The Midnight File

Palestinians will join peace

meeting, PLO official says

official said Sunday he was confident a formula could be found

to permit Palestinians to attend a Mideast peace conference

the Palestinians from attending, Bassam Abu Sharif, as

senior advisor to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, told reporters.

He spoke as US Secretary of State James Baker held talks

Egyptian President arrives

in Libya

in Libya on Sunday and was greeted at Tripoli International

Airport by Libyan leader Col Moammar Gadhafi, the official

Ships collide in strait of

Gibraltar

Sunday in dense fog in the Straft of Gibraltar with a Liberian

ship and sank two hours later, a government spokesman said,

CEUTA (Spain), Aug 4: A Norwegian freighter collided

Attorney General : A

Strajul Haque also tried to

President can't tap telephonie

conversations. The Watergate

know whether a President is

allowed to buy anything from

the Cantonment Storage

Department at a tax-free price

as was done during the

questions by saying There will

be 9000 questions, counting

10 questions for each recov-

Humayun also asked several

questions regarding the state-

ments of Major Saiful Islam to

Yousuf Hossain Humayun

the police under Section 161.

(Defence Lawyer - DL): You

have told the police that

Mostafiz and his wife came to

the Sena Bhavan several times

between December 6 and

MSI: I did not say anything

DL: In Ershad's letter to

the Home Ministry he said that

he had authorised Mostafiz and

Mrs Mostafiz to receive his

goods. But they were not his

tive was not mentioned in the

question in the way of a sug-

culated that the price of all ar-

ticles together would not be

more than Taka 15 lakh which

was exaggerated at Taka 65

Later Strajul Haque asked a

Strajul Haque: We have cal-

MSI: The word representa-

He however concluded his

Later Yousuf Hossain

scandal is an example.

Pakistan period.

ered item"

December 12.

representatives.

about the prices.

like that.

letter.

Libyan news agency JANA reported, reports AP.

ROME, Aug 4: Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak arrived

with Tunisian leaders, reports AP.

planned for October. There is no obstacle which will prevent

TUNIS, Aug 4: A key Palestine Liberation Organization

Govt, parties must ensure violence-free campus

By DU Correspondent

Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) has demanded the full commitment of the government and the political parties to stop terrorism on campus before resumption of academic activities in the University.

The Association in an emergency meeting held Sunday at the University Club building stressed the need for an immediate effort by the government, political parties and student organisations for a political solution to the prob-

The meeting said that the cause and character of terrorism was political and that the political parties provided shelter to the armed hoodlums to establish their political supremacy on the campus.

The meeting also expressed its grief over the silence of the members of the law-enforcing agencies during the recent terrorist incidents on the DU

The DUTA strongly condemned all terrorist acts that took place on the campus on July 30 and demanded identification of and punishment to the terrorists involved. Meanwhile the students,

who stayed back in the residential halls of Dhaka University defying the directives of the authorities demanded clear a statement by the authorities on the causes and sources of terrorism on the campus. The students, in a press

conference held Sunday afternoon at the Dhaka University Journalists Association (DUJA)

Khaleda

From Page 1 Col. 7

Gen Mahbubur Rahman also spoke on the occasion, among others. The Prime Minister said

the present government wanted to turn the country's vast population into a working force with an aim to build a self-reliant, peaceful and prosperous motherland. She called upon all to devote themselves to hardwork to achieve this

Begum Zia expressed her satisfaction that a programme had been taken in hand to set up intensive Ansar and VDP villages. She hoped that the development programmes now being implemented through cooperatives in the villages would be successful. She also hoped that the training on rural development and self-reliance in the villages would also be successful.

Earlier, the Prime Minister inspected the guard of honour and took salute from the smartly turned out contingents of Ansars and VDP.

Begum Zia distributed prizes among the successful trainees of Ansars and VDP.

office, said that the inaction of the police forces deployed at various points of the campus during the recent armed clashes had proved the lack of cordiality of the government and the Ministry of Home Affairs in this regard.

The press conference accused the BNP-backed Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), the Awami League-backed Chhatra League (S-A) and the JSD (Inu) student front Chhatra League (N-S) of unleashing terrorism on the Dhaka University campus and said that the political parties provided shelter to the armed hoodlums in their student fronts to establish supremacy on the campus.

They called upon the political parties and the student organisations to expel all miscreants from their respective organisations and hoped that all democratic student organisations would play an active role in resisting terrorism.

