Nigeria Band 6:

Die Briefmarken

von

Biafra

1967-1970



VERLAG RICHARD BOREK BRAUNSCHWEIG

Jan Claass
2023

Biafra - Der Bürgerkrieg in Nigeria 1967-1970

Hptst. Enugu; VerwSitz Umuahia; Hauptstamm: Ibos (Igbos)

CHRONIK

1966 01 15 **Militärputsch: BundesPremMin. & die PremMin. der West- & Nordregionen erschossen**
05 24 Nig. zum Einheitsstaat erklärt; alle 81 Parteien & 20 Stammesorganisationen verboten
30 Unruhen im Norden des Landes wg. vermeintl. Bevorzugung der Ibos in der neuen Reg.
07 28 Rebellion der im Westen (Lagos usw.) stationierten Truppenteile
08 01 Machtübernahme des bisherigen Stabschefs OTL J. Gowon (von Ojukwu nicht anerkannt)
Rücknahme der Maßnahmen v. 24.5.; Ibo-Progrome v.a. in NordNig.
Okt. Neuerliche Unruhen zw. den Haussa & Ibos
1967 04 29 BundesReg verhängt Post- & Luftfahrtblockade über den Osten
05 28 Gowon reaktiviert Regionalisierung (nunmehr 12 Bundesstaaten)
1967 05 30 **Abspaltung der Ostregion unter OTL (später Gen.) Ojukwu zur „Republik Biafra"**
07 06 Bundestruppen greifen Ostregion bei Nsukka an (es folgen Bombenangriffe auch auf zivile Objekte)
1968 01 27 Biafra führt eigene Währung & PwZ ein; wird durch zahlr. afrikan. Staaten anerkannt
1969 Ojukwu: „Kampf bis zum Sieg oder Untergang" (O. flieht anschließend)
1970 01 15 **Kapitulation Biafras vor den Bundestruppen durch GenMaj. Effiong**

FAKTEN

- UK & UdSSR unterstützt BundesReg massiv
- Schätzungen gehen von bis zu 2 Mio. Opfern durch Krieg, Hunger, Krankheiten usw. aus
- Die Bundesreg.Nig. & die internat. Gemeinschaft helfen schnell für den Wiederaufbau des Landes
- Letztlich war der (südliche) Bürgerkrieg ein wesentl. Element der Stärkung des Nordens und damit des Islam in Nigeria und seiner politischen Elite, die nunmehr nicht mehr in Lagos, sondern im (zentralen) Abuja sitzt!

Doc.Cs: FW4, Markov etc.





WORLDWIDE IN A NUTSHELL

BY **BOB LAMB** • AP Columnist

BIAFRA



Status: Secessionist Republic in eastern Nigeria
Population: 14,000,000 (est 1967)
Area: Approx. 30,000 sq miles
Currency: 12 pence = 1 shilling, 20 shillings = 1 Biafran Pound

The British created Nigeria in 1914 by merging their possessions of Southern Nigeria and Northern Nigeria. The merger created Africa's most populous nation, with more than a hundred different ethnic groups. The Northern region was predominantly Muslim, dominated by the Hausas and Fulanis. The largely Christian South was divided into the Western and Eastern regions, dominated by the Yorubas and Igbos (or Ibos) respectively. The majority of the people lived in the North. The British hoped that western democratic institutions at the national level coupled with relatively autonomous local government would moderate regional differences.



Biafra Scott 1



Stanley Gibbons 20

The Igbos took advantage of the good education available from the missionary schools and became the shopkeepers and minor civil servants of Nigeria. Meanwhile the Igbo population was growing more than twice as fast as that of the North. Resentment of the Igbo's economic success rose. In 1945 anti-eastern riots in the northern town of Jos resulted in 300 Igbo deaths. The Northerners also felt their electoral majority threatened, especially after Nigeria's independence in 1960. In 1966, anti-Eastern riots in Kano sparked the massacre of an estimated 30,000 Igbos and 1.3 million fled the North. A conference of regional leaders in 1967 agreed to increased local autonomy. When Northern leaders abrogated the agreement, tensions heightened and on May 30, 1967, the Eastern region declared its independence as "The Republic of Biafra."



Overprint "Sovereign Biafra," Scott 14, on Nigeria Scott 195.

The North responded immediately with an economic blockade, which the British joined. All mail service to Biafra was suspended on June 5. Since Nigerian stamps were no longer available, Biafra introduced "Post Paid" hand stamps. In July, the Northern army attacked. The Biafrans counterattacked in the Midwest and their army came within 40 miles of Lagos. But they were pushed back and by 1968, Biafra was a land-locked enclave. The blockade took a heavy toll. An estimated two million Biafrans died, mostly from starvation and disease. The airport in Uli was kept open for external relief supplies until 1970. The Biafran leader fled on January 11, 1970, just before the airport fell. The next day the Biafran forces surrendered.



Biafra Scott 25

On February 5, 1968 the first Biafran stamps were issued — a 3-value independence issue. When the Biafrans advanced into the West, a quantity of Nigerian stamps was captured. The government printer in Enugu overprinted thirteen values "Sovereign Biafra." This set went on sale on April 1, 1968. Three more sets were released in 1968–69. The Biafran postal system operated surprisingly well under very difficult conditions. When a town fell, postal officials would often move to a different location, carrying their cancelling devices with them. International mail left Biafra on relief flights to Cameroun and the Ivory Coast. From 1968 to 1970, additional stamps were sold through philatelic channels in Europe, but were not available in Biafra itself. Biafra was reincorporated into Nigeria with its political power and financial resources greatly reduced.

