

BOTH SIDES CLAIM GAINS IN PAKISTAN; ALL NEWS BANNED

**Army Said to Be in Control
of Dacca—Washington
Gets Similar Report**

AREA QUIET, RADIO SAYS

**But Bengali Broadcast Tells
About 'Liberation Army'
and Provisional Rule**

The Pakistani Government continued yesterday its strict military censorship on developments in East Pakistan, where the army was seeking to crush the nationalist movement.

There were conflicting reports of success from both sides.

An Associated Press reporter who left East Pakistan yesterday said that the army had taken full control of Dacca, the capital, and information reaching Washington from Dacca confirmed that report.

The Pakistan radio, heard in New Delhi, said that "life is fast returning to normal" in East Pakistan. It was impossible to verify reports that there was fighting in other parts of the country.

Reports from India quoted the clandestine nationalist radio as having said that a provisional government headed by Maj. Jia Khan, who was described as Commander in Chief of the forces of Bangla Desh, had been installed. Bangla Desh is Bengali for Bengal Nation.

The radio said the government would function under the direction of Sheik Mujibur Rahman, whose Awami League was in effective charge of the administration of East Pakistan until the military began to take control Friday.

Awami League Underground

The military operations, which drove the Awami League underground, followed the failure of talks between President Agha Mohammad Yahya Khan and Sheik Mujib, who had been demanding autonomy for the eastern part of the country.

The eastern and western sections of the Moslem country, which was created in 1947, are separated by 1,000 miles of Indian territory and have different languages, cultures and physical features.

The nationalist radio was also quoted as having said that the "liberation army" was marching toward Dacca in a move to capture the city. The radio, the report said, announced the "capture" of army barracks at Comilla, Jessore and Khulna in East Pakistan.

The military governor of East Pakistan, Lieut. Gen. Tikka Khan, and four of his officers were reported by the nationalist radio to have been killed. It said the Government had named Lieut. Gen. Imzad Khan as the new martial-law administrator in East Pakistan.

Government Denies Attack

The Government radio denied the attack on the military governor. It said the nationalist radio was not transmitting in East Pakistan but from Indian territory from a ship on the Hooghly River near Calcutta.

According to an Indian news agency report that quoted a broadcast over the army-controlled Dacca radio, several thousand Pakistani troops had been airlifted to Chittagong and Khulna, two major towns in East Pakistan "to quell disturbances."

The Pakistan radio broadcast a 30-word bulletin, saying that the situation in East Pakistan was "peaceful." It did not contradict reports that the East Pakistan Rifles, a paramilitary unit, and the East Pakistan police had joined with the "liberation army" of volunteers

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Both Sides in Pakistan Claim Gains in Strict News Ban

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from the Awami League. The radio also did not mention anything about Sheikh Mujib, who was said to have been arrested by the military authorities early Friday.

The All India Radio of the Indian Government quoted "foreign sources" as saying that fighting was continuing at several places in East Pakistan.

Pakistan Protest Rejected

The Indian Government rejected a Pakistani protest against what was termed interference in the internal affairs of Pakistan. New Delhi also denied that the Bengal radio was operating from Indian territory.

There have been no reports on casualties. It was not clear how the "liberation army" would resist the superior force of the Pakistani army, which was reported to be using tanks and artillery with air force support.

Reports from India said that civilians in East Pakistan were fighting with knives, clubs and scimitars, while the East Pakistan Rifles and police forces were using their limited arms, such as rifles and pistols.

According to one report, the East Pakistani force was using guerrilla tactics to fight the troops. The civilian population was said to have been denying food and other supplies to the troops, as well as obstructing their advance by blowing up bridges and railroads.

The report said West Pakistani troops were continuing their attacks with Soviet Tiger tanks, United States Saber jets and Chinese small arms. Air force helicopters were said to be firing on the populous towns of Comilla and Chittagong.

The martial-law authorities also reportedly moved in more tanks in the Dacca area and, according to a late-night report, there was fierce fighting in the capital city and the neighboring industrial town of Narayanganj.

According to a report from Agartala, a border town in eastern India, the East Pakistanis had taken the northern town of

Rangpur after a "bitter fight" with Pakistani troops.

