

The fighting in East Pakistan - a dramatic turn today. New Delhi announcing that Indian forces have now seized a key rail line - linking northwestern Dinajpur District with the rest of East Pakistan. According to observers - this setting the stage for a possible full-scale assault in the Dinajpur area; which if successful - we are told - could enable India to set up there - a home base for the rebel state of Bangla Desh.

Meanwhile, Pakistan Federal troops stationed at Dacca on the Bramaputra were undertaking today a so-called "clearing of zones of fire and lines of communication" around that city. In the process they were wiping out whole villages - and killing an estimated two hundred and fifty Bengalis. Such is one report.

The U.S. has announced suspension of all future arms shipments to India. Also, cancelling about Two Million dollars worth of equipment already approved.

CHICAGO

For President Nixon - a quick trip today to Chicago; where he addressed the two thousand delegates - at a National Four-H Congress. The President saying that "young America has passed from its stormy night of recent years - into a bright, new morning;" ^{This made clear, said} ~~as evidenced - he~~ _^ ~~continued~~ ^{he} by the fact that "college turmoil has subsided sharply - not in resignation but wisdom;" ^{and because} ~~by the fact that~~ "high school students and young working people - the next declared target of the radical^s - have not caught fire."

The President adding that now is the time for the voice of the "young majority" - to be heard fully in the councils of America; in forming public policy - in directing the political process. The President observing: "Certainly, the time when the young are to be seen and not heard - is gone from America - gone for good."

2
And then - it was back to Washington; where the President will meet tomorrow with Israeli Premier Golda Meir - in the continuing quest for peace in the Middle East.

AMMAN

Meanwhile, Jordan's King Hussein, opening a new session of the Jordanian Parliament at Amman, said that Jordan must mobilize all its resources to fight Israel; and that Jordan's armed forces will never let up - "till the day of holy victory" as he put it - the day when the Arabs recapture their occupied lands. All this somewhat similar to the recent speeches by Egypt's President Anwar Sadat.

TEHRAN-BAGHDAD-DAMASCUS FOLLOW AMMAN

A thousand miles further east - in the Middle East - a massive demonstration today in Baghdad. According to official sources, more than a quarter-of-a-million Iraqis - protesting Iran's seizure of those three strategic small islands at the entrance to the Persian Gulf. And the government of Iraq - later announcing plans to sever diplomatic relations with Iran - also, with Britain. While the government of Syria was demanding a full U.N. investigation and accusing Iran and Britain - of outright collusion.

This because the three islands in questions - Abu Mussa, Big Tumb and Little ~~Tumb~~ ^{Tumb} - had long been under British protection. The British taking home their troops this month, apparently welcomed the Iranian takeover as one way to avert chaos. With the Iranians beating to the punch - not only Iraq but also the nearby Trucial State of Ras El Khaima; both of which have been feuding with Iran for years - over the future of the Gulf. The other rich Gulf sheikdoms, of course, are all directly or indirectly involved - Dubai abu Dabi and and several more, wondering will they be next?

TEHRAN-BAGHDAD-DAMASCUS FOLLOW AMMAN

A thousand miles farther east - in the Middle East - a massive demonstration today in Baghdad. According to official sources, more than a quarter-of-a-million Iraqis - protesting Iran's seizure of those three strategic small islands at the entrance to the Persian Gulf. And the government of Iraq - later announcing plans to sever diplomatic relations with Iran - also, with Britain. While the government of Syria was demanding a full U.N. investigation and accusing Iran and Britain - of outright collusion.

This because the three islands in questions - Abu Mussa, Big Tumb and Little ~~Islands~~ ^{Tumb} - had long been under British protection. The British taking home their troops this month, apparently welcomed the Iranian takeover as one way to avert chaos. With the Iranians beating to the punch - not only Iraq but also the nearby Trucial State of Ras El Khaima; both of which have been feuding with Iran for years - over the future of the Gulf. The other rich Gulf sheikdoms, of course, are all directly or indirectly involved - Dubai abu Dabi and and several more, wondering will they be next?

SAFETY

From the National Transportation Safety Board in Washington - a special request today to the U.S. Highway Traffic Safety Administration; urging the latter to reconsider a proposed safety rule - which it has already turned down. This calling for so-called truck underride devices - to prevent small cars from sliding under truck-beds in rear-end collisions.

In support of its case - the Safety Board citing a recent accident near Carrollton, Maryland; where a small American car skidded under a truck - and its two passengers were crushed to death. The Board also noting that the ratio of deaths in truck-car collisions - is thirty-seven-to-one against those riding in the cars. Adding that the ~~Administration~~ Administration's previous ruling - that underride devices can not be justified on a cost-benefit basis - simply does not hold water.

WASHINGTON

Washington again - First Lady Pat Nixon and her daughter, Julie Eisenhower, went Christmas shopping today - at Sears, Roebuck. This in order to help spotlight stores that have voluntarily "kept the lid on" - in support of the President's price stabilization program.

5
52
Mrs. Nixon picking up an electric popcorn popper - for Julie's husband, Navy Ensign David Eisenhower. Julie also getting David a tie - and her mother a pair of sneakers. Julie explaining: "They're the only ones - my mother finds comfortable." The First Lady and her daughter later attempting to visit Santa Claus - but the crowds were too much. So I guess they'll have to write ~~him~~ ^{to Santa,} a letter, ~~Warren~~ - just like you and me.

LOS ANGELES

From a courtroom at Los Angeles - the story of Juan Abel Vargas; a self-made millionaire from Peru - who apparently led two lives, and maybe more, till he was killed in an auto accident two years ago.

According to testimony so far - Juan Abel Vargas maintaining two separate homes barely ten miles apart. In the first - Mrs. Mildred Vargas - whom he married in Nineteen-Twenty-Nine - who bore him three children; in the second - Mrs. Josephine Vargas - whom he wed in Nineteen-Forty-Five - who bore him four children. Both women - now claiming his full estate; though it's also said that Vargas may have two more wives and eight more children - living somewhere in South America.

As if that weren't enough - a motel clerk testifying that Vargas checked into her establishment - seventy-eight times over a two-year period; each time - with a different woman; and the last time - we are told - the night before he died at age sixty-four. Juan Abel Vargas - ^{would you say Warren,} quite a ~~guy~~ ^{guy. Melcha Kambor?}

MEXICO CITY

At Mexico City this week - a meeting of the world
Psychiatry Congress. ^{Today's} ~~Latest~~ speakers including Dr. Guillermo
Calderon-Narvaez - a Mexican expert on the history of the
Aztecs; who says that Aztec society was plagued by those who
got soused, ^{plastered, stoned} _(pull-kay) on too much pulque and other native potions;
eventually bringing on a stringent anti-alcoholism campaign
- around the middle of the Fourteenth Century.

First offense - calling for a mild warning. But
second and third offenders - often getting their heads shaved.
And for those finally adjudged incorrigible alcoholics - the
death sentence. All, that is, except the old-timers - who
could drink as much as they wanted without fear of
punishment. Dr. Calderon saying the Aztecs apparently felt
- once you've retired, "it didn't matter any longer."