

'This Is Not a War, It Is a Genocide'

Biafra Blockade - Runner Warns Against 'I Didn't Know' Attitude

New York — (RNS) — The newest hero of the struggle to save Biafra from starvation told a news conference here that the tiny country faces an even "bigger disaster to mankind" than the killing of six million Jews by Nazi Germany.

Count Carl-Gustav von Rosen, the Swedish aviator of almost legendary fame who earlier broke the Nigerian blockade against mercy flights to Biafra, said "this is not a war, it is a genocide."

The Swedish nobleman, who is a veteran blockade runner, has undertaken to coordinate the all-but-abandoned air-lift to Biafra. He has also made a lightning tour of several countries, urging governments and voluntary relief agencies to intensify their efforts in behalf of Biafra's three-and-a-half million.

"I am doing this so that we cannot for a second time say we 'didn't know,'" he declared. "I am prepared to spend the rest of my life trying to help these millions of women and children."

The pilot's first wife was incarcerated in a Nazi concentration camp for her work with the Dutch resistance. She suffered a mental breakdown and, after the war, committed suicide.

He said he dared to crack the Nigerian blockade "because I could not refuse and have my wife and children think I was a coward. What is one man's life compared with thousands?"

The present Countess von Rosen sat by her husband during the news conference.

The count was in the United States for a week of planning sessions with Catholic Relief Services, Church World Service of the National Council of Churches, and the American Jewish Emergency Effort for Biafran Relief.

Discussed ways of increasing the flow of food and medicine to Biafra. Count von Rosen said he planned shortly to return to the Portuguese island of Sao Tome, the base of the mercy flights off the coast of Nigeria.

"I feel terrible every day I'm not there, because if one of our planes is shot down I have to face the widows."

Count von Rosen, whose name is linked with aerial exploits of heroic proportions since 1934, first went to Sao Tome on a more or less routine mission.

As chief pilot for Sweden's largest chartered airline, Transair, he decided to accompany a plane load of supplies from Europe to Sao Tome. Arriving there, he found the airlift com-

pletely paralyzed by Nigeria's tightened blockade.

He thought he saw a way to get in, tried it, and made it.

"We had to make the first flight in the daylight," he explained, "to check the country." Other flights have been at night, in extremely dangerous conditions, "just scraping the tops of the trees at 200 feet, and often in bad weather with violent rain and clouds at 500 feet."

He said as many as six flights are now getting through daily, with "different tactics" each time. The Biafra rescue operation will have to become "as big as the Berlin airlift," he declared.

Meanwhile, it was announced in Geneva that the International Committee of the Red Cross would start regular daylight relief flights to Biafra in defiance of the Nigerian Government's threat to shoot down planes trying to break the blockade.

The flights will operate from Santa Isabel, capital of the Spanish island of Fernando Po, where 3,500 tons of food have been collected.

The airlift will be flown by five planes, four of them lent by the Red Cross societies of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden. A sixth will be provided soon by the Dutch Red Cross.

"Before this is over, the world will have a tremendous task. It was a great mistake to put so many guns in the hands of Africans to kill each other."

He emphasized that he was ready to help the starving and suffering on either side of the conflict, and disclaimed any interest in political aspects.

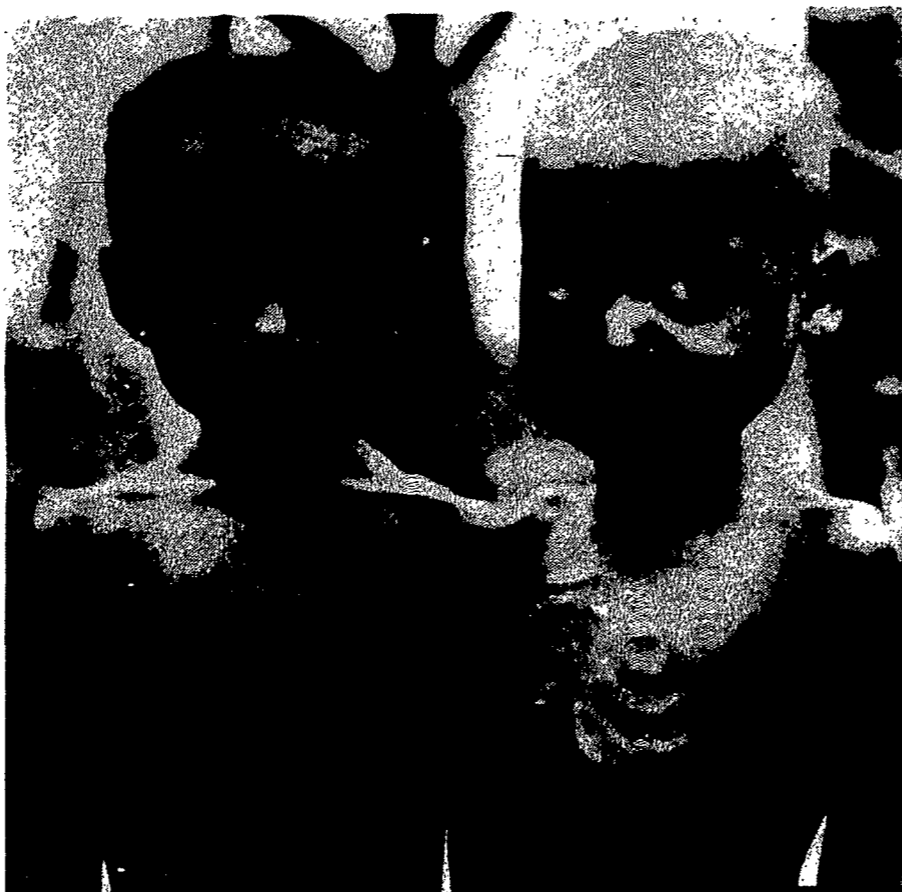
He also denied that the pilots in his "command" — about 15 of them now — were "soldiers of fortune." They are "just airline people," he said, "settled men with wives and children."

