

SFChronicle

17 AUG 71

Refugee Camp Tour

Pakistan War 'Genocide'--Kennedy

New Delhi

Senator Edward M. Kennedy yesterday denounced Pakistan's military repression in East Pakistan as "genocide" and said that the secret trial of the East Pakistani leader, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was "an outrage to every concept of international law."

At a news conference here as he ended his week-long visit to India, the Senator from Massachusetts also blamed the Nixon Administration policy of continued arms aid to Pakistan for the severe damage to United States relations with India.

Kennedy, who spent most of his time here visiting the squalid border camps that hold more than seven million East Pakistani refugees who have fled the military repression, said President Nixon's policy "baffles me . . . and after seeing the results in terms of human misery, I

think it's an ever greater disaster."

Of the new 20-year India-Soviet friendship treaty signed here a week ago, the Senator said he saw "nothing inconsistent" with India's state policy of nonalignment, and did not think the treaty was "in any way disadvantageous to United States friendship with India."

"As a matter of fact," he said, "the Indian foreign minister (Swaran Singh) has indicated publicly that he is willing to sign a similar treaty with the United States."

Kennedy, who came to India in his capacity as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Refugees,

said he believed that a political solution to the East Pakistan crisis was possible "but I don't pretend to have that political solution."

The Senator had originally planned to visit both East and West Pakistan on his tour, and had obtained a Pakistan visa. But last Tuesday, the day he arrived in India, the Pakistan government cancelled his visit, saying it "would serve no useful purpose" because the "partisan statements he made on

arrival in India showed how deeply he imbibed Indian propaganda."

Times-Post Service