

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Robert S. Bilheimer
Senior Minister

50 Plymouth Avenue North
Rochester, New York 14614

February 17, 1966

Dear Benjamin:

This will introduce to you Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Taylor of Rochester. Mrs. Taylor is the one who has sent some money to help the Sobukwes. They are very good friends of mine and I hope they will have an opportunity to talk with you. I trust them completely and know that you can also. They will both have many questions and I hope that you will help them to understand the situation.

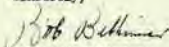
I am very grateful for your letter of September 22nd and hope that you received my acknowledgement of it. All that you sent to me of your correspondence with Robert Sobukwe is most enlightening. Did I tell you that I took opportunity of sending a paragraph from one of Sobukwe's letters to Mr. MacGeorge Bundy, a Special Assistant in the White House who is a friend of mine, with the suggestion that he call the attention of the President to it? This was a paragraph in which Mr. Sobukwe commended the President for his measures concerning race relations, commented upon their effect in Africa and also had a sentence which raised question about the U.S. policy in Viet Nam. It seemed to me an altogether excellent paragraph for the President to see. Mr. Bundy replied that he was grateful for this and that he thought it would be worthy of showing to Mr. Johnson.

We are all, of course, alarmed at the reports which appear frequently in our press, concerning government action against the newspaper, its editors and you. I shall be very anxious for word from the Taylors as to how the matter stands. You, of course, have our deepest sympathy and encouragement.

I could not help but notice in your correspondence with Mr. Sobukwe references to your personal situation. You have had my deepest sympathy in all of this, as indeed you do now. Ever since Cottesloe, not to mention the Mindolo Conference, I have most greatly admired your sensitivity and integrity, both of which have been a source of inspiration to me. May God bless you and be with you in all that you are doing.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,


Robert S. Bilheimer

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