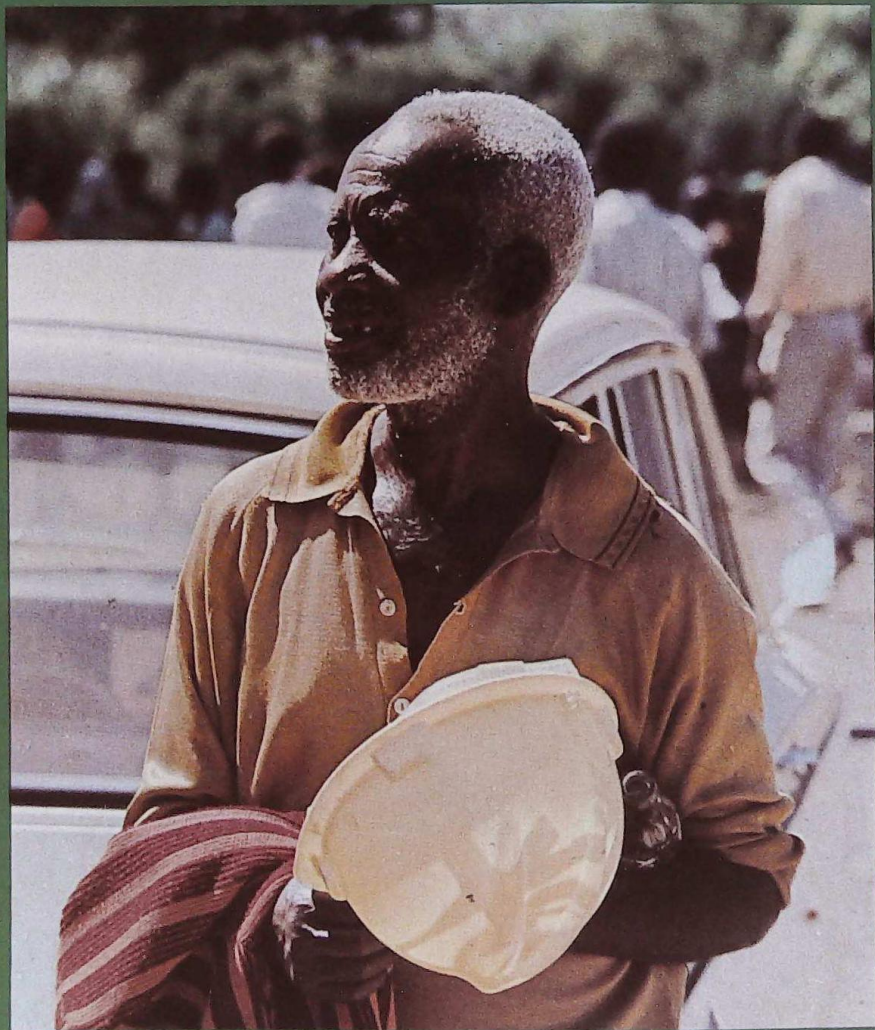
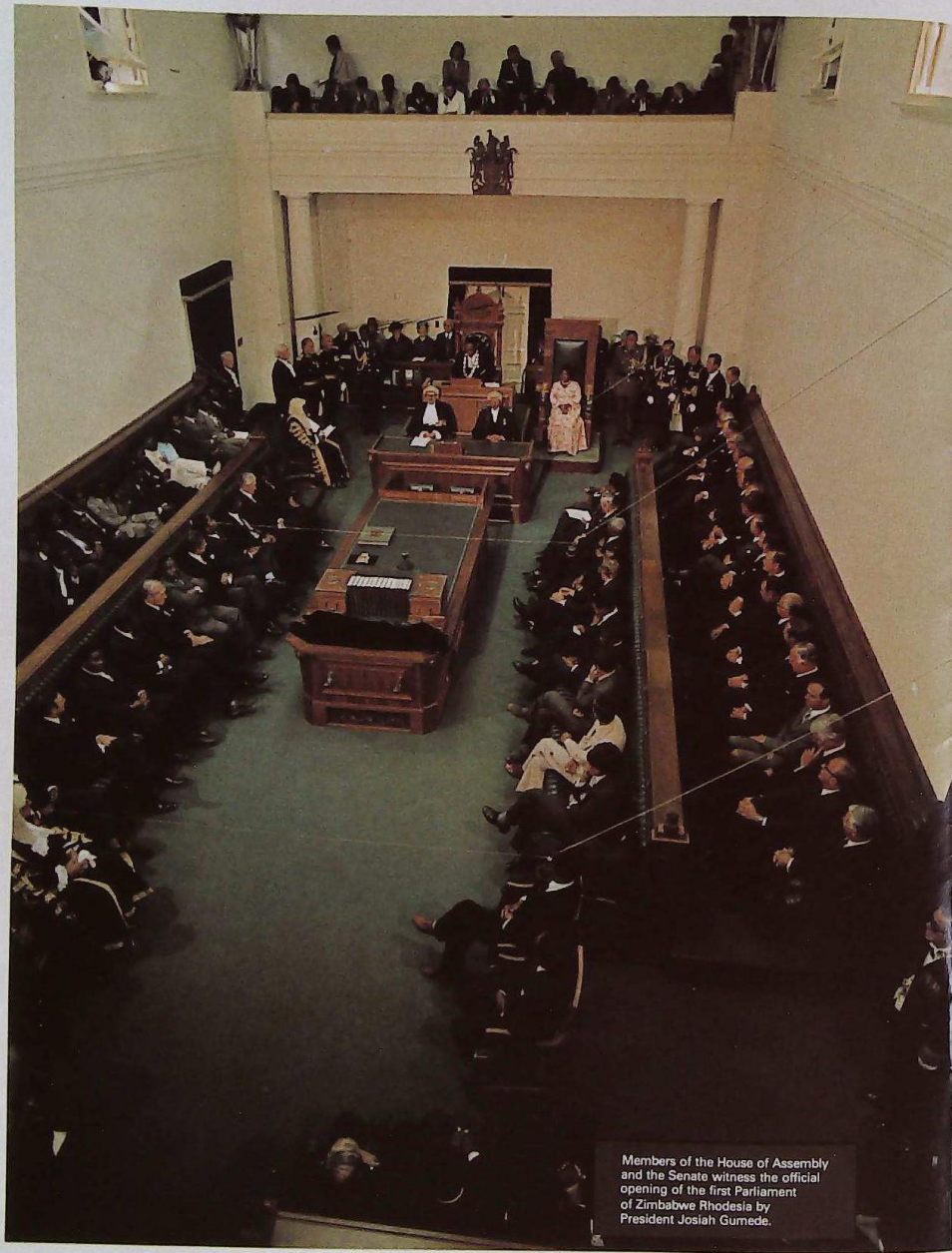


