

# Rebels Report Bengali Regime

New Delhi, March 28 (Reuter) —Pakistani martial law authorities claimed today the Army was in complete control in rebellious East Pakistan, but radio reports heard here said a provisional government has been set up in the East.

The official Pakistani Radio in Karachi, more than 1,000 miles away from the eastern half of the war-torn country, said the situation in the East was returning to normal and people were going back to work.

But the Press Trust of India news agency quoted a clandestine radio report claiming that Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's "Liberation Army" captured the important northern town of Rangpur after bitter fighting yesterday.

Another radio message, monitored in Calcutta, reported that a provisional Bangla Desh (Bengali Nation) government had been set up in the East.

The broadcast said Major Zia Khan had been named temporary head of a provisional gov-

ernment of Bangla Desh "under the leadership of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman," according to the Associated Press.

[Clandestine broadcasts have identified Major Zia as the head of the "Liberation Army" of the Awami League.]

The Indian news agency also quoted Dacca Radio, taken over by West Pakistani troops Friday, as saying that the martial-law authorities in East Pakistan had asked for troop reinforcements from the western region.

The secret radio said the provisional government in East Pakistan would be guided by the leader of the Awami League, Sheikh Mujib, who it said was directing "the liberation struggle from Chittagong, the main port in East Pakistan, which the rebels claim to control.

But the government-controlled Radio Pakistan said life was returning to normal in East Pakistan.

Radio Pakistan said the situation in East Pakistan was so

well under control that all banks would reopen tomorrow and that Dacca's curfew, which had been in effect from 7 A.M. to 5 P.M. would be relaxed.

There were fewer reports today from the clandestine radio, said to be manned by supporters of Sheikh Mujib, but PTI carried reports saying that Air Force helicopters were used to fire on the towns of Comilla and Chittagong today.

Pakistani authorities claimed a clandestine radio had been set up on a ship in the Hooghly River near Calcutta in India calling itself "the Voice of Bangla Desh" and issuing "concocted stories".

The Indian government rejected the allegation today as "false and mischevous."

Pakistan denied reports that the martial law administrator in East Pakistan, Lt. Gen. Ral Tikka Khan, had been killed or injured in the fighting.

Radio Pakistan reported later that Gen. Tikka Khan had met senior civilian and police offi-

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officials in East Pakistan to discuss matters of administration and also had meetings with the Nepalese and Japanese consuls general.

Two hospitals had been damaged by "enemy" bombing raids, the clandestine radio said, according to PTI.

It added that Sheikh Mujib was "quite hale and hearty and is directing the operations of the Mukti Fouz [Freedom Fighters]."

Pakistan Radio described reports that the Awami League supporters were in control of Chittagong, Comilla and Jessore as completely baseless.

But the clandestine radio said all government and semi-government offices still were closed in response to the East Pakistan leader's instructions.

As a result of the non-cooperation movement, it said, the Army faced an acute shortage of food, medicines and other supplies.

[The clandestine radio quoted a rebel spokesman as announcing a series of directives to the civilian population, the Associated Press reported. They included orders that all airports in the province should be made unserviceable to prevent the arrival of airborne troops; that no able-bodied persons should leave the cities for the rural areas; that all former Army personnel knowing how to drive should report to Awami League offices; that owners of gasoline stations should give fuel only to "freedom fighters with special permits," and that the entire province should be blacked out at night.]

Dacca Radio claimed Sheikh Mujib had been arrested, but clandestine broadcasts said he had gone underground.

The swift-moving events in Pakistan started when the Awami League, which won a majori-

ty in recent elections for a constituent assembly, demanded virtual autonomy for East Pakistan—which is more populous but poorer than the western wing.

## Assembly Postponed

President A. M. Yahya Khan wanted the constituent assembly to bring the country back to Democratic rule. But President Yahya postponed the assembly at the request of the western leader, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

President Yahya and Sheikh Mujib met in Dacca last week to seek a compromise on eastern demands, but violence broke out shortly afterwards.

On Friday, President Yahya,

in a nationwide broadcast, branded the Awami League leader as a traitor and banned all political parties. Sheikh Mujib, in turn, proclaimed East Pakistan a republic.

Sheikh Mujib said he expected the wholesale capture of West Pakistani troops in East Pakistan within two days.

In Calcutta today, an effigy of President Yahya was burned by demonstrators in front of the Pakistan deputy high commissioner's office.

In Bombay, 4,000 demonstrators mobbed the Pakistan deputy high commissioner's office demanding the withdrawal of troops from East Pakistan.

# FBI Finds Crime Slowdown As 22 Cities Report Declines

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assault, up 7 per cent, and forcible rape, up 2 per cent.

Property crimes, which increased 10 per cent in 1970, included larceny of \$50 or more, up 14 per cent; burglary, up 10 per cent; and auto theft, up 5 per cent.

According to the preliminary statistics, the number of crimes reported in large cities with population of 250,000 or more increased 6 per cent in 1970 while suburban areas reported a 15 per cent increase. Rural areas reported an increase of 14 per cent.

## Regional Breakdown

By regions of the country, the number of reported crimes increased the most, 13 per cent, in the southern states. The north central states were next with 11 per cent, followed by the northeast with 10 per cent and the west with 9 per cent.

The report noted armed robbery increased 20 per cent dur-

Ill.; Waterbury, Conn.; Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Flint, Mich.; Duluth, Minn.; Utica, N.Y.; Providence, R.I.; Columbia, S.C.; and Reading, Pa.

The final 1970 crime report, which contains the actual number of crimes committed in each category for the entire nation, will be published by the FBI at mid-year.

## Most Crime In City Down

Baltimore city, despite its slight increase in crime, compares favorably with other cities of same population, the FBI statistics released yesterday indicate.

City police reported 62,150 major crimes last year, an increase of 795 over 1969. Although higher, the 1970 crime index figure represented a decline in each of the seven crime categories, except robberies and larcenies over \$50.

Baltimore city was in line with