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IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

(In association with the British Council of Churches)

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21st January, 1976

COUNCIL FOR GERMAN CHURCH WORK	
DER. PASTOR R. RATZ	
8, COLLINGHAM GARDENS, LONDON, S.W.5.	
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Pastor E.W. Ratz,
 The Lutheran Council of Great Britain,
 8, Collingham Gardens,
 London, SW5 0HW

Dear Mr. Ratz,

Thank you for your letter of 15th January, regarding the visit to Britain early next month of Pastor Armin Ihle from Argentina. As I think you will recognise, it is not easy at this stage to see how a satisfactory programme could be worked out for Pastor Ihle at such short notice. We have just had a meeting of the CBMS South America Committee, and I am afraid it would not be possible to summon another meeting during the early days of February. However, I am enclosing a copy of this letter to the Chairman of the Committee, Derek Hawksbee, who is a staff member of the South American Missionary Society. It may be that Pastor Ihle could contact Canon Hawksbee after his arrival in Britain.

I think it would be useful for Pastor Ihle to meet also another of my colleagues, George Gelber of Christian Aid. Mr. Gelber has himself lived and worked in Chile, and is very much interested in matters relating to refugees from Chile. I presume that Pastor Ihle is already in touch with such groups in London as the Chile Committee for Human Rights and the Catholic Institute for International Relations (CIIR).

In view of the fact that the organisation of which Pastor Ihle is Executive Secretary (CAREF) was formed as an ecumenical agency on behalf of the three WCC member churches in Argentina (Evangelical Methodist Church, La Plata Evangelical Church and United Evangelical Lutheran Church), he ought if possible to be in touch with the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church (also with the Church of Scotland if he were able to visit Scotland). You may wish to discuss this with such people as John Reardon of URC, and John Atkinson or John Hastings of the Methodist Church.

I hope these suggestions may be helpful. I was glad to share with you today in the meeting about the proposed visit of church representatives from Namibia later this year.

TCP/gs

c.c. Canon D.J. Hawksbee (Chairman, CBMS South America Committee)

Mr. George Gilber (Christian Aid Project Officer, Latin America)

Rev. H.E. Wilcox (DIA)

Yours sincerely,

p.p. T. Carlisle Patterson

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