Zimbabwe Rhodesia THE NEW NATION



A pictorial survey of political developments from the Salisbury Agreement of March 3, 1978, to the opening of the country's first black-majority Parliament on June 26, 1979.

Above: This Zimbabwe Rhodesian was one of 1.8 million who voted for peace and progress in the country's first adult suffrage election in April this year. He voted for a better future for himself and his family — a future now frustrated by the refusal of world governments to recognise that open, democratic election, judged by international observers to have been "free and fair".



Members of the House of Assembly and the Senate witness the official opening of the first Parliament of Zimbabwe Rhodesia by President Josiah Gumebe.

The Culmination

THE state opening of the first Parliament of Zimbabwe Rhodesia on June 26, 1979, was the culmination of events that began on March 3, 1978. The occasion, with its traditional pomp and ceremony, was public evidence of the peaceful changeover of political power envisaged in the Salisbury Agreement, which had been signed by political leaders who had chosen peace as their guiding principle.

Gathering in the House of Assembly, Members of Parliament and Senators heard the President of Zimbabwe Rhodesia, in the traditional address, outline the Government's plans for the new nation. Sitting in the chamber was Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who, as Prime Minister, leads an Interim National Government representative of all the parties with over five members in the House of Assembly.

If confirmation were needed that the white population had ceded effective political control, it could have been seen at this ceremony. The president of the new nation, the Speaker of the House of Assembly, 12 of the 17 Ministers, 72 of the 100 members of the House of Assembly, and 20 of the 30 senators are black Zimbabwe Rhodesians, who in their task of gaining international recognition for the new nation and improving the quality of life for all its citizens, are fully supported by their white colleagues.



1. President Josiah Gumebe and Mrs. Gumebe, after having received the presidential salute from the guard of honour outside Parliament, on their way to the ceremonial opening of Parliament in the House of Assembly chamber.



