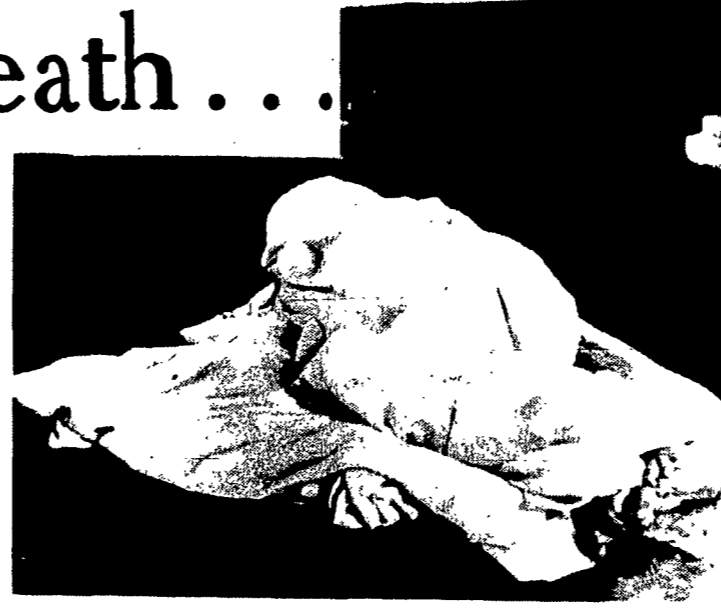


Pray for us now . . . and at

the hour of our death . . .



Biafra
Biafrans fill church and spill out onto steps and courtyard as they prepare for advance of Nigerian soldiers near Aba, upper left. Aba shortly after fell to Nigerians. Above, the body of a Biafran child, a victim of hunger, awaits burial at a mission station. At left, a priest gives milk to children who came to mission carrying soft drink bottles and cans. (RNS)

Sisters Staying in Biafra 'Until the Very End'

By FR. JOHN P. FOLEY (NC News Service)
Philadelphia — "The Sisters have decided themselves that they will remain with their people in Biafra until the very end. They've given their lives to the people and they're willing to give their lives for them."
That is how the general superior of the largest group of Sisters now working in war-torn Biafra describes the attitude of the nuns in her community in their work of

relieving suffering in a blockaded land.
On a visit here to the two American convents of the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary, Irish-born Mother Stanislaus Gallagher said that the 30 Sisters in her congregation who are still working in Biafra have only the clothes they are wearing.
"Their spare clothing, the sheets from their beds, their laundry bags—all these have gone into making clothing for refugees and bandages for the

wounded," Mother Stanislaus said.
"The Sisters with the Biafrans have followed the policy of going with their people as the federal troops advanced. Twenty of the Sisters are working in four hospitals which, at last reports, were still in Biafran-held territory. The other 10 Sisters are working in refugee camps, helping to organize the daily distribution of relief supplies," she explained.
Among the Sisters working in Biafra are three native novices. Two more Biafran

novices accompanied plane-loads of Biafran children to the nearby Portuguese-held island of Sao Tome.
"They've been getting a wonderful novitiate," Mother Stanislaus said. "They show great dedication and a cheerful spirit of helpfulness. And, of course, they can often do much more than many of our missionaries because they are so fluent in the Ibo language."
In addition to the two Biafran novices who have accompanied the refugee flights of children to Sao Tome, Mother Stanislaus has sent three Sister-doctors and four Sister-nurses to the island to aid the more than 1,000 children expected there.

are particularly devoted to the Rosary.
"At the beginning," Mother Stanislaus said, "there were many holy hours and vigils and other spiritual demonstrations. Now, as public gatherings become more dangerous and as the people become weary from lack of food, you have fewer open demonstrations, but the people still have faith that God will deliver them from the conflict."
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Macao Helped by CRS Donations

By GERMAINE SWAIN (NC News Service)
Macao — An aid program ranging from free school meals for children to an electric generator for mechanical training at a leprosy center is being carried on here by U.S. Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the overseas relief agency of U.S. Catholics.
Macao pins its future hopes on an increase in tourism and foreign capital investment in small industry. In the meantime, she struggles along, strengthened by direct aid balanced by socio-economic projects reported by Macao

