

Civil War Hits E. Pakistan as Rebels Revolt

NEW DELHI (AP).—Civil war broke out in East Pakistan on Friday as President Agha Mohammed Yahya Kahn sought to reimpose martial law in the province and Sheikh Mujieb Rahman, Awami League leader, proclaimed independence.

"I have ordered the armed forces to do their job and fully restore the authority of the government," Yahya said in a 20-minute broadcast.



YAHYA KHAN

Yahya accused Sheikh Mujib of treason and outlawed the powerful Awami League, which won a majority of seats in last December's election for a national assembly. The body never

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met because of the constitutional crisis.

As Yahya spoke, Indian radio monitors picked up a message broadcast from clandestine radio transmitters inside East Pakistan announcing independence for the province, which is separated from West Pakistan by 1000 miles of Indian territory.

"The shiekh has declared the 75 million people of East Pakistan as citizens of the sovereign independent Bengali nation," Indian monitors quoted an announcer as saying.

The radio station used by the shiekh called itself the

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East Pakistan Independence Proclaimed by Rebel Group

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Voice of Independent Bengal. It broadcast an appeal to the United Nations and to other Asian and African governments to rally to its cause.

While Yahya and Sheikh Mujib, exchanged words over the airwaves, fierce fighting was reported in various parts of East Pakistan.

Fierce street fighting raged in the capital city of Dacca on Saturday and the governmental All-India Radio in neighboring India reported army troops were using tanks against the rebels.

Other reports along the 1349-mile border between India and East Pakistan told of battles involving West Pakistan-dominated troops and East Pakistan police and a paramilitary organization known as the Pakistan Rifles.

A State Department spokesman in Washington said Americans reaching the U. S. Consulate in East Pakistan had reported that Pakistani troops and tanks had spread through Dacca and "extensive firing, including the use of tanks," was under way.

Charles Bray, press officer, said reports coming from Consul General Arch K. Blood in Dacca were fragmentary, however.



AP Wirephoto

Leader of Revolt in East Pakistan

Sheik Mujibur Rahman heads movement for an independent nation

There have been no reports of harm to about 1100 Americans, including 200 officials and their dependents now in East Pakistan.

United News of India said at least eight persons were killed and more than 100 injured when Pakistani troops fired on demonstrators at Ramgarh

near the border with the Indian state of Tripura.

The agency said that at Jajshahi, 125 miles north of Calcutta, troops shot their way into the local radio station and killed or arrested employes who offered resistance.

At Jhainaidaha in the Jessore district, the agency said

troops opened fire on near-idents who gathered in thousands to seize the local airfield.

A large number of people were reported killed in the same city when a crowd attacked the jail in an attempt to free persons arrested by martial law authorities earlier in the day, the agency added.



Inquirer map by WILLIAM STRECKFUSS

East Pakistan Is Scene of Civil Strife