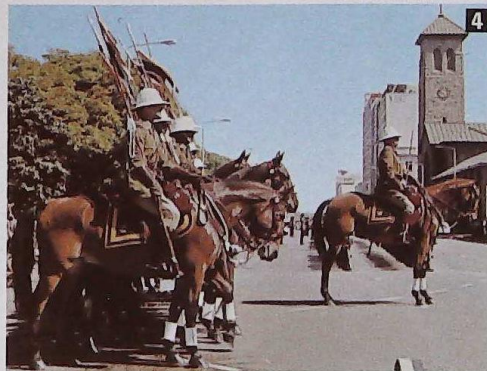
2. Preceded by the mace bearer, the Speaker of the House of Assembly, Mr. John Chirimani, leads Members to the opening of Parliament ceremony.

of honour march on parade.

4. The President's escort from Government House to Parliament was provided by mounted members of the police force.

3. Outside Parliament crowds line the tops of high buildings, as the band and guard

5. Part of the guard of honour provided by troops of the Zimbabwe Rhodesia army.



Taking the path of peace

EVERYTHING has a beginning, and the new nation of Zimbabwe Rhodesia can be said to have been foreshadowed when those black and white political leaders who were prepared to choose the path of peaceful progress to constitutional change began a series of negotiations in Salisbury. They were Bishop Abel Muzorewa, leader of the United African National Council; Senator Chief Jeremiah Chirau, leader of the Zimbabwe United People's Organisation; the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole, leader of the African National Council (Sithole); and Mr. Ian Douglas Smith, Prime Minister of Rhodesia.

The Patriotic Front were invited to participate in these negotiations, but refused, declaring they would continue their campaign of warfare and violence.

The negotiations began in late 1977, and continued into early 1978. Despite great difficulties and differences, the desire for peace held the participants together, and agreement was reached. On March 3, the four leaders signed the Salisbury Agreement, a momentous document which paved the way for majority rule and the new nation of Zimbabwe Rhodesia.

Following the signing of the agreement, a Transitional Government was created, headed by the four signatories. Its task was to draft a new constitution and organise the country's first one-man-one-vote elections.

Men of goodwill, within the country and outside, hailed the agreement as a triumph for moderation. Others, predictably, condemned it, content to see the violence and loss of life within the country continue, obsessed as they were by political considerations.



1. The world's press were quick to sense the critical nature of the talks leading up to the Salisbury Agreement, and full coverage was given to the lengthy discussions. Each leader, in turn, briefed the journalists on the day-by-day progress. Here Senator Chief Jeremiah Chirau faces a battery of cameras and microphones.

2. The historic scene as the four leaders sign the Salisbury Agreement on March 3, 1978. Left to right: Bishop Abel Muzorewa, Prime Minister Ian Smith, Senator Chief Jeremiah Chirau, and Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole. The agreement conceded the principle of majority rule, and contained provisions for an orderly change of political control in the country.

3. The four leaders who formed the Executive Council of the Transitional Government, after their swearing-in by the Rt. Rev. Patrick Murindagoma, Anglican Bishop of Penhalonga. They were to guide the country to its first one-man-one-vote elections.

The people choose

THE country's first one-man-one-vote election was the largest administrative exercise in Rhodesia's history. Thousands of polling station staff were trained, polling booths and ballot boxes manufactured, and millions of ballot papers printed.

If these administrative problems were not enough, the Patriotic Front had threatened to kill those who exercised their right to elect their government. It therefore became necessary for defence forces and police to protect voters.

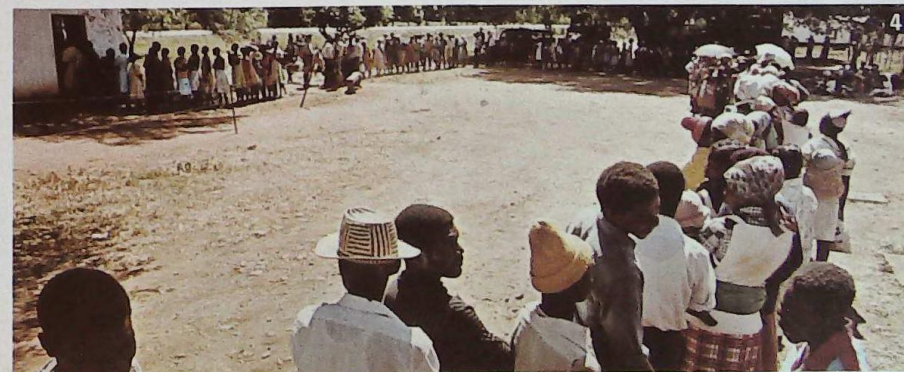
Until the first day of the Common Roll election, held from April 17 to 21, the effects of the campaign to encourage the new electorate to vote and

the measures taken to protect them, were not known. Only the people themselves knew what they would do.

They made a very definite decision, and turned out in their thousands at polling stations across the land. By the last day of polling, 1 869 077 people, 95% of whom were black citizens voting for the first time, had demonstrated their support for peaceful change. They represented 64% of the electorate.

The electioneering undertaken by the parties was enthusiastic but fair, and despite its rejection of the Salisbury Agreement the Patriotic Front was invited to participate — an invitation which was rejected.

The aim of the Transitional Government was to hold a free democratic election that would be an expression of the will of the people. By any standard it was an outstanding success.



1. All parties were free to conduct electioneering campaigns, and scenes such as this were common in the days leading up to April 17 and outside polling stations during the five days of the Common Roll elections.

2. The enthusiasm of voters was above question, and celebratory crowds such as this turned the election into a festival.

3. To enable people in remote areas to vote, mobile polling stations were devised, which travelled from village to village.

4. Voters gather at a rural polling station — a scene typical of hundreds all over the country. This was the people's answer to the threats of the Patriotic Front, and indicated their faith in the ability of the security forces to protect them.

A free and fair election

THE Transitional Government knew it had organised a democratic election and it wanted the world to see it in action. Invitations were therefore made to the British, American, European and other governments to send observers to monitor events. Inexplicably, all except the Australian Government declined to send official delegations.

However, over 60 observers did travel to Rhodesia, from Britain, America, Europe and South Africa. They were given full freedom of movement, encouraged to meet as many voters as possible, and flown to cities and remote areas of the country to see the election in progress.

All these observers, save one, judged the elections to be free and fair.

Commenting on the security forces' role, an American Conservative Union delegate said: "The guns were pointing out, not in. The enormous turnout was not coerced, voters were participating of their own free will."

Observers were also invited to witness the counting of the voting papers, the results of which were that the first government of Zimbabwe Rhodesia would be led by Bishop Abel Muzorewa as Prime Minister.



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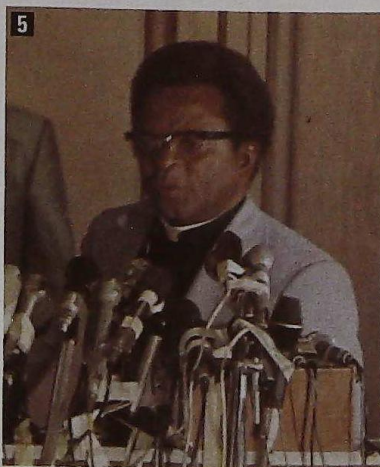
1. Question time at the Government information centre in Salisbury, which was created to assist observers and the world's press.

2. Mr. Don Dobey, leader of the Australian parliamentary delegation, talks to voters queuing outside a polling station. Observers were encouraged to make personal contact with the people.

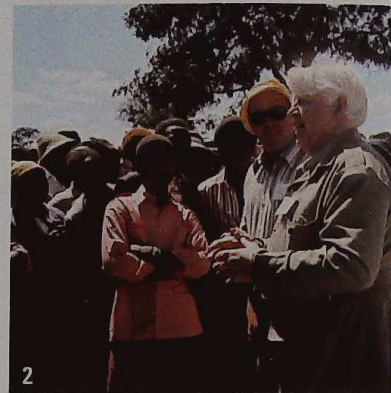
3. Observers and pressmen were taken to areas where there was terrorist activity to see how the election was organised under these difficult conditions. Here a group is briefed by a security force officer on the local situation.

4. Counting some of the 1.8 million voting papers, each one a gesture of support for the Transitional Government's programme of peaceful progress to majority rule.

5. Bishop Abel Muzorewa speaks to the world's press shortly after the election results were announced, when it was certain he would lead the first Government of Zimbabwe Rhodesia.



