



UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/10579
29 March 1972

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 27 MARCH 1972 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF PAKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-
GENERAL

I have the honour, under instructions of my Government, to invite your Excellency's attention to the steadily worsening treatment of the Pakistani prisoners of war by the Indian authorities. Through my letter dated 10 March 1972 (S/10560), I had informed your Excellency of the incident on 7 March at the Ranchi Prisoners of War Camp in India, in which Indian guards opened fire on Pakistani prisoners of war. According to Indian authorities, 12 Pakistani prisoners of war were killed and an undetermined number seriously injured. Since then, the Indian Defence Minister has admitted in the Indian Parliament the killing in an unidentified camp of one more Pakistani prisoner of war by an Indian guard. Your Excellency has also been apprised of India's failure to honour its commitment, made under the auspices of the International Red Cross, for repatriation of the seriously wounded and sick prisoners of war, their families, army doctors and para-medics, in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Geneva Convention.

2. Serious complaints continue to be received regarding the maltreatment of the Pakistani prisoners of war. In describing conditions at the prisoners of war camp number 90 in Ambala, the latest official report of the delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross has mentioned cases of officers being placed in solitary confinement for several days and the subjection of one officer to electric shocks. The report also mentions complaints regarding offensive comments made by Indian authorities at the Ranchi camp about the religious susceptibilities of Pakistani Officers and the humiliating treatment through certain methods of interrogation accorded to the prisoners by Indian intelligence authorities. According to the report, the Pakistani prisoners of war were subjected to public ridicule during their journey to the camp. At the camp, the Officers are not being provided with clothing in accordance with their status.

3. The official report of the ICRC delegates also stated that the Mujahids (para-military) were not being treated at par with the regulars. There were also serious complaints that civilian prisoners of war were being deprived of many facilities to which they were entitled.

S/10579
English
Page 2

4. I have been instructed by my Government to invite your Excellency's attention to this serious situation and to ask for an immediate visit to India by your Special Representative for Humanitarian Problems, Mr. Vittorio Winspeare-Guicciardi in order to observe conditions on the spot and to secure observance by the Indian authorities of the relevant Geneva Convention, in respect of the treatment of the Pakistani prisoners of war, as enjoined by Security Council resolution 307 (1971) of 21 December 1971.

It is requested that this letter may kindly be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) A. SHAHI
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the
United Nations
