

## Guide to Features

BOOK	14	FINANCIAL	16, 17
BRIDGE	11	LIVING	14, 15
CLASS	26-32	OBITUARIES	24, 26
COMICS	31	SENIOR SET	32
CROSSWORD	33	SPORTS	19-24
DEATHS	26	TV-RADIO	32
EDITORIALS	8	THEATERS	24, 25

# The Boston Globe

Pip, Pip

MONDAY — CLOUDY, UP TO 50°

TUESDAY — FAIR, 40°

HIGH TIDES — 12:36 a.m., 1:06 p.m.

FULL REPORT — PAGE 6

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## E. Pakistan: Army Claims Control, but Rebels Report Gains

Reuter

NEW DELHI — Pakistani martial law authorities said yesterday the army was in complete control in rebellious East Pakistan, but radio reports heard here said a provincial government has been set up in the province.

The official Pakistani radio in Karachi, more than 1000 miles away from the eastern half of the war-torn country, said the situation was returning to normal and people were going back to work.

But the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency quoted a clandestine radio report saying that Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's "liberation army" captured the important northern town of Rangpur after bitter fighting Saturday.

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

Earlier reports, often confused and contradictory, claimed thousands of people died in fighting which was said to involve planes bombing towns and the use of tanks against civilians.

PTI also quoted Dacca Radio, taken over by West Pakistan troops Friday, as saying that the martial law authorities in East Pakistan had asked for troop reinforcements.

The clandestine radio's report of a provisional government in East Pakistan said it would be guided by Awami (People's) League leader Sheikh Mujib, who was said to be directing "the liberation struggle" from Chittagong, the main port in East Pakistan.

According to the radio, quoted by PTI, several thousand troops of the "liberation army" were marching from Chittagong to Dacca, the capital.

The radio said that Maj. Zia Khan, in command of the "liberation army," had appealed for recognition of the provisional government.

But the government-controlled Radio Pakistan said life was returning to normal in East Pakistan and there would be no curfew until the evening in Dacca.

There were fewer reports yesterday 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.

The radio also said, "Except for a few pockets in urban Bangla Desh, where the enemy is entrenched . . . the rest is under control of the liberation forces."

Pakistani authorities claimed that 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 as "false and mischievous."

India also rejected Pakistani complaints about reports in the Indian press and on the government-run All India Radio about East Pakistan developments.

PAKISTAN, Page 10

# Both sides see gains in Pakistan

## ★ PAKISTAN

Continued from Page 1

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

Tough censorship in Pakistan continued and 35 foreign press and television correspondents reaching New Delhi reported they had been bundled out of Dacca Friday night and flown to Karachi Saturday via Colombo, Ceylon.

The Associated Press reported that the curfew was lifted in Dacca for a few hours yesterday but was clamped on again.

The army had ordered workers to report to their jobs on Saturday but most had either refused or had fled the city.

Reliable sources said Sheik Mujib was in custody — denied by his supporters — along with most other leaders of the Awami League which holds a majority in the National Assembly.

Radio Pakistan said the situation in East Pakistan was so well under control that all banks would re-open today and that the Dacca curfew from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. would be relaxed. It also said a martial law order had been issued formally banning the Awami League.

An order said all bank funds of the Awami League had been frozen and no one could become a member or call himself a member of the party.

The swift-moving events in Pakistan started when the Awami League, which won a majority in recent elections for a constituent assembly, demanded virtual autonomy for East Pakistan — which is more populous but poorer than the western wing.

Strongman President Yahya Khan wanted the constituent assembly to bring the country back to democratic rule. But Yahya postponed the assembly at the request of the Western leader Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

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