

Black or

white ^{1/5/1977}

but not

Red, says

Ian's son

LONDON. — Mr Alec Smith, the son of the Rhodesian Prime Minister, Mr Ian Smith, said in London yesterday that he believed communists and capitalists could together find a new system for the world.

Mr Smith, who is in London for a Moral Re-armament (MRA) assembly, said in a television interview that his father would be prepared to leave office if it was in the best interests of achieving a peaceful settlement to the Rhodesian independence dispute.

Asked if he had associated himself with the MRA movement because of its general anti-communist stand, Mr Smith replied: "I'm not anti-communist as such. I'm not pro-communist. I believe that in fact communism and capitalism ~~can~~ together find a new system for the world."

Asked if his father saw himself as a stumbling block to majority rule, and if he would be prepared to leave office in order to get a settlement, Mr Smith said: "He has said even to me that he is quite prepared to leave politics, to step down, if that is in the best interests of getting a settlement."

He told the Independent Television news programme that he was dedicated to Rhodesia. "I certainly do see a future for whites in Rhodesia.

"Some Rhodesians, though, do fear a black government. But there are a number of Rhodesians who are Africans who feel they belong to Africa rather than to Europe or another continent.

"All they want is a good government, not necessarily black or white government."

But people did not want a communist-orientated government, he said.

Mr Smith was asked to comment on the latest raids by Rhodesian troops into Mozambique.

He said he was not a military strategist, but believed that possibly in certain circumstances this kind of operation was necessary. "I'm not a general in the army."

Yesterday's raid into Mozambique was the main front page story in the Daily Telegraph, The Guardian and the communist Morning Star. — Sapa.