact or dealings with the illegal Smith regime and their presence in Southern Rhodesia in no way denotes recognition of that regime.

The United States has fully supported and implemented the mandatory provisions of the United Nations Security Council's resolutions imposing economic sanctions against Southern Rhodesia. The Security Council's action in pointing out the need for closing foreign consulates in Southern Rhodesia was contained in a nonmandatory paragraph of Security Council Resolution 253 of May 29, 1968. While, for the reasons outlined above, the United States does not plan to close its Consulate General in Salisbury at the present time, the matter is being kept under continuing review in the light of developments and changing circumstances in Southern Rhodesia.

As requested, I am providing you with the names and duties of American personnel assigned to the Consulate General: W. Paul O'Neill, Jr., Principal Officer; J. Fred Doyle, Administrative Officer; Miss Beulah A. Buck, Secretary; Richard H. Butler, Communications Officer; William Clair, Economic Officer; Earl W. Smith, Political Officer; Miss Kay Kleckner, Clerk; and Donald J. Ivanich, Communications and Records Assistant.

If there is any further information on this subject which you desire, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely yours,



William B. Macomber, Jr.
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations