

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (DEFENCE WING)  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

-0-

HEROES' WELCOME AWAITS INDIAN POWs

PUBLIC RECEPTION AT RAMLILA GROUNDS ON SATURDAY

NEW DELHI, November 30, 1972  
Agrahayana 9, 1894

The Indian Prisoners of War in Pakistan, being released tomorrow, will be accorded a welcome befitting the Heroes of the Indian Armed Forces. The Punjab Government is arranging a reception in their honour at Amritsar and would present gifts to them. The POWs will be treated to a barakhana before they leave for Delhi by a special train tomorrow night.

At Delhi, they will be accorded a public reception by the Delhi Administration at Ramlila Grounds at 4 p.m. on Saturday. The special train bringing them from Amritsar will pull up at the New Delhi station instead of the Delhi Cantonment Station.

The Army Wives' Welfare Association will present to each Indian Prisoner of War a gift parcel containing 36 items of daily use including a jersey, two blankets, a woollen vest and a night suit. Gift parcels have been prepared by the Association from contributions received by the Central Citizens' Council and the Adjutant General's Welfare Fund.

The Indian Red Cross Society has donated Rs.1,000 for light refreshments to be served to POWs on their arrival.

Following is...2/-

Following is a complete break-down of 617 Indian POWs: Officers 17 (including 10 Indian Air Force Officers); Junior Commissioned Officers 15; Army Other Ranks 475; Border Security Force personnel 89; J & K Militia 4; Home Guards 9; and civilians 8.

Five hundred and forty Pakistani POWs being repatriated tomorrow comprise: 7 Officers; 13 Junior Commissioned Officers; 469 Other Ranks; and 51 civilians.

NS/SPK/JPG

852/2  
30/11/1915