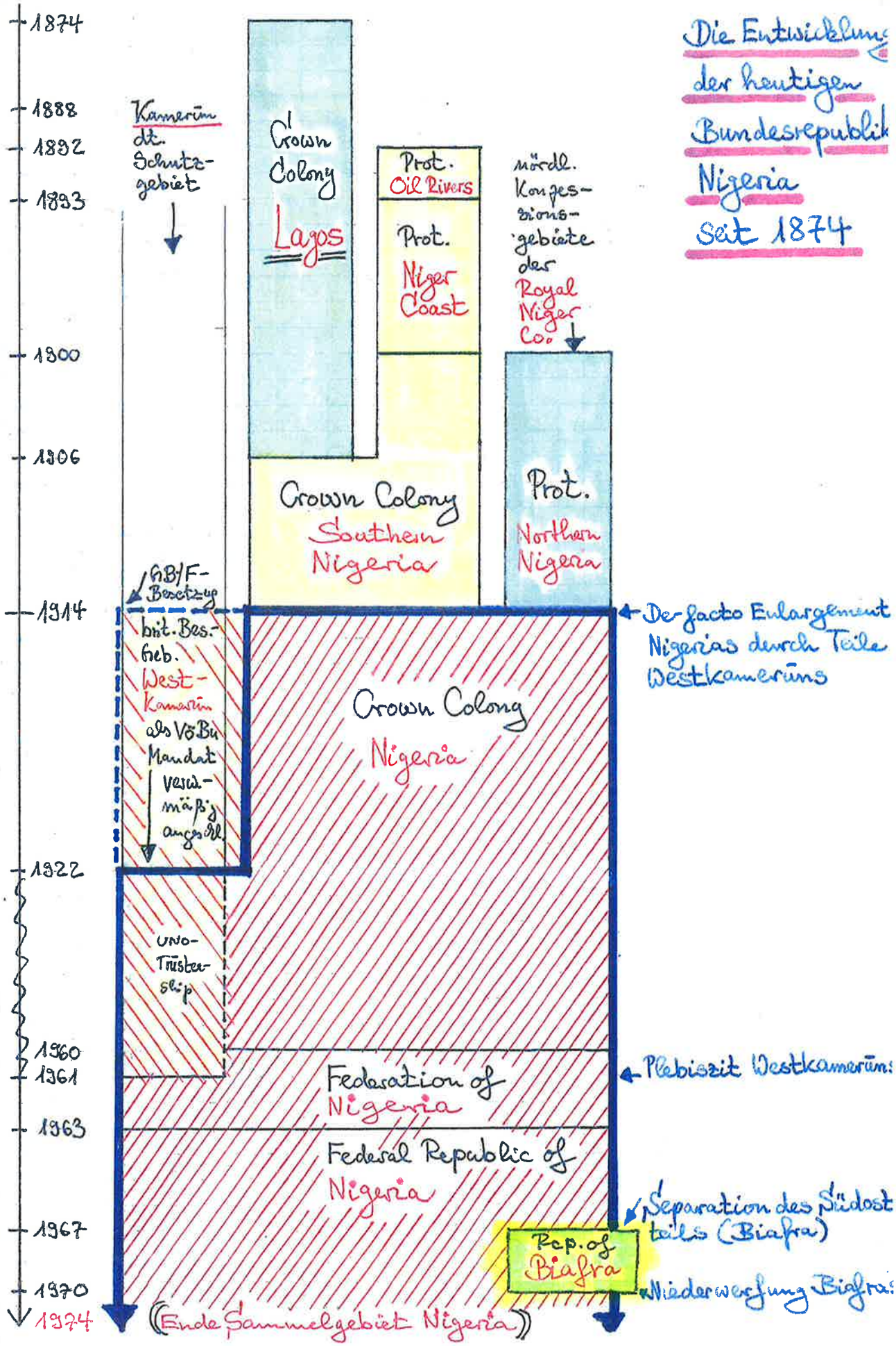




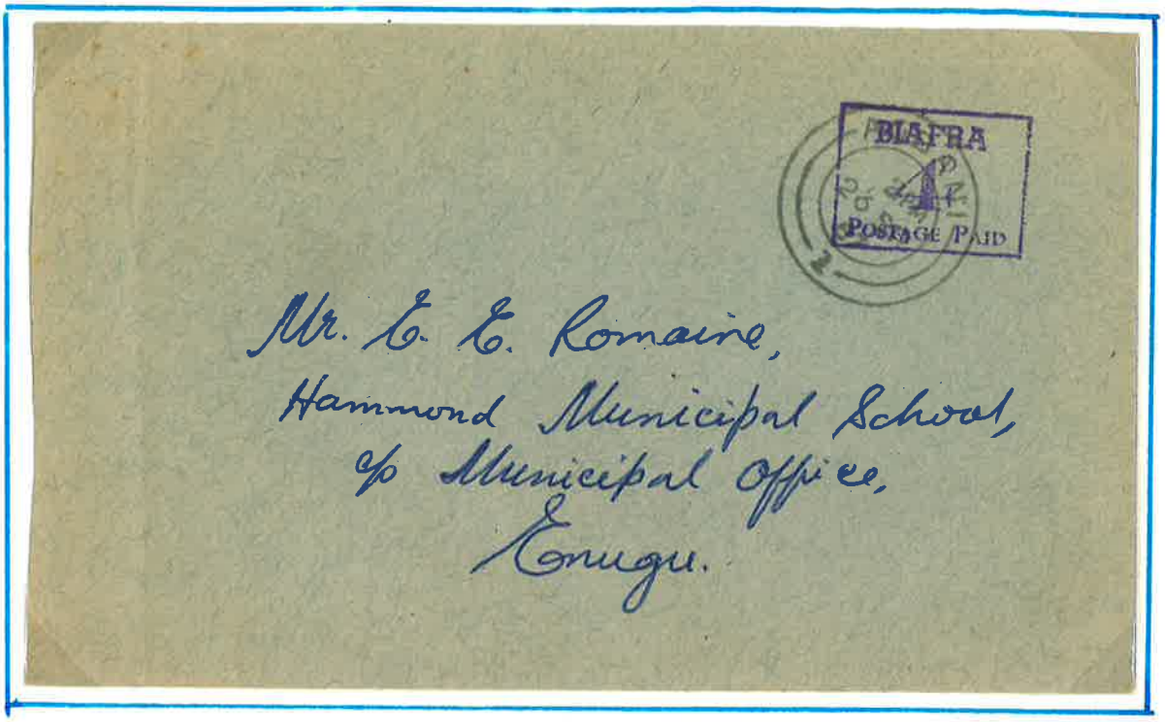


Unissued Stamps (left to right): 1970 Save Biafra, 1969 Christmas Issue, 1968 Mexico Olympics

Die Entwicklung der heutigen Bundesrepublik Nigeria seit 1874



Agbani 1967



1967 zu 4d domestic covers – vor *d. ersten Post 1968 – → Enugu, viol. Frei-⑤
⊙ AGBANI 26 SP 67, vertical crease at left & tiny toned, sent by Austrian Red Cross team, fine & scarce. So Felz. Kat. Txt 167. A. 131114.
lt. UF Zonst das Stück aus einer Exponat-Slg. des Österr. RK.
Rü: Abs: V.C. Romani, Internal Revenue Officer, Agbani
Aus meiner Sicht ist die UF-Ruskgft falsch, dennoch seltenes Stück!
A 100 G 140 Z 120 £ 160 – Gegenbieter war Leo Maier, Eggolsheim
Ausg. Tel. m. UF 131226 kauf 2019
↓Biafra Vorläufer↓



Enugu 301028, via Pt. Harcourt 29 CH-Triesenbg. 1120 Transit (Land/See)



