LAGOS 3636 251642Z

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ACTION AF 18

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L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 16, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28,
SCS 04, SCA 01, SFR 01, ORM 03, ACD 18, EU 15, DOT 12, TRC 11, CMN 08,
RSR 01, 219 W

R 251642Z APR 69
FM AM EMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6214

SUBJ: NEW ORGANIZATION FOR BIAFRAN RELIEF

REF: STATE'S 064196

1. IT OCCURS TO US "AMERICANS FOR BIAFRAN RELIEF" MIGHT PRESENT
OPPORTUNITY BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR ON OJUKWU IN INTEREST FACILI-
TATING RELIEF EFFORT IN REBEL-HELD AREAS. AT PRESENT, THE MAJOR
FACTOR INHIBITING THE DELIVERY OF RELIEF SUPPLIES TO REBEL-HELD
AREAS IN THIS CRITICAL PERIOD IS FACT OJUKWU WILL ACCEPT DELIVERY
ONLY BY AIR AND AT NIGHT. ONLY REALISTIC POSSIBILITY INCREASING
RELIEF TO THIS AREA IS BY INITIATING DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS WHICH
FMG HAVE AGREED TO. WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR REPRESENTATIVE
LOWENSTEIN AND SENATOR PEARSON TO INJECT INTO EFFORTS OF NEW
ORGANIZATION A PLEA FROM THAT ORGANIZATION TO REBELS TO ACCEPT
DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS? THIS WOULD BE STEP IN DIRECTION LOWENSTEIN
PROMISED FMG HE WOULD TAKE.

2. DIFFICULT TO SEE AT THIS JUNCTION WHEN ALTERNATIVE RELIEF
ROUTES SEEM RULED OUT BY O NWU STAND HOW NEW ORGANIZATION
CAN MAKE EFFECTIVE RELIEF USE OF FUNDS UNLESS
RELIEF AIRLIFT CAN BE SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED THROUGH USE AIR-
STRIPS BY DAY. WOULD HOPE, OF COURSE, THAT NEW ORGANIZATION
WILL SET UP CONTROL OVER USE ITS FUNDS SO THAT THEY WILL IN
FACT BE SPENT ON RELIEF AND NOT INADVERTANTLY DIVERTED OTHER
PURPOSES.

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PA/HO Department of State
E.O. 12958, as amended
April 21, 2005
3. SINCE ABOVE PROPOSAL WOULD SEEM TO US INDIRECT MEANS SUPPORT
FERGUSON EFFORTS PERSUADE OJUKWU MAKE SOME CONCESSIONS, FERGUSON
MAY WISH HIMSELF RAISE POSSIBILITY WITH LÖWENSTEIN AND PEARSON.
FURTHERMORE, IF NEW ORGANIZATION WERE TO CALL ON OJUKWU TO
PERMIT DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS, WOULD HELP PUT ONUS FOR BLOCKING
RELIEF EFFORT ON OJUKWU WHERE IT IN FACT LIES.
GP=3: MATTHEWS