Starvation threat to E. Pakistan

By DAVID LOSHAK in Calcutta

STARVATION faces tens of thousands of East Pakistan villagers whose links with the outside world and their sources of supply have been cut off by the civil war that has raged for the past ten days.

Although severely hampered by the difficulties of terrain and the bodies of the Bengalis, the West Pakistan Army is near, by sheer brute force, to winning the upper hand.

"It is in firm control of East Pakistan," said one high official of the Bangladesh government, "because the Army has the advantage in terms of numbers and equipment."

"People's war"

The Army has already found that while it may be able to impose itself on the towns for a time, it is still in the countryside, as the soldiers would say, "a people's war. It is the Army against everyone, everyone against the Army."

Whichever army wins, the future of East Pakistan is uncertain. This is almost certainly true because the Bengalis have promised it. The Army, however, has promised the Bengalis it will not allow them to seize East Pakistan's 75 million people.

Launching a rumor campaign to the name of Pakistan's kings, President Yahya Khan has threatened to send in tanks and troops.

Chaos prevails

"They are up in a mess against the West Pakistan occupying force, but chaos prevails."

Vital supplies are running out in many places where they are needed. Although the Army is in control, it has not been able to distribute them efficiently.

A United States Senate committee has reported that the Army has failed to ensure the delivery of vital supplies. But with all the normal supply lines disrupted, many thousands of people face a desperate situation.

"Although the Army does not appear to have the capability to supply the people's needs, it is working hard to contain the situation."

Cricketers in apartheid protest

Nixon to decide Calley's fate

By DAVID ADAMSON in Washington

PRESIDENT NIXON will personally review the case of 21-year-old Lieutenant William Calley, who is accused of murdering 34 Vietnamese civilians.

The President's announcement came in response to a request by California Congressman Charles Deukmejian, who represents Mr. Nixon's home state.

"I'm sure that the President will make the final decision in a fair and impartial manner," Mr. Deukmejian said.

"I believe that the President has the right to decide such matters, and I am confident that he will do so in a way that is fair and just."

Peter Bolock was hospitalised in London after being shot in the leg during a protest in Australia against the Vietnam War.

Local obligations

In a White House statement, Mr. Bolock's family said that he was "a man of peace, who is willing to give his life for the cause of freedom and justice."

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RIOTS

Thirty people were killed and six injured in Southern Madagascar when police fired tear gas and water cannon into a crowd of thousands of protesters. The violence erupted after the army handed over control of the country to a civilian government.

The army had declared a state of emergency last week after several days of protests against government corruption and economic reforms.

Ambassador to the UN, David Adams, said the violence was "outrageous" and called on the international community to take action.

CALLEY’S FATE

By DAVID ADAMSON in Washington

President Nixon will personally review the 27-year-old Lieut. William Calley, sentenced last week to a military court for his role in the My Lai massacre.

In an announcement from the White House, Mr. Nixon said his review of the sentence will be "an exercise in discretion... by the Commander in Chief, because of the obvious public interest in the case.

Calley was found guilty of murder by a military court but was spared from a life sentence.

An Administration official said that Mr. Nixon, who is serving his second term, is "very concerned" about the impact on relations with Vietnam.

Legal obligation

In a White Paper, Mr. Nixon said that "the legal obligation is a very clear one, and that it is a matter of the highest importance that this legal obligation be carried out.

The President also indicated that he was "very concerned" about the impact on relations with Vietnam.

Sick of the war

By bringing back the talk of peace talks and calling for a "global solution," Mr. Nixon is suggesting that "the time has come for a peaceful solution to the war in Vietnam.

The President's statement is likely to be welcomed by many in the US who have long been frustrated by the failure of the Paris talks.

Prince Philip ends tour

By JOHN F. DAVIES in Washington

The Duke of Edinburgh arrives in Indonesia on Friday, where he will meet with President Suharto and other leaders.

The Prince, who is on a four-week tour of the Pacific, is due to travel to the Philippines, Singapore and India before returning to London on Monday.

He is expected to meet with President Ferdinand Marcos and other leaders in the Philippines, where he is scheduled to make a state visit.

Universal shame

For the pacifist liberal, the task is to be seen, in the words of one critic, as "too big to fail, too bad to handle, too small to fix.

One man who has been mentioned as a possible candidate is former Defense Secretary James Schlesinger, who has already expressed interest in the post.

"He’s too bad that man," says Mr. Schlesinger, the former CIA director.

After Calley, At-Sea Trials

By our Correspondent

The West Pakistan Army is intensifying its psychological warfare campaign, "The West Pakistan Army is intensifying its psychological warfare campaign," a spokesman said yesterday.

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