

EAST PAKISTANIS UNVEIL NEW FLAG

**President, Heavily Guarded,
Takes Ride in Hostile City**

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Special to The New York Times

DACCA, Pakistan, March 23
The President of Pakistan, who has spent eight days in the eastern wing of his country under heavy protection, came out of his walled compound for the first time today for a heavily protected drive to the military cantonment on the edge of the city.

Elsewhere in Dacca and throughout the province of East Pakistan the Bengali population celebrated "resistance day"—resistance to the martial-law regime imposed by the West Pakistan-dominated central Government—and unveiled the new flag of "Bangla Desh," the so-called Bengal nation.

Those scenes — a President unable to travel in what is supposed to be his own country without a cordon of weapons, 70 million of his people virtually declaring secession on their own—put into focus the strangeness of the crisis that has threatened to split this Moslem country in two.

The mood, the slogans and the talk in the streets are all for independence, while at the bargaining table the three participants are still talking about trying to hold the two wings together, by however tenuous a link.

No Signs of Real Progress

The tortuous negotiations over East Pakistan's demands for self-rule continued, and all sides kept repeating that some progress was being made. What is going on outside the talks makes it difficult to believe, however, that any compromise agreement will alter what has already happened—the take-over of the province, in effect, by the Bengali people, led by Sheik Mujibur Rahman and his Awami League party.

High Awami League sources said the talks were at a delicate stage. The party will wait a few days more, they added, and if an agreement cannot be reached by then on its demands for ending the western wing's long domination of the East, they will go their own way. The phrase was not further explained.

The other participants in the talks are the President, Agha Mohammad Yahya Khan, representing the army, which has ruled under martial law for two years, and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, dominant political leader in West Pakistan, who heads the Pakistan People's party.

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