R-Ff m. Nominale 4d als Barfrankierung (vor ✻ d. Pwz. 1968)
Das ✻ lega- July 1967 - deshalb auch die Jahres-
Zahl a. d. R-⊙! -, die ersten eigenen Ausg. v. Post
also erst ann 5.2.1968!
Barfrankierung ⊡ exakt wie Vorderseite dieses Blattes!
Lieb.: Geschäftsff aus Onitsha (⊙ 1967 08 29)
nach Port Harcourt = "Inland"
46. Halo 24 11 Σ 71 £ → weniger als hälftig wie musste
(Gegenbeleg fehlte bei günstiger Auskunft) AB

COMMEMORATING THE BIRTH
OF THE

REPUBLIC OF BIAFRA

OFFICIAL
DAY OF ISSUE COVERS

FIRST SET OF STAMPS
ISSUED BY
THE REPUBLIC OF BIAFRA



PEACE · UNITY · FREEDOM

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE
5TH FEB. 1968

150/-

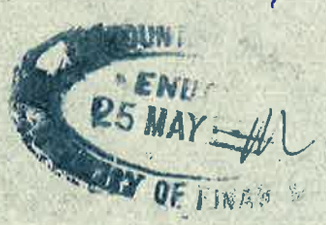
⊙ 5 (FEB) 68 Blanko FDC Enugu; Esm Fredrikson 1805~13

00/1008/22/SAD **On Her Majesty's Service.**

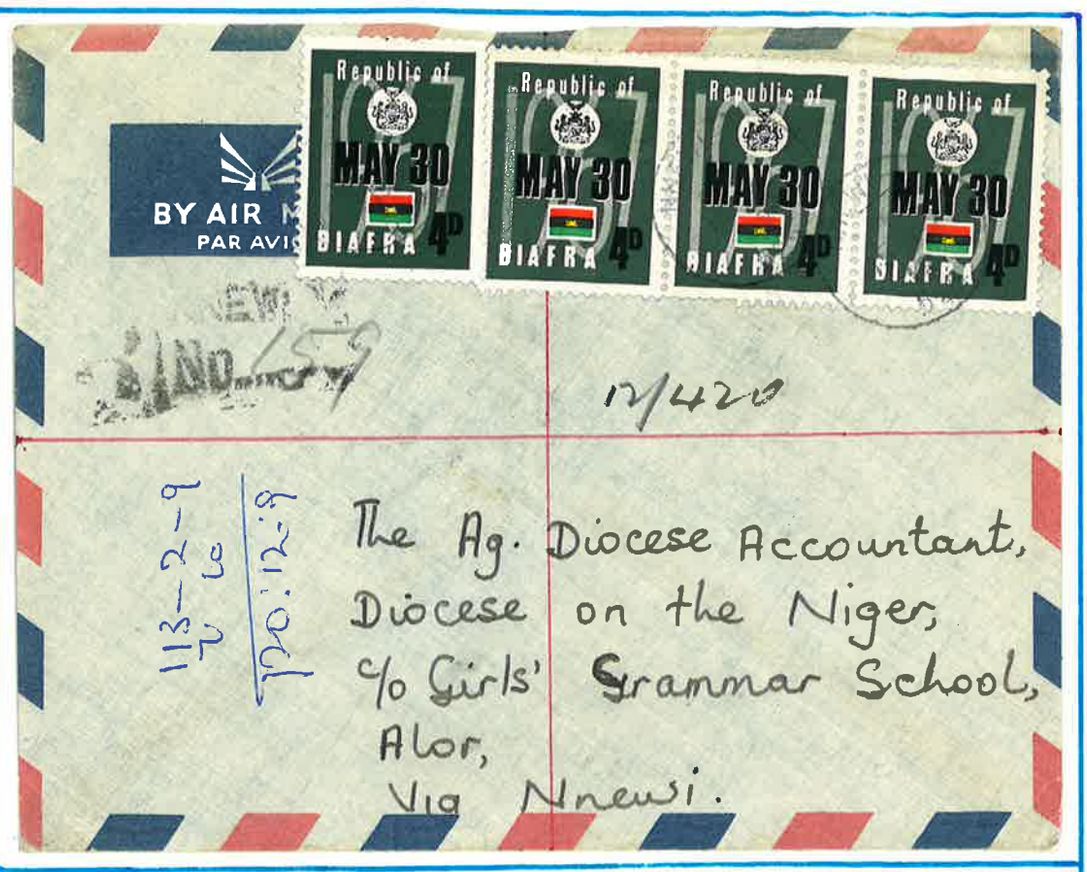


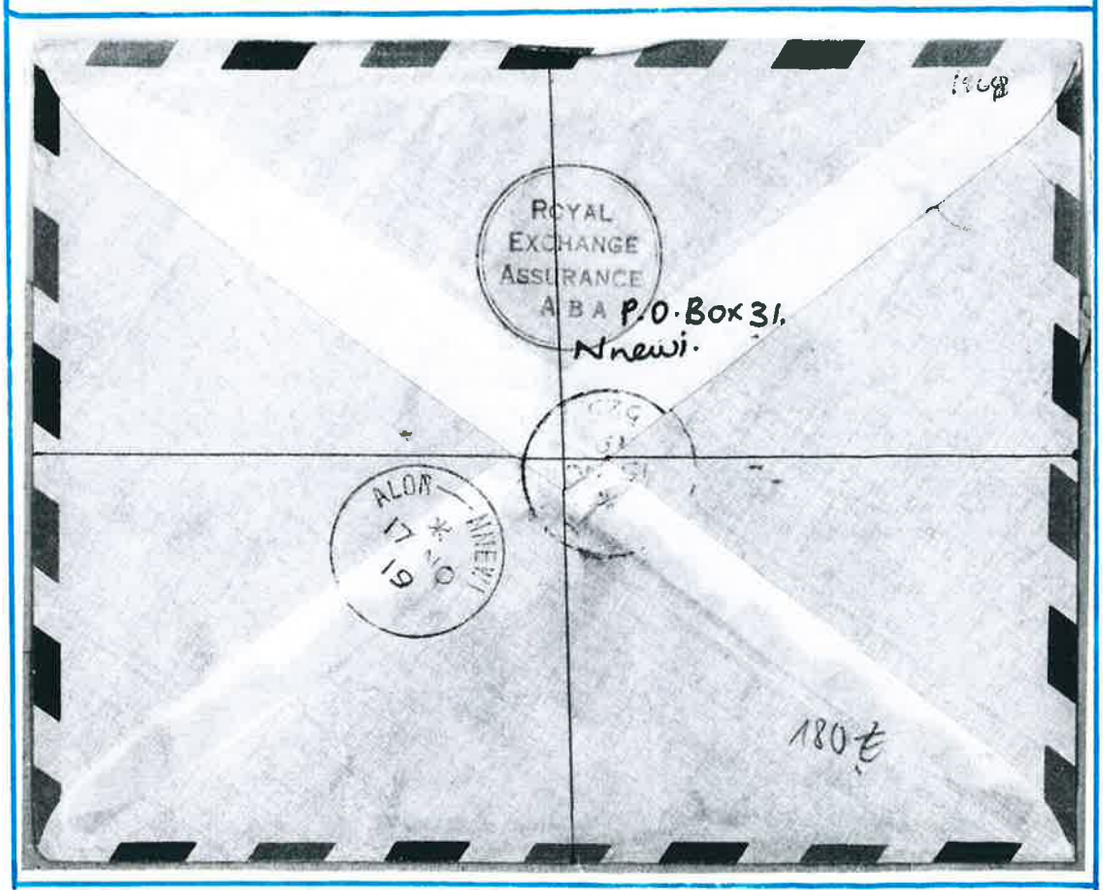
The Crown Agents for Oversea
Governments and Administrations,
4, Millbank, Westminster,
London S.W.1.

