

I think that what the Government, as a government, cannot do, private citizens can do and have done. For the Government's part, while assisting the Red Cross, we were at the same time pressing for daylight flights. Now that the Red Cross is no longer flying, it is all the more imperative that some massive relief operation get under way.

The Government readily admits, and has said so before, that it faces a question which demands continual and urgent examination — whether to take steps such as assisting Canairelief, which are likely to be objected to by the Nigerian Government, or to take steps such as dropping food by air in daylight, which are again likely to be objected to by the Biafrans. I recognize that this could be interpreted as a decision involving a value judgment about which side in the war is at fault. I hope we shall not be forced into such a judgment but, instead, reach only a decision as to which is the most effective way of alleviating the suffering.

I suggest that this attitude on the part of the Government and these persistent endeavors cannot in any circumstances be described as indifference, as partisanship or as stubbornness. We are doing what we think is right and what the overwhelming majority of African leaders tell us is right....

S/C