



The Holy See

APOSTOLIC JOURNEY OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO CHILE AND PERU

(15-22 JANUARY 2018)

GREETING TO JOURNALISTS ON THE FLIGHT TO CHILE

Papal flight

Monday, 15 January 2018

[Multimedia]

Greg Burke:

Thanks, Holiness. Thanks first for this morning's thought: we have all received the card [with the picture of the boy] from Nagasaki. Thank you especially for the chance to travel with you. We are a full 70 persons, including, I believe, 12 from Chile and Peru, so twelve new faces. I take the opportunity to let them know that this is a greeting; there are not 70 questions when we take our turns. That's all. Maybe you want to say something.

Pope Francis:

Good day!

Have a good trip. They told me from Alitalia that the Rome-Santiago flight is their longest direct flight: fifteen hours and forty... or twenty, minutes... I don't know. We'll have time to rest, work, lots of things. Thanks for your work which will be demanding: three days in one country, three in the other... For me it will not be so difficult in Chile because I studied there for a year, I have many friends and I know well – that is to say... I know more... In Peru I know less, because I went there two or three times for congresses, meetings....

Then, Greg spoke about what I gave you [the card]: I found this by chance. It was taken in 1945; on the back is the information. It is a boy carrying his dead brother, standing in line before the crematorium in Nagasaki, after the bombing. I was moved when I saw this [picture], and I dared

write only “the fruits of war”. And I thought of reprinting it and giving it, because a picture like this says more than a thousand words. So I wanted to share it with you.

And thanks for your work!

Greg Burke:

Thanks!