7



Sofern der ⊙ 25 MY 67 & nicht 63 lautet, wäre der Beleg aus der Hptstadt Enugu 5 Tage vor der Unabhängigkeit Biafras nach London versandt. Rii: 1 –
Klop. beschä. Sfi 191,5. Beleg
Auf jeden Fall ein offiz. Postsache m. Auslandsfrkt.





MeF(4) Inlands# wohl gelaufen LeoMy 1806/170

bedarfsgelaufen



BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

INTER ARMA CARITAS

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL
DE LA
CROIX-ROUGE
CH - 1211 GENÈVE

No 67/2

ICRC R G HQ

UMUOWA

ORLU

B I A F R A

⊙ 15 AP 19 ORLU; offen ab. Abs.rü, wohl ⊘; TheoMayer 180630



INTER ARMA CARITAS

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL
DE LA
CROIX-ROUGE
CH - 1211 GENÈVE

67

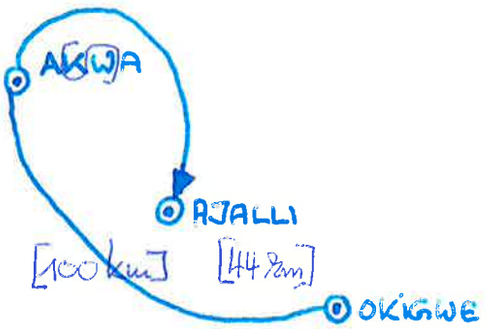
dito ident. ⊙ ident. Brfkopf, zu-adressiert, Cfr. 55.: 2302.1724

⊙ OKIGWE 5JY



Mr Mr. S. O. Ifeme
Christ St Marks School
P. O. Box 12
Ajalli
via AWKA.





Abs. aus Anama-Okigwe
(Nordmittelbiafra)

⊙ OKIGWE 5JY (?)
→ Ajalli via Awka

wohl echte Bed. #
vertik. gekürzt, Stoffl.
Die Klappe bei. beschä.

55. C.G. 2302.4234

offensichtlich echt & bedarfsgelaufen

⊙ Old Umuova 16 OC



wohl echt gel, ab. Bischöfl!
→ Abba, dat. A⊙ 21 OC [Transit 5 Tge]
rüs. wohl Empfängersignatur ?
55.C.G. 2302. 4238