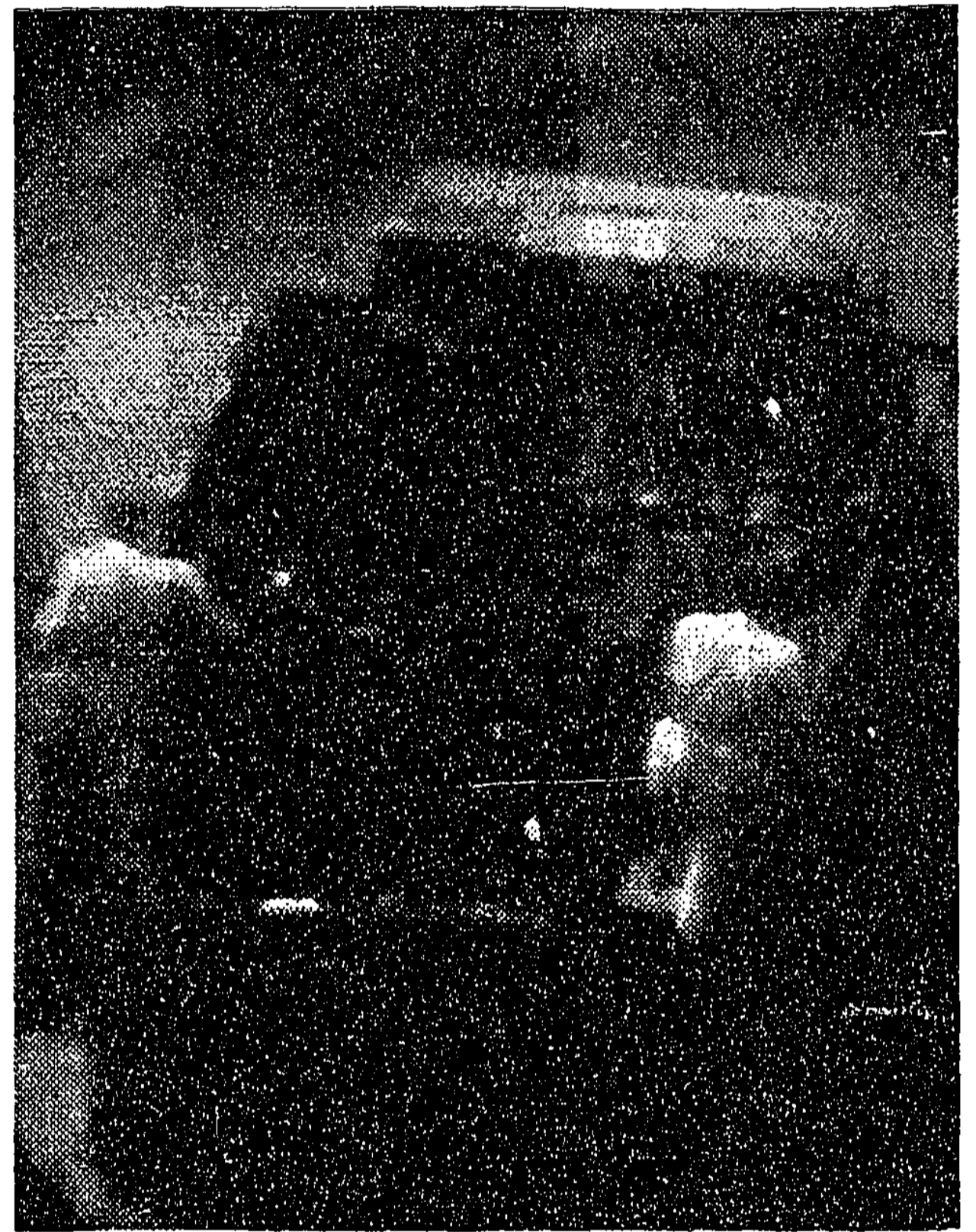
The Pakistan radio denied the report. The radio also said that work in Government offices was resuming in most places and that banks in Dacca would be opened tomorrow.

Sheik Mujib's movement for autonomy had remained essentially a nonviolent movement of civil disobedience patterned after Gandhi's struggle against the British, who ruled the subcontinent until 1947.