CRS in its summary of activities for 12 months ending June 1.
During that period, as part of the Food-for-Peace program, CRS made 1,608.12 tons of food valued at \$137,983 available for distribution, especially to preschool and school-age children. The food was distributed by 27 centers throughout the six square miles that constitute Macao proper and on its tiny offshore islands—Taipa and Coloane.
Clothing contributed by U.S. Catholics — 120,505 pounds valued at \$180,757.

also provided material for sewing classes at vocational centers for girls in Macao.
Medical supplies valued at \$39,743 received by CRS from the Catholic Medical Mission were distributed to hospitals, dispensaries and clinics. Also received from various companies for distribution to clinics, nurseries, kindergartens and vocational training centers were supplies — valued at \$5,888 — of toothpaste, adhesive tape, baby clothing, sweets, and cotton mill ends.
A revolving fund amounting to \$10,000 was made available by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to CRS in Macao, from which refugees could obtain small loans to be repaid in easy installments.
The fund loaned \$2,545 to the Ka Ho leprosy center in Coloane last November for the purchase of a generator. Acquired for the operation of a medical workshop, the generator also is supplying electric current to the leper colony and to the nearby village of Ka-Ho, where 450 people live.

authorized CRS to use these funds to purchase clothing for refugees and other needy who entered Macao prior to the date of the Sino-Portuguese agreement.
Through CRS's contracts with RMU a variety of training programs have been initiated:
• 300 refugees have completed training courses in knitting, beading and similar work. While in training they received about 17 cents per day maintenance.
• 75 refugees completed an electronics course in 1967; 20 are now attending.
• 54 refugees attended a training center in machine knitting started in July, 1967. They are now finding work in local factories where they can earn about \$49.50 a month on a piece-work basis.
• 38 blind and otherwise physically handicapped who completed training in handicrafts, produced—during the year under review—101,000 pieces of rattan items and earned \$4,000.
• 17 students selected from 16 Macao secondary schools were provided with monthly assistance.

Among the Sisters in Biafra, Mother Stanislaus said, "morale is terrific. There is a tremendous feeling of spiritual joy and a great feeling of identification with the people. The Biafrans themselves have a wonderful spirit of faith in God and a marvelous perseverance in prayer. They

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Ecumenical Events

2 Faiths Discuss Gospel

Baastad, Sweden — (RNS) — "Substantial agreement and convergence of opinion" on the task of the church in the world was reported here at the conclusion of a five-day official dialogue between representatives of the Lutheran World Federation and the Roman Catholic Church.
The discussions were part of a continuing study of "The Church and the Gospel" being carried out by the Vatican Secretariat for Christian Unity and representatives of LWF.
The meetings were closed to reporters but a short summary of the talks and discussions as released. It called attention to the "possible new understanding and importance of the laity" in the mission of the contemporary church.
Discussions on the laity and the Church's mission in society "were believed to hold promise for further ecumenical discussion," the communique said.
The bases for the discussions were established in four position papers by two Catholic and two Lutheran scholars. They were Father Walter Kasper and Father Johann Baptist Metz, both of the Catholic theological faculty at the University of Muenster, Germany; Prof. Philip

Hefer of the Chicago Lutheran School of Theology, and Prof. Per Erik Persson of the University of Lund, Sweden.
In the communique it was noted that "the agreements and differences of opinions did not necessarily coincide with confessional identification."
Others who participated included the following Catholics: Father Jerome Hamer, O.P., associate secretary of the Vatican Secretariat for Christian Unity; Father Joseph Fitzmyer, S.J., Woodstock College, Md.; Father Charles Moeller of the Congregation for the Faith, the former Holy Office.

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Diem Party Revival Denied in Saigon

Saigon — (NC) — A south Vietnam government spokesman has denied that President Nguyen Van Thieu is planning to revive the "Can Lao" party of the late President Ngo Dinh Diem.
Responding to such a report in the U.S. press, press director Nguyen Van Noan of the South Vietnam Information Ministry asserted that President Thieu had made his policy clear in a Sept. 20 statement.
President Thieu at that time said, "Our policy of the use of manpower in the pres-

criminate between 'new' and 'old' but is concerned only with ability, putting a man in the right position in accordance with the aims of national reconciliation."

