

# Mujibur proclaims Bangla Republic

**N**EW DELHI, Fri. — Sheikh Mujibur Rahman tonight proclaimed East Pakistan the sovereign Independent Peoples' Republic of Bangla Desh, according to a clandestine radio report monitored near the East Pakistan border.

Tonight's broadcast, identified as the "Voice of Independent Bangla Desh," said: "The Sheikh has declared the 75 million people of East Pakistan as citizens of the sovereign Independent Bangla Desh."

The broadcast said personnel of the East Bengal Regiment, East Pakistan Rifles and the entire police force had surrounded West Pakistani troops in Chittagong, Comilla, Sylhet, Jessore, Barisal and Khulna.

Heavy fighting was continuing, it said. — Reuter.