Count von Rosen, who flew the first Red Cross air ambulances into Ethiopia at the time of the Italian invasion, said it should be possible to move 50 flights every 24 hours from Sao Tome to Biafra.

But even this would not be enough, he said. "And every missed flight means at least 300 babies dead."

Biafrans have "long ago lost the war," the count declared. "They are fighting on with their bare hands against tanks and guns."

"We have to get before the world the fact that this is a genocide. I am so convinced of this that I lost my wife and children and put my life on the line to do what I can about it."



Young victims of Nigerian conflict.

Dissident Priests Should Resign, Diocesan Aide Says

Cleveland (NC) — Priests who disagree with the Pope's encyclical on birth control should ask to "be relieved of their responsibilities in teaching, preaching and confessional guidance," according to Msgr. Francis W. Carney, director of the Cleveland diocesan Family Life Bureau.

Objecting to the statement was Father Michael J. O'Boyle, a member of the diocesan Priests' Senate, who said it "does not in any way represent the teaching authority of the Church and should be treated as a private opinion."

In urging priests who disagree with the Pope to resign, Msgr. Carney said:

"A priest should echo the voice of the Church in this important matter under discussion today and if his personal conscience will not allow such agreement, he ought to summarily and properly ask to be removed from situations which would necessitate a position contrary to his conscience."

"A number of Catholic priests today are genuinely and sincerely experiencing a crisis of faith that has been augmented by the Holy Father's statement on birth control. Their personal crisis of faith, however, should not be visited upon students of a college in which they teach, upon the good people of God in the parish in which they serve, or in the confessional in which sacramentally they give guidance to sorrowful penitents."

Bishop Urges Stronger Parish Schools

(Continued from Page 1) Bishop Sheen cited three reasons parochial schools must continue:

- To give children the meaning and purpose of life.
- To preserve our rights and liberties.
- To correct outer violence by inner violence.

In expanding on his first reason, the spiritual head of the diocese said that children must be given a "meaningful contact" in the "confused world we bequeathed them."

"This is precisely what our religious schools do," he said.

Citing the second reason, the Bishop warned of the encroachment of the State on man and that an education is needed to teach that citizens' rights are inalienable because they come from God and not from the government.

"Inner violence" or self-discipline must be taught to strengthen character and to make children "good as well as smart."

The Bishop quoted the warning of George Kennan that a seriously disciplined nation such as Soviet Russia is more than a match for any nation that accents personal comfort and amusement.

In concluding, the Bishop said that America is "fed up with lawlessness, dishonesty and dishonesty" and that we must make sacrifices to maintain the parochial system "for the good of the Republic."

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Detroit Archdiocese Allocates \$ 200,000 To Urban Project

Detroit—(RNS) — The Archdiocese of Detroit has distributed \$210,000 to four inner-city projects in an effort to ease the urban upheaval in this area.

The allocation was taken from a \$1 million-plus collection requested by Archbishop John F. Dearden last May to help meet "the crisis in our cities."

A special appropriations committee made the following distribution of finances from the Archdiocesan Development Fund (ADF):

—A \$101,000 grant to start an educational center which will pioneer a method to aid children handicapped by their early environment.

—A \$174,000 loan to be used as "seed money" to test the feasibility of having housing prefabricated by the hard-core unemployed for erection in the inner-city.

—A \$30,000 grant to help finance interfaith Suburban Action Centers which will seek to determine the basis on which racial prejudice is built.

