As Head of Leading Party She Gets Ready for Elections Called for November by General Zia

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KARACHI, Pakistan, August 2 — Paki-
stani analysts and foreign diplomats here say that as matters now stand, President Mohammed Zia ul-Haq, the country's military leader, faces a prospective turn of events which could lead to the power to the widow of the man whose death warrant he signed four months ago.

They qualify this scenario, however, by adding that something will most likely arise before the elections, scheduled for Nov. 17, to derail such a dramatic eventual-
ity. However, they add that at the mo-
tem General Zia insists the elections will take place.

According to the reckoning of the ob-
servers, the only political group with any chance of attracting majority support is the Pakistan People's Party, which was founded by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the exe-
cuted former Prime Minister. And they point out, in preparing for the un-
likely success, that the party is now being led by Mr. Bhutto's widow, Nusrat, who is about to end a period of mourning by calling the faithful to organize.

Mrs. Bhutto charged at a news confer-
tence today that she was "100 percent sure" that her husband had not died by hanging and that people who had seen his body had told her it did not bear the marks of strangulation. She said she had not been able to establish that her hus-
band was tortured.

Fires of Vengeance Fanned

Mr. Bhutto, who was overthrown by the military in July 1977, was executed after courts found him guilty of having ordered the death of a political opponent. While Mrs. Bhutto's claim to her husband's death, and the fact that the family estate in Larkana, the fires of political vengeance were fanned by her daughter, Benazir, a 26-year-old Oxford graduate who has referred to General Zia as a monster and holds him responsible for her father's death.

While her mother will now be the offi-
cial head of the party, Benazir is re-
garded as its driving force. Yesterday the daughter denounced a plan for propor-
tional representation that was suggested by General Zia as a formula for the prom-
is. elections. The general submitted the plan a month ago to various political groups.

The plan ostensibly seeks to remedy the traditional imbalance of Pakistani politics, where a group like the Pakistan People's Party could win 65 percent of the seats in Parliament by winning 35 percent of the vote. The situation arises because of the large number of splinter parties, which despite the military Gov-
ernment's efforts have failed to form a coalition.

Under the general's proposal all votes would be weighted and seats apportioned in direct relation to vote totals. Abdul Hafiz Pirzada, a member of the People's Party executive, said in an interview that the plan "was just another attempt to quash us."

The 47-year-old lawyer, who was jailed for 19 months without charges being filed, listed other alleged harassments. He pointed out that Mrs. Bhutto and her daughter were kept under house arrest, and that the former Prime Min-
ister's widow still faced proceedings before military tribunals empowered to bar her from political activity. The charges, he said, "were miniscule formalities having to do with taxes."

Mr. Pirzada also declared that while insisting there would be elections General Zia had not precluded a continued role for the military. Indeed, the general has talked of constitutional changes that would provide for the "doctrine of neces-
sity." In effect, this would give constitutional sanction to the military as a gov-
ernmental watchdog.

General Zia has referred to this approach as "the Turkish solution," though there seems to be no precedent for it in the Turkish Constitution. In practice the plan would empower Pakistan's military leaders to ask a government to resign in the event of what they considered to be a crisis. This action would not be inter-
pred as a coup.

Full political activity such as public meetings are still banned in Pakistan under martial law, but there is a gradual relaxation and newspapers are no longer subject to prior censorship.

Open and Critical Debate

General Zia's suggestions are being de-
bated openly and critically. A very real possibility is that if they were carried out the People's Party might decide to boycot-
t the elections. This in turn could lead to civil disturbances.

Another possibility cited by those who do not believe that the military could relinquish power to the party and rela-
tives of the man they toppled and execut-
ed, is that both Nusrat and Benazir Bhutto will be disqualified from holding elected office, leaving the party leader-
less. It was suggested that Mrs. Bhutto would be barred by the tribunal and her daughter ruled out by a flat requiring a prime minister to be at least 35 years old.

A Pakistani journalist offered the view "that perhaps these generals are smarter than people think and that they know no party can right the mess it would inher-
it."

This notion was indirectly supported by Mr. Pirzada, who observed: "Sometimes I shudder to think what will happen when we come back into power. The country is near bankruptcy and the people's expec-
tations are so high."

Gen. Mohammed Zia ul-Haq

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