They termed the Syndicate decisions on closing the University and vacating the halls as illogical and threatened to begin the second phase of their movement if the authorities further imposed any such decision on the general students.

The press conference was addressed by Selim Reza Newton, Ahmed Shaheen, Janabul Islam and others. The students, however, will

hold a general meeting Tuesday at 4 pm at the TSC to chalk out their next programme of action.

ransacked By DU Correspondent

DU Dean office

A group of people ransacked the office of the Dean of Law Faculty of Dhaka University Sunday morning demanding shifting of the examinations scheduled for August 16 and 17. They were reportedly stu-

dents of various law colleges in the city. They damaged the table and

chairs of the office and harassed the office pion Shahabuddin. During the ransacking the

Dean was absent from the of-

College student shot in city

By Staff Correspondent

A student of Suhrawardy College in the city was shot and injured while he was passing by the college Sunday afternoon.

Shamsul Alam, a degree student of the college and worker of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), received bullet wounds in both of his legs and was admitted to the Sir Salimullah Medical College Hospital (SSMCH).

Political atmosphere

From Page 1 Cot. 8 of a representative of the people came as a shock to everyone. The same MP on an earlier occasion was found flexing his muscles during a noisy scene in Parliament. The incident in Parliament

on Sunday was the continuation of the political furore over the passage of the Constitution 12th Amendment Bill which seeks to go back to a parliamentary form of government.

The reopening of the debate by Sheikh Hasina on the bill, unanimously signed by her party and Treasury Bench members, made the political atmosphere cloudy.

Skepticism grew on the fate of 11th and 12th Amendment Bills and the role of the Awami League in passing these two

Sheikh Hasina said Parliament on Sunday that her party was committed to a parliamentary form of government. She sarcastically said that those who once opposed parliamentary democracy were tions. now shedding crocodile tears.

She, however, pleaded for dragging on the discussion on the bill and told that if necessary the date for a presidential election could be deferred by a resolution in Parliament.

Her statement revealed the intention of delaying the pas-

sage of the bill thereby plunging the country into deep political and constitutional crisis, alleged a senior member of the ruling party. Meanwhile, the ruling party

is making arrangements to put the two bills to a vote on Tuesday or by Wednesday at the latest.

The bills shall have to be passed before August 10 to

avoid a constitutional crisis. The Jatiya Party is likely to shift its stand on the form of government and may vote for a parliamentary system to be in the mainstream of politics. Some of the Jatiya Party

MPs might be brought to Parliament on parole to facilitate voting.

In the event of the Jatiya Party's support to these two bills the ruling party may get the support of a two-thirds majority even without the Awami League.

But Awami League sources indicated that the party would vote for the bills with reservations on provisions of floorcrossing, holding of referendum and procedure of presidential election.

The Awami League executive committee is continuing its meeting to take stock of the situation.

The ruling party has decided to show utmost tolerance in the face of all provoca-

