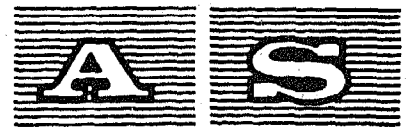


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QUESTION CONSIDERED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL
AT ITS 1606TH, 1607TH AND 1608TH MEETINGS,
ON 4, 5 AND 6 DECEMBER 1971

SECURITY COUNCIL
Twenty-sixth year

Note verbale dated 15 December 1971 from the Permanent
Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General*

The Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and under instructions of the Government of Pakistan is constrained to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General some deplorable aspects of the actions undertaken by the Government of India in its present aggression against Pakistan.

The General Assembly, in operative paragraph 4 of its resolution 2793 (XXVI), urged "that every effort be made to safeguard the lives and well-being of the civilian population in the area of conflict". From a purely legal point of view, a blockade is considered a legitimate instrument once a state of war exists between two countries. However, in its blockade of East Pakistan, India has detained a large number of coasters and minibulkers engaged in the transportation of foodgrains and relief supplies from the seaports to up-country stations. Though there are adequate stocks of food supply available, the means of supplying these to the areas experiencing shortages have been seriously disrupted. As a direct consequence of this, the United Nations relief operations in East Pakistan have come to an end. India's action in deliberately and callously inducing widespread starvation and famine in East Pakistan cannot but be considered as an outrage to world conscience.

* Late circulation due to delayed delivery.

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The Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations requests that this note be circulated as a document of the Security Council and the General Assembly.