INTER ARMA CARITAS

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL
DE LA
CROIX-ROUGE

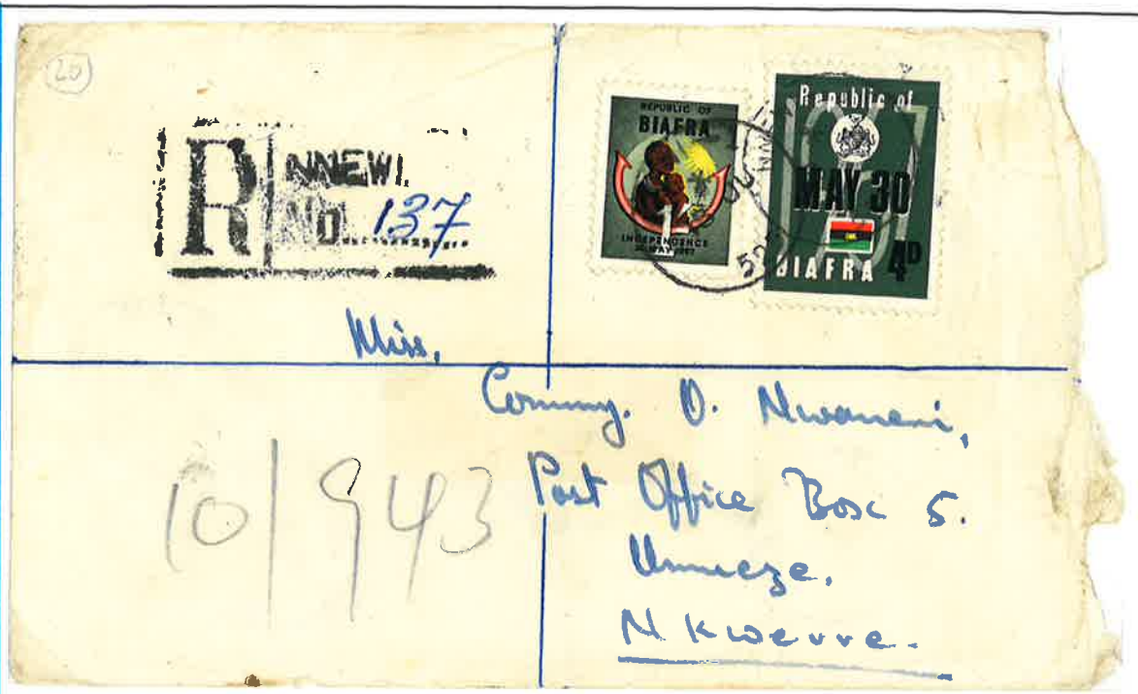
1211 GENÈVE 1

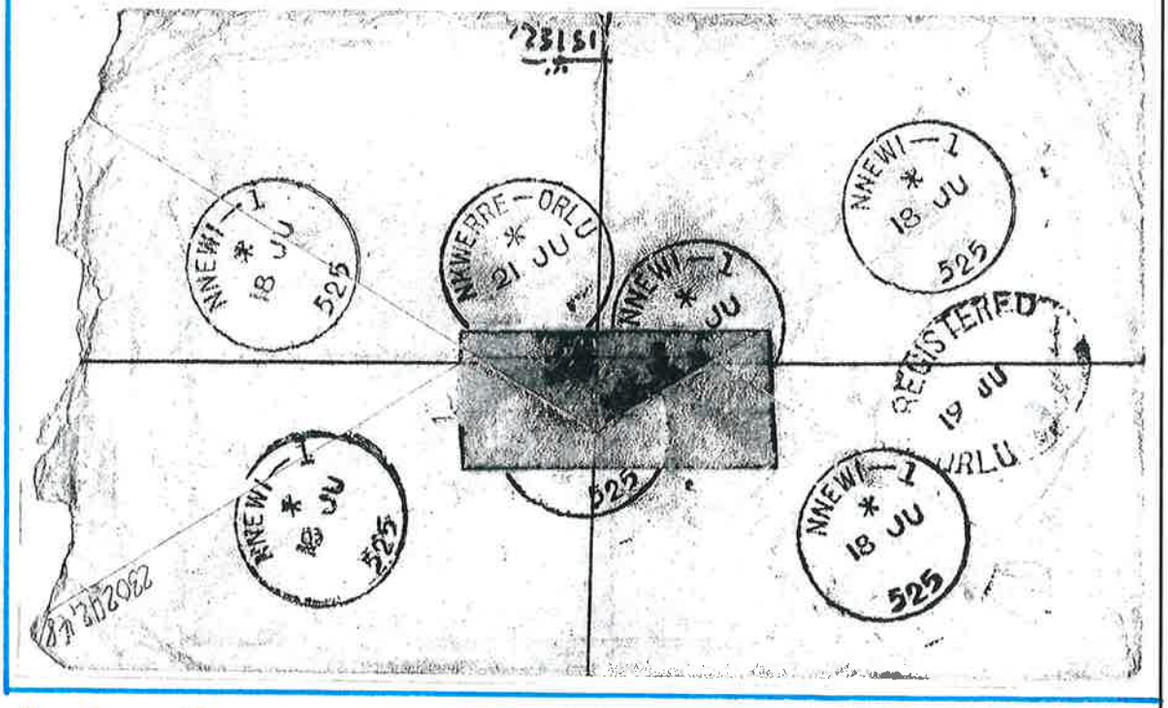
OL 718

Mr. FOLLIN
ICRC HQS
UMUOWA
ORLU

Follin # wie jenes C5:
⊙ Orlu 19 JU/573
Rü dito 3x⊙
wohl nicht gelaufen
("Orts-Zufälligkeit")
CG 55. 2302.2724

⊙ Nnewi 18 JU





wohl echtes Bed.-# von Nnewi → Nkwerre [r. & o. beschä.]
m. insges. 11 ⊙m / 4 versch. ⊙:
1. VoS 2x "NNEWI-1 / 18 JU/525" sowie R □ №137
2. Rüs: 6x ⊙ ↑
3. 1 R-⊙ "REGISTERED ORLÜ / 19 JU"
4. 1 A-⊙ "NKWERRE-ORLÜ / 21 JU"
CG 55. 2302·4248