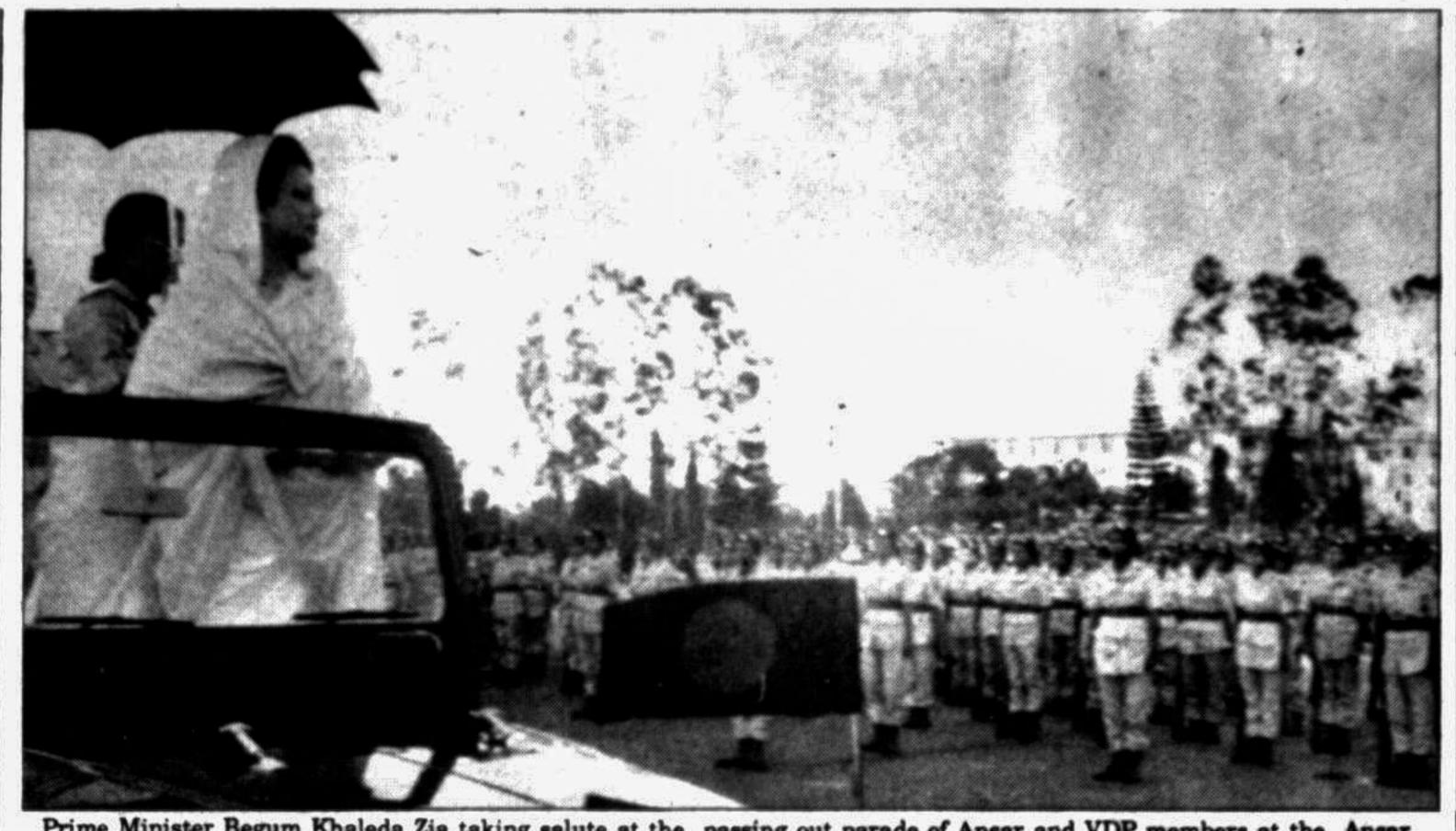
On Sunday although Badruddoza Chowdhury asked for an apology from Sultanul Kabir, the ruling party remained satisfied with the Speaker's assurance to investigate the matter.

The ruling party's tolerance did good and Sheikh Hasina could finish her speech in a quiet atmosphere after the Magreb prayers.

The scene after the Magreb prayers again raised the hope that the country may overcome the crisis and the 11th and 12th Amendment Bills will go through smoothly. Editorial on page 4

Editor : S. M. Ali

Published by the Editor on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd., 52 Motifheel C/A, Dhaka-1000 and printed by him at Offset Printing Dialogue Publications Ltd., 19 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1215. Editorial, News & Commercial offices: 28/1, Toynbee Circular Road, Dhaka-1000. Tel: Editorial & News: 863036. Commercial: 863035. PABX-246023-4. Fax



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia taking salute at the passing out parade of Ansar and VDP members at the Ansar Academy at Shafipur on Sunday. -PID photo

Pandemonium by the Speaker. He invited Op-

position member Abdul Hafiz

to take part in the discussion

on the 12th Amendment Bill.

AL MPs came back to the

House fifteen minutes later

Sheikh Hasina then completed

her speech. The House became

calm as discussion on the bill

was continued till late at night.