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Choosing the first President

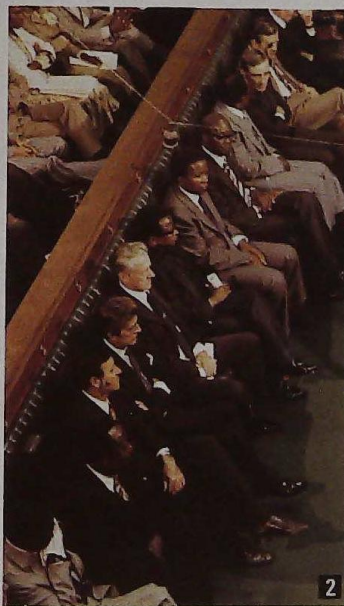
ON May 28, the members of the Senate and House of Assembly met as an electoral college to choose the first President of Zimbabwe Rhodesia.

It was an historic occasion. For the first time in the Parliamentary history of Rhodesia there was a majority of black members, the proceedings were conducted by the country's first black Speaker, and the two presidential candidates were both black.

Within the House of Assembly chamber, white and black members sat side by side, many of them political adversaries of long standing. As they voted together for the first president of a new order it confirmed the wisdom of the signatories of the Salisbury Agreement.

Once the principle of peaceful progress to majority rule had been accepted by the four signatories, events had moved at a steady, and ever-increasing pace towards the goal of new nationhood. The people's voice had been heard, and a new government waited to take office on July 1.

The successful candidate was Mr Josiah Gumedede, a former teacher and diplomat in the service of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. He brings to the office of head of state an experience and dignity that transcends party politics, and confirms the wisdom of the authors of the constitution who made this a non-political office.



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2. The Front Bench of Parliament during the combined sitting of the House of Assembly and Senate. Mr. Smith sits in the House for the last time as Prime Minister, next to Bishop Muzorewa, who four days later became the first Prime Minister of Zimbabwe Rhodesia.

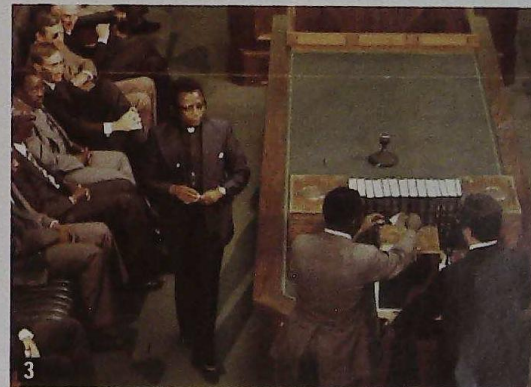
3. Bishop Muzorewa casts his vote for the first President of Zimbabwe Rhodesia.

4. Mr. Ian Smith casts his vote for the first President of Zimbabwe Rhodesia — a climax to the initiative he took in late 1977 and which led to the Salisbury Agreement.

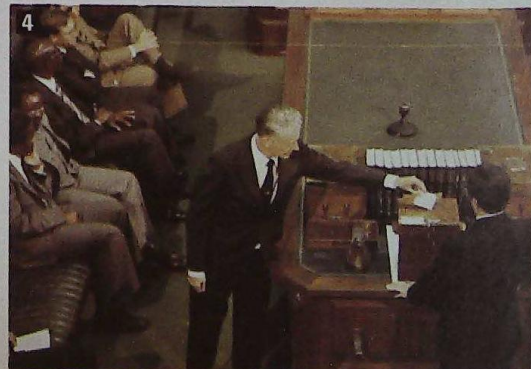


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1. The Hon. Josiah Gumedede, GMLM, MBE, first President of Zimbabwe Rhodesia, and Mrs. Gumedede.



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1. On May 29, the first President of Zimbabwe Rhodesia, Mr Josiah Gumede, took the solemn oath of office administered by the Chief Justice, Mr Hector Macdonald, watched by Prime Minister Ian Smith and Bishop Muzorewa.

2. The President's first official function after taking his oath of office was to invite Bishop Muzorewa to lead the Interim National Government, and then to administer the Bishop's oath of office.

3. Prime Minister Ian Smith, within three days of the end of his term of office, congratulates Bishop Muzorewa as his successor.



Further information on Zimbabwe Rhodesia may be obtained from the Ministry of Information, Immigration and Tourism, P.O. Box 8232, Causeway, Salisbury, Zimbabwe Rhodesia.