⊙ Orlu 19 JU



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL
DE LA
CROIX-ROUGE

1211 GENÈVE 1

Cotonou

OL 764

84

Mr Follin

Head of Relief Group

Mr. Carl-Fredrik Follin

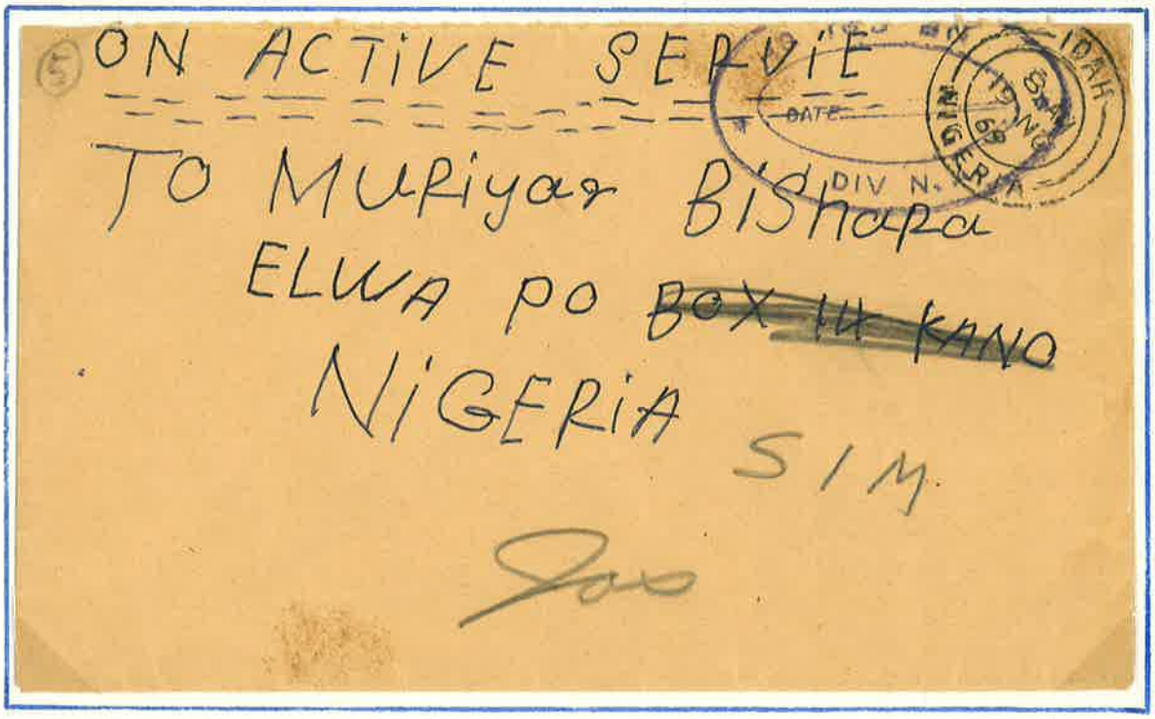
UMUOWA

Orlu

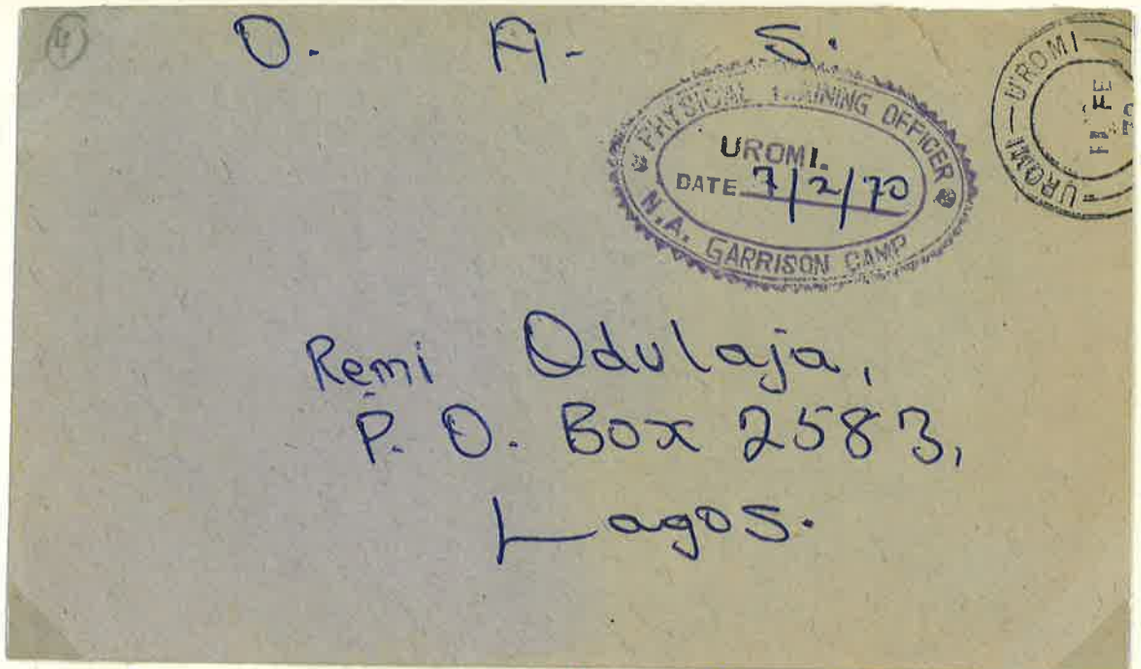
dCR-ff → Mr. Follin in Ümüowa/Orlü, wohl ⊗, da häufig
Rü 4x dito-⊙ "ORLU-2 19 JU / 573" Jahreszahl wohl getilgt
55. C. G. 2302-2724 [eingedr. Abs: dCR Cotonou = Benin]

Biafra-Mitläufer

Nigerian Forces Feldpost, sämtlich "On Active Service"
zwischen Sept. 1969 und Febr. 1970
(Kapitulation der biafran. Armee 15. 1. 1970)
meistens gerichtet an den christl. Missionssender ELWA-Radio
bzw. andere Missionsstellen
(darunter wohl 1 Privatperson in Lagos)

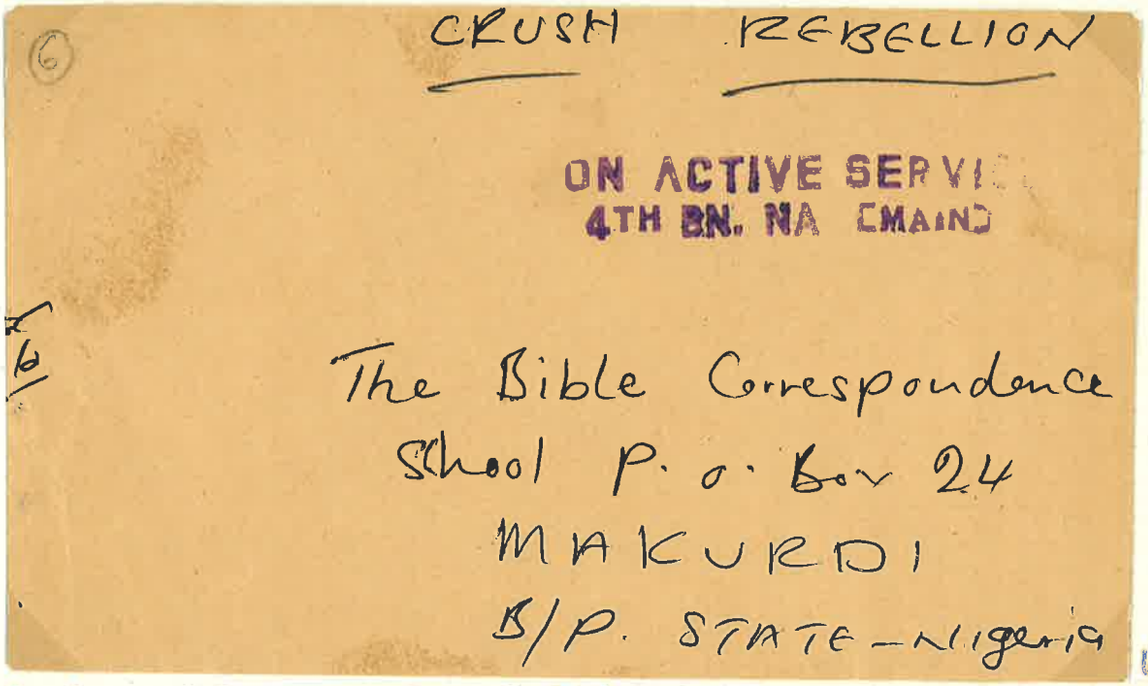


Nig. Post⊙ IDAH 19 NO 69 nach Kano, weitergeleitet zu Sim (wie ELWA: Missionsradiosender) mit ovalem ⊙ h/s HQ 1 Div. Nig. Army
Rü leer; WASC 2209 14,9



