

August 29, 1984
1711 N Lambert Lane
Provo, Utah 84604

Dear Sarah:

You will remember that I have been trying to find someone to make some christmas ornaments (for the tree) that were crocheted? Well, I finally did find someone and I have enclosed the samples in this envelope.

I figured that there were 195 square patterns in the tablecloth which you sent me last. Each of these are larger and have more thread involved than any of the enclosed motifs. So we should be able to have approximately 200 of these small snowflakes and bells done for about \$20. including the thread.

To get the thread, I unraveled a tablecloth I brought home which bulged in the middle. I had my crocheter use this thread so it would be the same as you use there in Zimbabwe.

The first they do may take a little more time because they are a new pattern, but they should be able to make them quite fast once they become acquainted with the pattern.

I would like 50 of the bells, and 30 each of the other patterns. Loan your crochet lady the samples, but have her make her own and give you them back. If you ever need batting or materials, send me the christmas decorations instead of dresses or tablecloths for a while. While these are seasonal, I think I can find a market for them. the total of all of the patterns is 200.

Maybe you could get Edith Kaseke to do some of them. And maybe sister Chaya would like to do some as well.

After I get them back, I will go around to some of the gift shops in resort areas near here and see if they will handle them. After I determine how much we can get for them, then I will know how much we can make on them.

If we can get them made for 10 cents each (200 x 10 is \$20.00) we should be able to make a good profit. I can make some for handling and starching (I would hire someone to do this for me) and there (I think) would still be a good mark-up for you on that end.

The beginning and end threads should be woven through the piece so that they don't show. Don't put hangers on them, I will use nylon thread here. Don't bother to wash this first batch. I will wash and black them here.

The white starched snowflakes sell for \$1.25 here in the U.S. The homespun look is very popular here in the U.S.

I have enclosed a check on the Chase Manhattan bank which should be readily cashed anywhere in the U.S. I have sent \$25.00 US which should pay for the decorations with \$5.00 extra.

world

The \$5.00 is for you if there is no charge for cashing the check. Take it to Barkley's bank in town and take it to a white clerk who will know more about foreign money matters than the general bank clerk. I think there is a special clerk who handles the cashing of foreign checks.

If you have any problems, send it back and I will send you \$25.00 worth of materials and batting, if that is agreeable.

If you have no problem cashing the check, then I will be able to sell these in the U.S. in the future and send you money in this form.

If they give you the official exchange which is .86 cents Zimbabwe for 1.00 U.S. the check should really net you \$29.00/. At the most they should not charge you more than 2.00 for cashing it, if there is any charge at all.

If you have any trouble cashing it, have one of the white sisters go to the bank with you, or Brother Neald, or take it to the U.S. Embassy. They might cash it for you. If you called the U.S. Embassy on the telephone, they would tell you if they would cash it, or where to take it to cash it.

If this project is successful, I would like to confine it to the ladies in the branch, as long as they can do the work. However, do not mention it to them (unless you are having one or two of them do the crocheting) until we see how it goes on this end.

Woops. I forgot. I would like to have the finished decorations, sent by airmail so I would have them this christmas, so you will need the extra for mailing. If you just wrap them in plastic grocery bag (one of those tough, light weight ones) and roll them, and tie string around them, you can save weight. We sent a lot of things home from South Africa that way, and they arrived in better condition than the ones in paper, and just as good as the ones in boxes. If the whole thing comes to more than I sent you in the check I will send you the balance.

Let me know how I have figured right on this, and if you can find someone who can copy the patterns. The crochet ladies said "I can't copy a pattern, but if I can see one, I can duplicate it."

Let me hear from you. This first group of patterns will be used 1) for my own tree. 2) for samples to show stores. Maybe we can find a new outlet for your talents in Zimbabwe, and one which will help you support your families.

I think of all of you often. I have just been made Relief Society President in our ward. Tell Peter to write. Give my love to all. If this works out, can you get them mailed back to me by November 1?

I have also enclosed pictures of us as you requested.

Love,
Sister Ida-Rose Hall