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EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)-25Yrs

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
16 December 1971

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

India-Pakistan Situation Report
(As of 1600 EST)

Bangla Dosh--The New Government Takes Shape

1. An official spokesman in New Delhi said today that the new civil administration in Bangla Dosh is expected to take over tomorrow, and Indian Defense Secretary Lall has announced that four members of the Bengali government flew to Dacca today to form a transitional government. Lall further asserted that the question of repatriation of West Pakistani soldiers who have become prisoners of war would be negotiated between India and Pakistan "at such a time when the aggression against us stops."

2. ~~REDACTED~~
report, the Indian Government will insist that Bangla Dosh have a nationally based government rather than one like the present provisional government, which is dominated by the Awami League. The Awami League has been resisting, but Prime Minister Gandhi reportedly has come to an agreement with the nine-man Consultative Committee which includes pro-Moscow Communists and was formed several months ago. According to the agreement, the Consultative Committee will form the nucleus of the new Bengali government. What would happen to the present members of the government is unclear.

3. The Indian Army will not withdraw from East Bengal until it is satisfied that the Mukti Bahini does not constitute a threat to the new

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regime's stability. To this end, the army has been instructed to isolate extreme radical elements within the irregular forces. It is likely that only the former police units will be allowed to continue their security roles; the frontier guards and the Bengali Rifles will be disbanded. Indian leaders hope that policing activities by the Indian Army will be kept to a minimum.

say

4. Press reports also that Indian forces will remain in East Bengal for an indefinite period of time. It will reportedly be the responsibility of the Unified Indian Bengali Command to repair the "damage caused by the Pakistani occupation forces." An Indian Government spokesman has described the duties of the Unified Command as the restoration of normalcy, the rehabilitation of public utilities, and the repatriation of the refugees.

Cease-fire Arrangements

5. The New Delhi domestic press describes the terms of the Pakistani surrender as follows: 1) all Pakistani armed forces in the eastern wing are to surrender to Lieutenant General Aurora, the Indian commander-in-chief of the Indian and Bangla Desh forces; 2) the surrender shall include all Pakistanis in land, naval, and paramilitary forces; 3) these forces will lay down their arms where they are currently located and surrender to the nearest regular troops; 4) the Pakistani Eastern Command will then be under the orders of General Aurora, whose decisions will be final regarding interpretation of the terms of surrender.

6. Aurora gave assurances that all surrendering personnel will be treated with dignity and guaranteed the safety of all those who surrender to him. He also undertook to offer protection to all foreign nationals, ethnic minorities, and people of West Pakistani origin.

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7. On the morning of 16 December, Bangla Desh government representatives handed Major General Jacob, chief-of-staff for the Indian Army's Eastern Command, the following suggestions for conditions to be imposed upon the Pakistani Government: 1) Sheik Mujib should be returned safely to Bangla Desh; 2) Bengalis living in West Pakistan should be permitted to return safely to Bangla Desh; 3) Bengali members of the Pakistan Armed Forces in West Pakistan should be permitted to return safely to Bangla Desh, and the Pakistan Army in East Bengal should surrender its weapons and equipment to the joint Indian-Bengali military command; and 4) Pakistan Prime Minister designate Nurul Amin and other Bengali "quislings" should be repatriated to Bangla Desh to stand trial. According to information, the Indian Government also plans to demand compensation from Pakistan for Indian military personnel losses during the hostilities as well as for military equipment damaged or destroyed.

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8. [REDACTED] that due to the rout of the army in East Pakistan, Pakistani army officers are agitated against President Yahya. They apparently blame him for refusing to allow them to take the initiative in the west with heavy armor. They seem to be accusing him of waiting for an anticipated Communist Chinese intervention and of having an exaggerated fear of some type of Soviet intervention.

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Military Aid to Pakistan

9. [REDACTED] Jordan will supply Pakistan with 18,000 rounds of 20 mm ammunition. [REDACTED] indicated that the ammunition will be flown in Jordanian planes to Dhahran, Saudi Arabia where Saudi C-130s will pick it up for delivery to Pakistan. [REDACTED] that since 5 December, the Saudis have sent several C-130s to Jordan to transport spare parts and small ammunition to Pakistan; the Saudis requested that the Jordanians themselves fly the latest shipment as far as Dhahran.

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The Military Situation

10. The military situation has not changed substantially in the last few hours. In the west the Pakistanis continue their buildup of forces south of Lahore. [REDACTED]

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The battle for the Pakistani town of Shakargarh, in the Punjab, which is shaping up as one of the biggest of the brief war, continues with heavy fighting reported by each side. There are no reports of major action on any other sector of the border.

Indian Policy and Pronouncements

11. On 13 December the [REDACTED]

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that while India was not prepared to give up its claim to Azad Kashmir, it would not use force to exercise its rights. [REDACTED] or official, the Soviets were told roughly the same thing by Indian special representative, D. P. Dhar, who saw Kosygin on 14 December.

12. India has categorically rejected the Chinese accusation that Indian armed forces crossed the China-Sikkim border and intruded into Chinese territory for reconnaissance.

13. Demonstrations against US policy in the Indo-Pakistani conflict are continuing at various points in India. Slogan-shouting, petition-bearing groups visited the US Embassy in New Delhi and the consulates in Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta today. Although Bombay reported a growing anti-American trend yesterday, today Calcutta reports that the demonstrators have been fewer in number, possibly because they have been distracted by the events surrounding the various cease-fire proposals.

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West Pakistani Allegations of Soviet Involvement

14. West Pakistani officials apparently have been ordered to spread the word that Soviet military personnel were militarily involved in the Indian war against Pakistan. There is still no evidence to support the Pakistani allegations.

15. The charges have been repeated by Pakistani representatives in Ankara, Rangoon, Paris, Bonn, London, Rome, and Madrid. The Pakistani attache in Paris claimed that Pakistani air force officers had sighted an SA-3 missile and implied that it had been fired by a Soviet. There is no evidence, however, that Soviet SA-3 missiles have been delivered to India.

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16. The UN Security Council has resumed formal debate on the South Asian situation, but there is no late word from the US mission on the status of the six draft resolutions under consideration. A possible clue to how the remainder of this session will go may have been provided by Indian Foreign Minister Singh in his speech a few hours ago. He pleaded that the Council take no action on "troop withdrawals and other problems" until a cease-fire is fully in effect. A simple cease-fire text, which the Indians now say they could accept as an interim measure, has not yet been drafted.

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