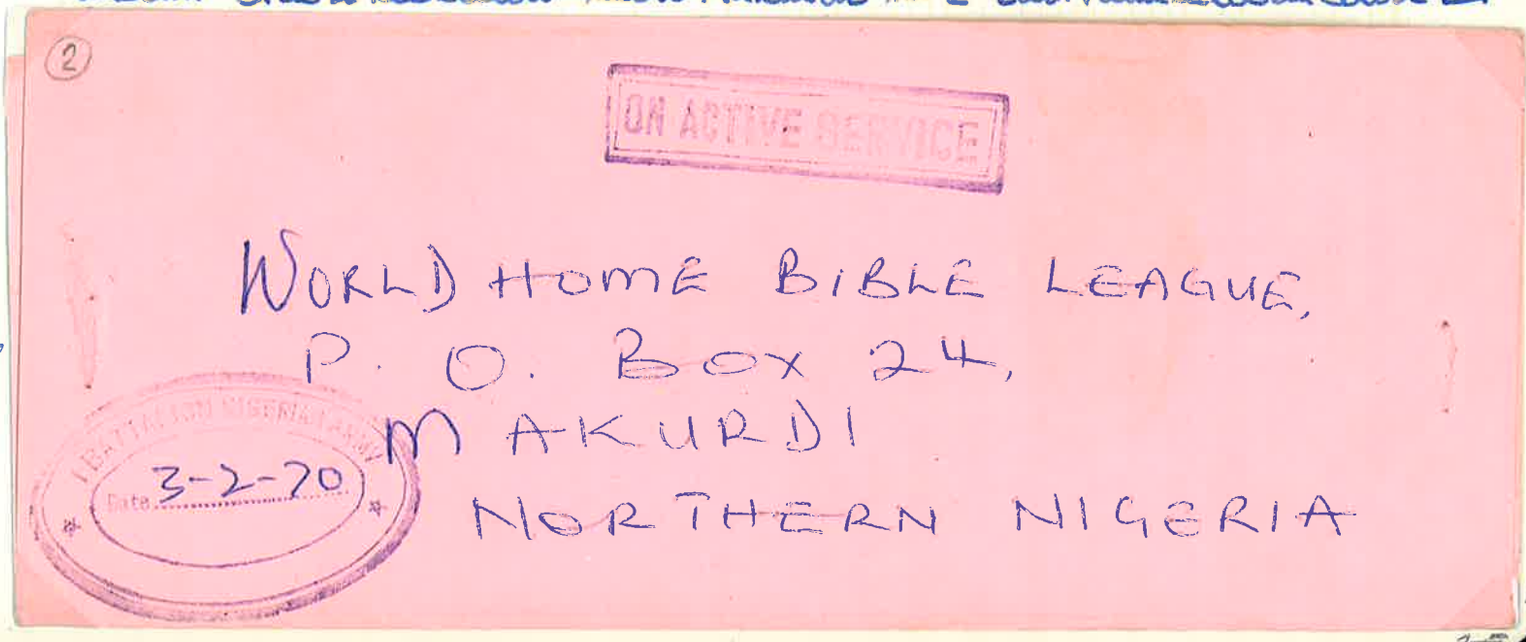
An Privatperson in Lagos (einziger von 6 #en)

Post ○ UROMI 11 FE 70 m. ovalem ○ Physical Trg Officer, N.A. Garrison Camp "7/2/70"; Rü leer, Klpp. beschä, WASC 220920,3