Hey, Mrs. McGee
Wednesday is Prince Spaghetti Day... Give it a fair shake.

Birth Control Issue in Puerto Rico

San Juan, P.R. — (RNS) — Puerto Rico's ruling Popular Democratic party has formally adopted a birth control plank for its 1968 election campaign platform.
It is the only party among the five in Puerto Rico with such a platform stand. In 1960, a similar plank in its platform caused a clash with the Roman Catholic Church, and government does not dis-



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NATIONAL DIRECTOR

N BIAFRA GERIA
Dear Friends:
Literally hundreds of you who love and support The Society for the Propagation of the Faith have written to ask how the Society has assisted in the tragic calamity that has befallen humanity in Nigeria-Biafra. Are the Church's missionaries helping, serving, leading; are the Society's funds getting to where they are needed most?

The answer to both questions is an emphatic yes. Let's take them one at a time. The personnel of the Church at this instant are writing with the ink of tears and sweat and blood, one of the most glorious chapters in the history of the Church's service to mankind. Missionaries from Europe and America, African bishops, priests, sisters, catechists and lay leaders are there where the action and the danger is—and on both sides of the agonizing conflict.

These servants of the servant Church are not interested in the political dimensions of this struggle; they simply believe that war is neither an effective nor a Christian way of settling tribal differences and are willing to expose their own lives to risk in the services of the injured, the hungry, the orphaned and the wounded in spirit. Those I have met who have seen this catastrophe with their own eyes speak of . . . "the light of hope in the eyes of the mothers and children when Sister appeared" . . . "64 soldiers were baptized right at the front lines" . . . "the bishop gave the food to the children with his own hands" . . . "the Africans learned their catechism in the trenches with shells flying overhead" . . . "rough observers from the outside were converted back to the Church when they saw the priests and the nuns sharing the suffering of their adopted people."

The Society's funds are there as well. Over a half million dollars has been sent into Biafra since the conflict began and has been used for the needs of the Church in its mission of salvation and service. Your gifts and sacrifices are relieving human want and bringing the message and comfort of Christ to a suffering part of the world.

My words are addressed to you because your inquiries deserve an answer, just as your gifts deserve our thanks—because all of the agencies striving to relieve suffering deserve your continued support—because the power and love of your prayer is possible at every moment—because a way must be found to end this pitiful and profitless carnage.

Sincerely yours in Our Lord,
The Right Reverend Edward T. O'Neara, S.T.D.
National Director
Your help is still needed.
SALVATION AND SERVICE are the work of The Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Please cut out this column and send your offering to:
Right Reverend Edward T. O'Neara, National Director, 366 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10001, or directly to your local diocesan director: Rt. Rev. Mgr. John F. Duffy, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester, New York 14604.

The

Dublin — In a world where civil rights seems to be an indelible phenomenon, the fact the papers no longer have to seek who are willing to go to prison small note of hope.

In 1815, when Ireland's Catholic wanted an editor for the Journal, they advertised for a person perfectly competent to be a sensible proprietor of a religious newspaper. He must have no preferences for the of Dublin to the cells of New.

Willingness to spend time in the cells of Newgate was a new qualification when British rule in Ireland were intent on erasing opposition to its policy.

Intercommunion Ban Doctrinal, Says Ecumenist

Vatican City — (NC) — A C leader in the ecumenical field declared that the Church's ban on interfaith Eucharistic celebration is not simply a matter of discipline rather one of doctrine.

Father Charles Boyer, S.J., rector of the Paris Institute of the Holy Spirit, which 61 Christians of various faiths, the consecrated bread wine. He also spoke of a council on the fringe of the 1968 general assembly of the World Council of Churches in Uppsala, Sweden, which some Catholics received Eucharist Communion.

Father Boyer, president of the International Unitas Association, a renowned Thomist scholar, said that the Catholics involved were hindered from such an action. They were hoping to force a council that prohibition by presenting Church with an accomplished fact.

"The Eucharist is a preeminent sign of the unity of the Church," Father Boyer said. "The question of intercommunion and interfaith celebrations is not a matter of discipline rather one of doctrine. An ecumenist who believes in keeping pace with the times by weakening Catholic traditions of the Real Presence, the efficacy of the Mass and the character of the priesthood actually works against the cause of ecumenism."

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