

nnnn

tczc bal 191/2/8 bis - 02 1720

for o from chris

following article appeared on page 15 of the daily telegraph of 2/8/69.

'pope makes nigeria peace move'  
by christopher munnion in kampala....

the pope last night made an unprecedented move for a peace settlement in nigeria by holding meetings with representatives of both sides in the conflict.

after a day filled with iremony, he took the opportunity of receiving separately deputations from federal nigeria and from biafra the meetings took place at his request in the apostolic nunciature (vatican embassy) in kampala, where he is staying. there was no immediate indication from either side of the effect of the initiative.

observers in uganda think it is unlikely that the pons influence will help towards breaking the deadlock on the two-year conflict.

he has indicated the depth of his resolve to mediate by saying he would stay in africa for a month if he saw any chance of bringing the two sides together.

the federal nigerian delegation in kampala is led by chief anthony enahoro, commissioner for information and nigerias chief peace negotiator. heading the biafran deputation is mr. austine okwu, gen. ojukwus roving envoy in east and central africa.

impassioned appeal

earlier, the pope made an opassioned appeal for peace in an axrnffboo the ugandan parliament at a special sitting attended by several african heads of state and kampala diplomats.

peace, the pope said, was a painful word because in a region of africa dear to us there still rages an agonising conflict.

the 71.-year-old pontiff also guggested mediation by international institutions.

earlier in the day the second of his three-day visit to uganda the pope visited an african section of kampala and several charitable institutions.

Labour mp takes flight risk  
by biiter

pel

snmzoos.

mrs anne kerr, Labour mp for rochester and chatham, will have the blessing of gen. gowon, (= 503 434-) , 8348-, 03- 95 '5-53, when she goes to biafra next week on an unauthorised night relief flight. but federal mig fighters are not being prevented from making their nightly patrols of the route which mrs kerr is taking.

she intends to board a french red cross relief plane at Libreville, gabon, one night early next week. it is on the Libreville-biafra route that gunrunning constellations, nicknamed the grey ghosts have been sighted by relief pilots.

mrs kerr had a 30-minute meeting with gen. gowon yesterday before going to lagos airport for the first leg of her onewoman peace mission to gen. ojukwu, the biafran leader.

she said gen gowon told me he could not guarantee my safety. but he said he would pray for me.

mrs kerr has decided to go ahead with her plans in spite of warnings from both nigerian and british officials in nigeria. attack repulsed

a government owned newspaper yesterday reported that federal nigerian troops had repulsed a fierce biafran counterattack near the river niger town of onitsha, killing more than 600 secessionist soldiers. reuter.

red cross move

the international committee of the red cross announced in geneva yesterday that it had drafted proposals which may reasonably be expected to permit the start of daylight relief flights to biafra.

coll ckd