

Pakistan Army killed 10,000 in Akhaura, Chandpur

COMILLA, Feb. 11:—At least 10,000 innocent people including many intellectuals were killed by Pakistan occupation forces and its hordes Al-Badr in Akhaura, a railway junction, and Chandpur, riverport town of Comilla, reports BSS.

Besides killing, the barbarous Pakistan occupation army destroyed innumerable houses, shops, railway office buildings and quarters in two towns of Comilla district.

The Al-Badr forces also killed more than 5,000 people in different concentration camps set up in various buildings at Chandpur Station and threw the bodies in the mighty river Meghna, according to an eyewitness. Mr. Fazlul Bari who is a Sanitary Assistant of Chandpur Railway Hospital.

Another eye-witness Mr. Shamsuddin Ahmed, Assistant Executive Engineer, who was stationed at Akhaura at the

time of destruction told BSS correspondent that about 500 people had been mowed down by firing opened by the barbarous occupation army on April 18 last when the brutes cracked down on this railway junction. Mr. Ahmed also fell into the hands of the army was bayoneted and robbed of all his belongings, but fortunately he survived and crossed over to India. The occupation army looted each and every railway quarters and shop in the adjoining town and destroyed them indiscriminately.

Rly platform damaged

When the BSS correspondent visited AKhaura Junction he found a handful of passengers waiting for the only train that runs between Akhaura and Ashuganj and

a few railway staff pondering for the accommodation of their offices in the burnt up platform No. 1. The entire platform No. 1 including the offices in it and the mechanical arrangements there were completely destroyed by the occupation forces.

The whole yari looked deserted. The railway establishments were damaged when the barbarous occupied forces retreated in December last. Fifty per cent of the shops in the town was burnt or otherwise damaged. People were found clearing debris and economic activities in this area seemed yet to be started.

The wave of rage of the brutal occupation army hit hard the surrounding villages of Durgapur, Amedabad, Karaita, Itanpara, Khurampur, Radhanagar, Azampur and Rajapur also.

According to Mr. Nazir Husain, Secretary, Akhaura

Awami League, about 500 innocent people were killed by the Pakistan Army and 60 per cent of the houses in the above-mentioned villages were burnt rendering at least 18,000 people of about 3,000 families homeless. Due to the brutal destruction and killing of people by the occupation army this junction town and its adjoining villages were virtually deserted and 90 per cent of the population crossed over the border leaving everything behind. Akhaura Girls Junior High School was completely demolished by the hordes of the occupation forces. The Secretary showed me the vacant compound of the institution.

While travelling along the rail road heavy destruction of houses in the adjoining villages were marked. Most of the stations between Comilla and Akhaura were damaged (Continued on page 6 Col. 3)

Army killings

(Continued from page 1)

and deserted. The occupation forces set up their camps at Fakirhat, Rajapur, Nayanpur, Gangasagar stations and from there perpetrated inhuman atrocities upon the innocent people of the surrounding villages. As told to this correspondent by Khokan Rai Chowdhury of Gangasagar the hordes of the occupation forces killed at least 200 people in the adjoining villages of Gangasagar and Imambari. In one night only they killed 34 people and buried them in the deserted house of one Siddique member.

At Fakirhat one Ali Ashraf of Rasulpur pointed out to this correspondent some mass graves in front of a madrasah and on the bank of a tank to the west of the station said to be of those killed and buried by the Pakistan army.

One Abdul Bari of Shahidal as an eyewitness told this correspondent how on one bazar day the brutal Pakistan army suddenly opened fire at Nagashbazar, killed about 120 people and injured many more.

Planned murder of intellectuals

Dr. Majibur Rahman Chowdhury, elder brother of Mr. Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury and a private practitioner at Puranbazar told this correspondent that a group of about 80 Al-Badar forces set up their camp in Puranbazar, Nuria High School in the month of October backed by the occupied forces, Razakars and Muzahids and carried on a planned murder of intellectuals, students and political rivals of their commander, Professor Abdur Rob, chief of fanatic Jamaat-e-Islam also. The doctor also narrated how his son Babloo was picked up from his residence and subjected to inhuman torture by the beagles of the party with 30 other unfortunate students. Babloo was later released but the doctor could not say anything about the fate of the remaining 30.

Just before the humiliating defeat of the occupied forces blood thirsty Al-Badar forces became furious and in a single night killed about 30 intellectuals of the town and created a panic. Mr. Sayedul Haq, Assistant Engineer, T and T, Chandpur, stated to this correspondent that Abdul Khaleq, a supervisor and Morshehur Rahman an operator of his department were killed by the Al-Badar forces on December 5. When they were returning from a village at the outskirts of Puranbazar the members of Al-Badar forces detained them and killed at night. Their bodies were found in the next morning in a road near the camp. The engineer told this correspondent how he and his inspector narrowly escaped Al-Badar swoop in the town at the night following December 7. Getting some scent they fortunately left their quarters only a few minutes before the Fascists reached their doors in their quest.

On that very night the blood-thirsty Badar Bahini killed more than 40 intellectuals in different parts of the town including Joarder Matjur Rahman, Assistant Superintendent Malaria, Abdur Rashid

Bhuiya, store-keeper, Maksuder Rahman, senior Assistant, Kabir Ahmad, senior mechanic, Shaifuddin Ahmad, Malaria Inspector, Bazlur Rahman and Idris Mia, Malaria supervisors of Malaria Eradication Department, Chandpur, Fayez Ahmad Project Officer, Nazimuddin and Mahfuzul Haq of WAPDA.

According to sources of these departments the same night there were knocks at the doors of many intellectuals of the town but as every one was alert the bloody hounds could not do any more harm to the society, it was told by many of the intellectuals interviewed. Doctor Mujibur Rahman Chowdhury while talking to this correspondent said that the lives of the intellectuals were still not safe as the fascist Al-Badar members including their commander, Professor Abdur Rob was still at large.

A mango tree near the Bay Fishing Corporation is an identification from distant of the spot where thousands of bodies had been thrown in the river Meghna with their legs bound and hands tied from behind.

The occupied army and their collaborators picked up innocent people from trains, roads, launches, shops and business establishments, herded them in different railway buildings, used by them as concentration camps, tortured, killed and threw them in the river Meghna from behind the Bay Fishing Corporation's godown. Sanua and Gaya Prasad, two railway scavengers told this correspondent that the Pakistan Army very often brought them from their quarters at small hours of nights and compelled them to carry dead bodies to the river Meghna and to clear the blood-stains from the rooms and the platforms before dawn. In many nights they have seen with their own eyes how women brought from different places were being exploited by the drunken soldiers of the occupied forces, they said. Women were sometimes being taken at the mid-river in launches, enjoyed and ravished. Some employees of the shops by the side of the river and also Dr Majibur Rahman Chowdhury told this correspondent, that they very often at night heard the crying voices of women at the mid-river but could not give any light about the fate of these girls brought thus.

One Habibur Rahman, a ration shop owner at Puranbazar narrated to this correspondent how miraculously he escaped death when he was with many others shot and thrown in the Meghna with legs bound and hands tied. The shot hit his back in spite of going deep into his body, slipped across snapping some flesh from his back. Taking to be dead he was thrown in the river with the dead.

Prof. Muzaffar calls on P M

The President of Bangladesh National Awami Party, Prof. Muzaffar Ahmed, on Friday called on the Prime Minister and had been with him for about 45 minutes, reports BSS.

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