

86 Blackborough Road

Reigate, Surrey

Nov. 28th 1968

Dear Alan,

Enclosed copy of letter will expl in itself. I do hope you will approve of my decision in passing over copies of famous chalices in favour of a simple hand-made vessel: I felt it is more in line with the general spirit of Mindolo which puts emphasis on the simple works of mens' hands. Please do not hesitate to write Wilfred direct if you have any suggestion about the wording, your comment could reach him long before the vessels which will take all of a month to get there. Once gain - thank you for making this possible. *The craftsmen gave me a photo which need not be returned.*

Now for a few points ² which arise from your letter of the 19th:-

You say that you hope I will be able to get something from Michael Scott I hope that by now you will have found that among the papers taken out by Goldie was the short note Michael wrote and my comment on it - if it is not there please let me know immediately because I think I have a copy in my file.

Francis Ibiam - I am surprised that news did not reach you to the effect that when trouble first broke out in Biafra Francis wrote to the Queen renouncing his Knighthood and returning all the insignia. It was much published in the press in this country although I seem to recall they quoted him in general terms, not giving his exact words, possibly because his renunciation probably went to an official who told the press without handing over his actual letter. Some weeks later (while I was still at Mindolo) a kind of round robin arrived which said he had taken that action because of his disgust that Britain refused to stop supply of arms to Lagos: I recall that the editor of the British Weekly had an article quoting this letter which was described as having been smuggled out. I am sorry I did not keep these cuttings. Recently I met a man just back from Biafra where he had helped to get food through - I asked if he had seen Francis and received a negative reply, nor could he tell me where he is and what he and his wife are doing. It is a tragic, confused situation.

Concerning your personal news I do say from my heart that I am glad you have made the decision to marry again: - that both of you, as mature people, are satisfied that it is the will of God for you is all that matters to me, so allow me to wish you every blessing. I gave Florence your letter to read which she handed back without comment so I cannot speak for what she may feel although I am sure she would refrain from criticism. That you felt it necessary to consult Robert Capetown baffles me, just as I simply cannot understand why de Chardin was able to place obedience to Rome before his own conviction that what he had written was a forward step in human knowledge, and would eventually be released - as has happened. Love, as ever,

Arthur