—A \$5,000 grant to continue a volunteer program which aids the poor in Pontiac, Mich.

In the prefabricated housing project,

according to Father Robert V. Monticello, appropriations committee chairman, it is expected that 15 two-bedroom units will be produced. They will sell for from \$9,500 to \$9,900, plus \$2,500 a unit for land. The plant planned to handle the project would produce 100 housing units a month, giving work to approximately 250 persons, he said.

Mortgages would be obtained, he said, permitting return of the archdiocese's loan so that it could be used in similar projects in other cities within the eight-county archdiocese.

The educational center will take 6- to 10-year-olds with serious learning problems from three inner-city schools. Its staff will consist of a Negro "community agent" who will also be principal, three black lay teachers, and two specially-trained nuns—one black and one white.

The grant to the interfaith Suburban Action Centers, Father Monticello said, will go into a pool contributed by various religious bodies to finance the work of clergymen who are educating affluent people to what it costs them in moral, emotional and financial terms to cling to harmful prejudices.

Bish

My dear People:

Never before in our schools been so we had to build them faith in a kind of religious sects. That day we are face to face with barbarism, not act from without, but pass from below. It is not the Church which requires ally and religion; it is the Nation. The school the bulwark of the it now also the bastion of

The Lord Who said children to come into our classrooms. But it weeping over a dying prompts us now to must render to God things that are God's Caesar the things that Nineteen out of twenty which vanished perished from within. I never feared that a fall by an attack from rather from within.

In a word, our school and religion must be only for the sake of the Church, but also for the country.

Listen to such a voice Oswald Spengler's study of the rise and tions: "You are dying the characteristic stigma I can prove to you wealth and your great capitalism and your wars and your revolutionism and your pessimism idem, your immorally down marriages, your that is bleeding you fr and killing you off brains—I can prove to were characteristic ma ing ages of ancient dria, and Greece and n

All around us a su calls for madder music, and more violent diso become, in our abse standards, like specta applauding the anno the building is on fire

Certainly, we need serve faith and moral But now we need then who are not our own; knock at our doors and take their non-Catholic Inner-City children v our buildings tenfold afford them.

In relation to our schools must continue sons:

Not Planning to End Rating of Movies, NCOMP Head Says

New York—(RNS)—Father Patrick J. Sullivan, S.J., has denied that the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures is going to end its classification system.

"We are not planning the abandonment of ratings," the NCOMP executive secretary told Religious News Service.

Father Sullivan's comment was prompted by press reports that the Catholic film office was considering a change in operations which included elimination of its traditional system of rating the moral value of motion pictures.

The basis for the report was a news story which noted that the NCOMP had published for the first time an account of a resolution from the French-Canadian Catholic Film Office.

The resolution was presented by the Canadian unit at the annual conference of the International Catholic Film Office (ICFO) at the 1967 Berlin Film Festival. It declared that the "moral classification of films such as presently done by most of the national film offices does not respond

to the conditions of a pastoral ministry adapted to our time."

In urging the abandonment of the current "negative categories," the resolution asked the film offices to replace the moral classifications with "mainly a service giving information about the human and Christian value of films."

The account of this French-Canadian resolution was presented in the NCOMP yearly report, which is entitled "Films 1967."

The news report noted that the resolution was introduced by the NCOMP with the comment that the resolution's appearance in the film office's yearly report was "significant and suggests that NCOMP is weighing such a policy change."

Father Sullivan noted that the resolution was presented in the yearly report's section called "Documentation." In covering the activities of the motion picture industry during 1967, he said it was "quite logical" to include the French-Canadian resolution. He termed the NCOMP action "a service to our subscribers."

Father Baum Predicts Encyclical To Alter View of Papal Authority

Buffalo—(RNS)—An international-known theologian predicted here that the world-wide controversy over Pope Paul VI's ban on artificial birth control will lead inevitably to a re-interpretation of papal authority in the Roman Catholic Church.

Father Gregory Baum, 45-year-old Augustinian priest who is professor of theology at St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto, said in an interview that he believes the dissent from the encyclical—which he has criticized—will be tolerated by popes and bishops.

"This will demand a reinterpretation of papal authority in the Church," he continued.

Theologians will have to study the

limits of papal power and provide guidelines for Catholics in situations where the teaching authority (the magisterium) is wrong."

Father Baum said that "the reason so many Catholics in the U.S. and Canada have dissented from the papal encyclical on birth control is because the encyclical goes counter to the Catholic theology of today."

"The area of human responsibility is becoming wider," said the Augustinian priest. "Man is becoming responsible for his future."

"Man is summoned by God to create his future, and for that reason many aspects of life which in the past we acknowledged as divine providence have become matters of personal responsibility."

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