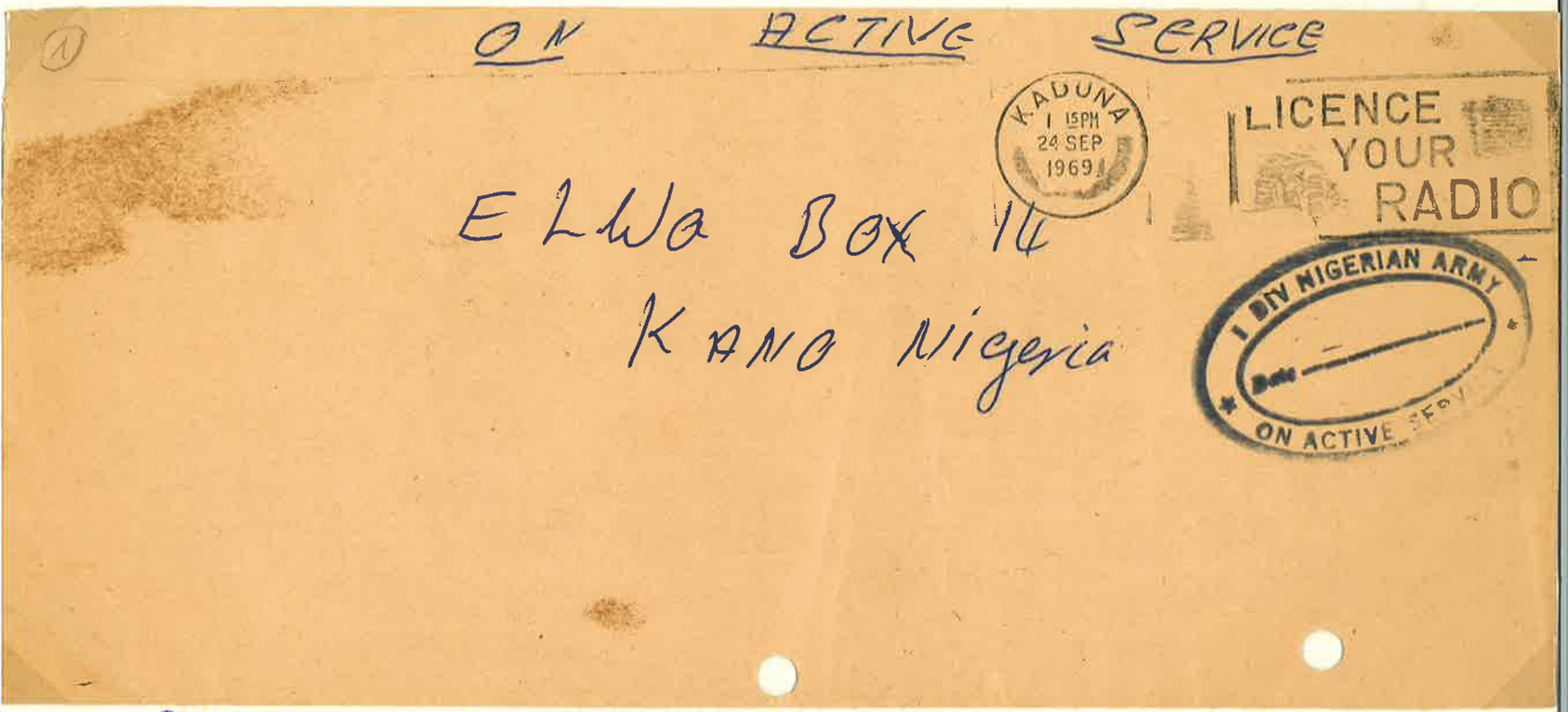


WRSC 220917,6

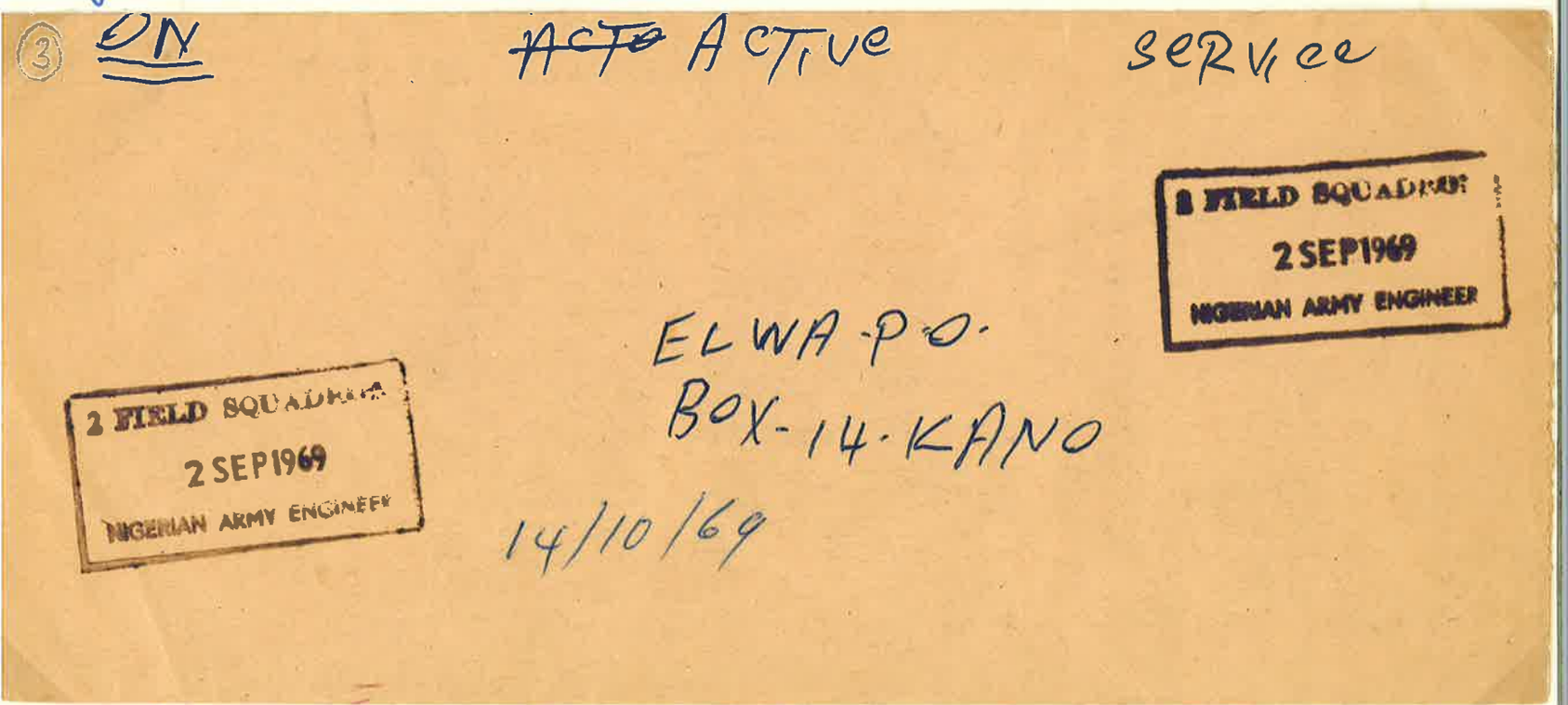
Inschr: "Crush Rebellion" nach Makurdi m. 2-zeil. valumenlosem Block-□



Block-□ O.A.S. nach Makurdi m. ovalem ⊙ 1 Bat. Nig. A.
"3-2-70" lt. WASC "Oblong on Active Service"
leerer Folder, auch Rü leer; WASC 2208/12,2



nig. Post⊙ KADUNA 24 SEP 1969 nach Kano m. ovalem ⊙ 1 Bat/Div. Nig. Army
gelocht, Rü: ♀ Absender (?) WASC 2209/12,2



nach Kano, covers with oblong □ (2x) F. Sq. Nig. Army Engineer (=Pioniere)
hdschr. (wohl Ankunft ?) "14/10/69"; Rü leer; WASC 2209/7,60

Biafra
Markenteil
überwiegend nicht authentisch


BIAFRA
REPUBLIC OF
2D
Republic of
MAY 30
BIAFRA 4D
INDEPENDENCE


SOVEREIGN
REPUBLIC OF
BIAFRA
NIGERIA
1d


NIGERIA
1½d
2d
SOVEREIGN
BIAFRA
MAURICE FIEVET


NIGERIA
4d
9d
REPUBLIC
SOVEREIGN
BIAFRA


REPUBLIC OF
NIGERIA
6d


NIGERIA
SOVEREIGN
BIAFRA
REPUBLIC OF
1/
1/3
CROWN BIRD
MAURICE FIEVET


KOBS
SOVEREIGN
BIAFRA
NIGERIA
2/6
1/3
CROWN BIRD
MAURICE FIEVET


REPUBLIC OF 10/-
BIAFRA
NIGERIA
5/-
SOVEREIGN
GIRAFFES
REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA
MAURICE FIEVET
£1
BUFFALOS
4D
1/-
2/6
INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY
MAY 30TH 1968
HELP BIAFRAN CHILDREN
+2D
+6D
+2/6


REPUBLIC OF BIAFRA
SAVE BIAFRA
9TH JAN. 1970
2d
4d
1/-
2'6
10/-


REPUBLIC OF BIAFRA
VISIT OF HIS HOLINESS POPE PAULUS VI TO AFRICA JULY - AUGUST 1969
4d
9d
CHRISTMAS 1969
PEACE ON EARTH AND GOODWILL TO ALL MEN
6d
3/-


REPUBLIC OF BIAFRA
SAVE BIAFRA
9TH JAN. 1970
2d
4d
1'
2'6


REPUBLIC OF BIAFRA
VISIT OF HIS HOLINESS POPE PAULUS VI TO AFRICA JULY - AUGUST 1969
4d
9d
CHRISTMAS 1969
PEACE ON EARTH AND GOODWILL TO ALL MEN
6d
3/-


REPUBLIC of BIAFRA 4d
REPUBLIC of BIAFRA 4d
REPUBLIC of BIAFRA 1/6
REPUBLIC of BIAFRA 1/6
REPUBLIC of BIAFRA 2/6
REPUBLIC of BIAFRA 2/6
REPUBLIC of BIAFRA 5/-
REPUBLIC of BIAFRA 5/-
MEXICO OLYMPICS 1968
REPUBLIC of BIAFRA 4d
MEXICO OLYMPICS 1968
REPUBLIC of BIAFRA 4d
MEXICO OLYMPICS 1968
REPUBLIC of BIAFRA 1/6
MEXICO OLYMPICS 1968
REPUBLIC of BIAFRA 1/6
MEXICO OLYMPICS 1968
MEXICO OLYMPICS 1968
5/-
SECOND ANNIVERSARY
SECOND ANNIVERSAIRE
SECONDO ANNIVERSARIO
ZWEITE JAHRESFEIER
SEGUNDO ANIVERSARIO
May 30th 1969
REPUBLIC OF BIAFRA
10'

SECOND ANNIVERSARY
SECOND ANNIVERSAIRE
SECONDO ANNIVERSARIO
ZWEITE JAHRESFEIER
SEGUNDO ANIVERSARIO



May 30.th 1969

SECOND ANNIVERSARY
SECOND ANNIVERSAIRE
SECONDO ANNIVERSARIO
ZWEITE JAHRESFEIER
SEGUNDO ANIVERSARIO



May 30.th 1969