

PC 127-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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TELEGRAM

Page 5026
018329

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05026 041733Z

43
ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28, SSO 00,
USIE 00, NSCE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, UCF 05, UPW 01, RSR 01, /146 W
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P R 041540Z JUN 69
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS.
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6976
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMCONSUL IBADAN



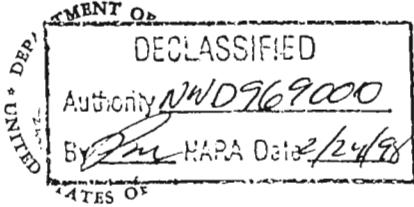
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SUBJ: FERGUSON DISCUSSION WITH GEN. GOWON RE INTERDICTION
RELIEF FLIGHTS

REF: LAGOS 5018 (NOTAL)

1. IN COURSE DISCUSSION WITH GEN. GOWON ON SURFACE ROUTES, FERGUSON USED OCCASION TO INQUIRE WHETHER ANY BASIS IN FACT REPORTS FMG ADOPTING NEW POLICY RELATIVE TO RELIEF FLIGHTS WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO THEIR INTERDICTION BY MILITARY AIRCRAFT. GOWON AFTER DELIVERING LECTURE TO EFFECT SECURITY OF NIGERIA PARAMOUNT AND THAT IF NECESSARY ALL RELIEF FLIGHTS OR OTHER ACTIVITIES WOULD BE HALTED, WENT ON TO RESTATE HIS CONSISTENT POSITION THAT ALL NIGHT FLIGHTS " ILLEGAL" AND THAT THOSE FLYING THEM DO SO AT OWN RISK. HE ALSO SAID THAT PERMISSION FOR DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS WOULD BE DEPENDENT ON SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS AT ANY GIVEN TIME. HE THEN ADDED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN POLICY AND VOLUNTEERED THAT SHOULD THERE BE A CHANGE HE WOULD GIVE APPROPRIATE NOTICE TO ALL CONCERNED.

0
CONFIDENTIAL
23
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E.O. 12958, as amended
April 21, 2005



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PAGE 02 LAGOS 05026 041733Z

2. BRIG. KATSINA COS NIGERIAN ARMY ON JUNE 2 GAVE
CONSUL STOKES SAME ASSURANCE THAT POLICY RE FLIGHTS
UNCHANGED.

GP-3 OLSON

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