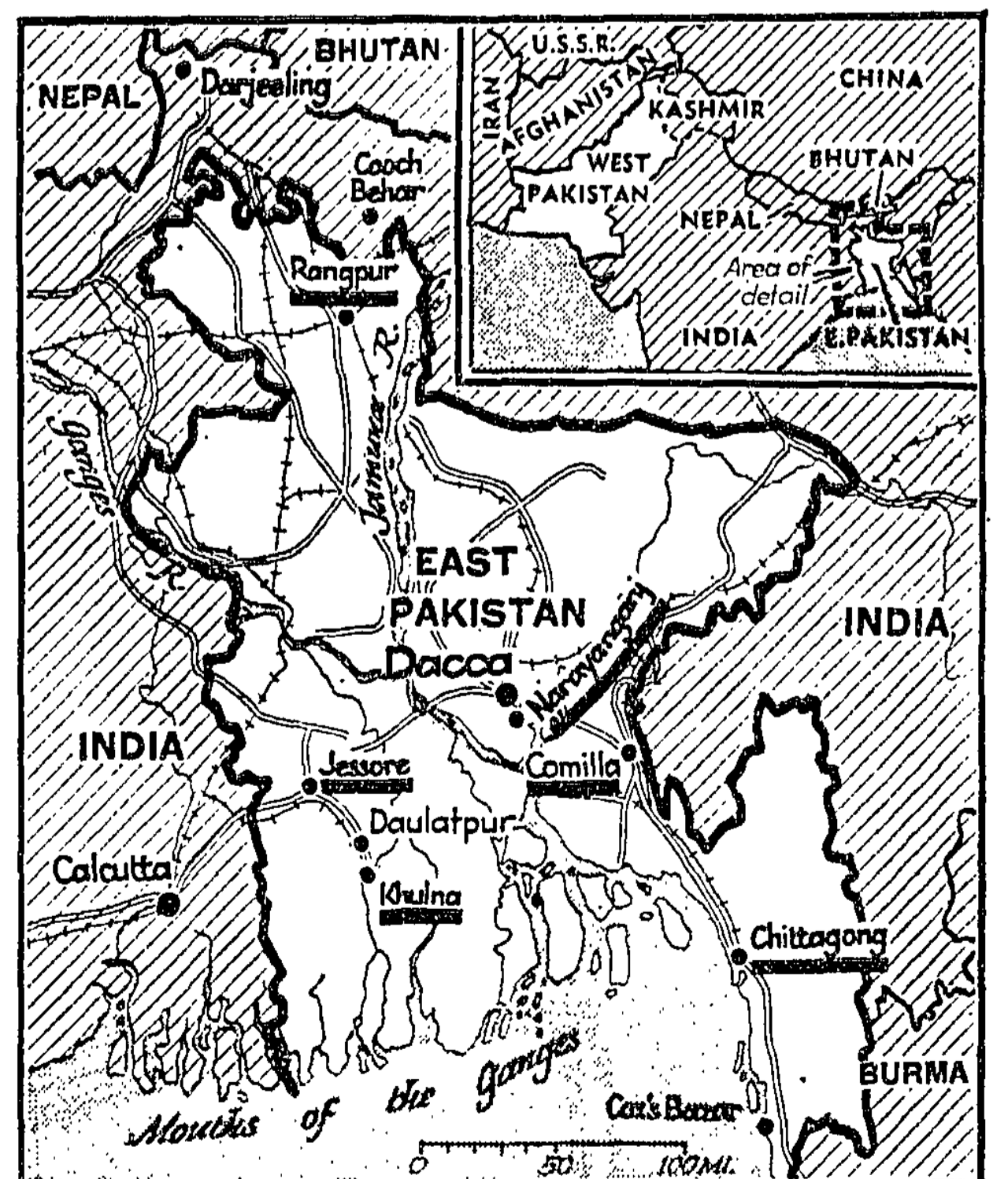
However, on Friday, when the military was set to repress the movement, armed rebellion was reported to have broken out almost immediately. Eyewitness reports said that troops in Dacca fired at unarmed civilians with machine guns. According to these sources, the casualties were mostly Bengalis and several thousands might have been killed.



In this view from the Intercontinental Hotel, the smoke from burning buildings rises over Dacca. Foreign newsmen, held in the hotel for over 48 hours, were later expelled.



West Pakistani military truck rides past the hotel, loaded with rifles and other weapons taken from Bengali dissidents. Two soldiers stand at rear of truck.



The New York Times March 29, 1971 Underlines indicate cities involved in civil conflict