of the Opposition Abdus Samad

Azad briefing the press on this

issue alleged that when Leader

of the Opposition Sheikh

Hasina was giving her state-

ment in the House on a fabri-

cated report of BSS, published

in a section of dailies on Sat

urday, Speaker suddenly put

off her mike and gave the floor

to the Deputy Leader of the

House, which resulted pande-

monium in the Jatiya Sangsad

He said Deputy Leader of

the House Dr Badruddoza

Chowdhury stood up and also

asked all other members of

Treasury Bench to rise on

floor. Thus he tried to obstruct

the Leader of the Opposition

during her speech, Mr Samad

added. Mr Samad further al-

leged that some of the BNP

MPs also tried to come to the

Suranjit Sengupta who was

Opposition Bench in an attack-

present during the press

briefing said that the offence of

the ruling party MPs was tan-

tamount to criminal act when

they tried to attack the Oppo-

or five MPs of BNP who, he

said, tried to attack Opposition

Abdus Samad Azad said that he

did not see whether an MP of

Awami League at all exhibited

any shoe to the Treasury

Bench. He however defended

the AL member by saying that

he had seen in the British Par-

liament that the Opposition

MPs were sitting in the House

pointing their feet to the Trea-

Stay order

From Page 1 Col. 8

Hossain, Deputy Attorney

General, appeared for the gov-

ing of the central action com-

mittee of the three federations

of the newspaper industry and

Dhaka Union of Journalists

(DUJ) will be held today at 10

am at the union office at the

From Page 1 Col. 4

push the nation to a path of

darkness and block the system

for a transfer of power through

report published in the Dainik

Bangla was not correct and had

created a misunderstanding on

her positive statement on the

12th Constitution amendment

ception at the WAPDA audito-

rium on Friday Sheikh Hasina

had said that she would resist

the passage of the Constitution

amendment bill unless the

Sheikh Hasina termed the

people's right was established.

report as mischievous and

questioned why only the

'Dainik Bangla' controlled by

the government published the

to why the Dainik Bangla was

not privatised and said that on

the same date the Prime

Minister called the Acting

President Justice Sahabuddin

and brought allegations against

some of the parliament mem-

Sheikh Hasina alleged that

the publication of the report

and meeting with the Acting

President was a 'fixed game' on

the part of the government to

foil the bill which was first no-

Sheikh Hasina said that the

tified by the Awami League.

She also raised questions as

report.

BSS reported that at a re-

Sheikh Hasina said the BSS

constitutional means.

Meanwhile, an urgent meet-

Tofael Ahmed named four

Replying to a question Mr

yesterday.

ing mood.

sition members.

members.

sury Bench.

ernment.

Jatiya Press Club.

Meanwhile, Deputy Leader

From Page 1 Col. 4 AL member, some others ran towards the front row and drew the attention of the members to the indecent inci-

Most Awami League members also stood up and shouted back at the Treasury Bench. Many of them, however, could not figure out what had hap-

Amidst noise nothing could be heard. Some BNP members and some AL members were seen trying to make their fellow MPs resume their seats instead of running here and

Speaker Abdur Rahman Biswas tried to persuade the members of both the benches to resume their seats but

Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury, the Deputy Leader of the House, in an excited voice drew the attention of the Chair to the fact that the sanctity of the Parliament was violated by an AL MP who had brandished his shoes. There could not be a greater violation of the privilege of the House than this, he said adding such an incident had never taken place in the

Dr Chowdhury urged the Speaker to take punitive action against the said AL MP. He said that the Treasury Bench would not listen to any speech from any member before the offending MP was punished.

The AL members who were in the front row looked back, and some other MPs ran towards Sultanul Kabir Chowd hury apparently trying to persuade him to apologize for his mistake, but without any positive response.

Speaker Abdur Rahman Biswas tried to give the floor to Sheikh Hasina to complete her speech, and questioned the logic behind shouting by other AL members.

Dr Badruddoza Chowdhury stood up again to state that there could be no speech before the matter was settled. This time he softened his tone saying the concerned member should stand up and apologize with folded hands.

At this a good number of AL MPs including Tofael Ahmed and Salahuddin Yusuf raised full-throated voices alleging that some BNP members had also tried to run towards the Opposition Bench during the

chaos. The Speaker finding no ways of bringing the House back to order stood up from his seat to state that the incident was most unfortunate. He said that the people of the country had voted for all the members of the Parliament with high hopes. Only they (the people) would be let down. How could there be law and order in the whole country, if there was no discipline in the House? he asked.

Mohammad Nasim and some other AL leaders requested the Speaker to allow Sheikh Hasina to continue her speech. As no end to the noise was in sight the Speaker said that there would be an inquiry into the allegation that a member had waved his shoes. There could be no greater an offence than this, he said adding such a member deserved exemplary punishment.

To save the situation the Speaker finally announced adjournment of the House for the Magreb prayers.

During the recess, leaders of the two benches had exchange of ideas for bringing down the tension. Begum Khaleda Zia who was outside the House till that time came to her chamber and had a meeting with senior party leaders. The BNP leaders ultimately decided to exercise maximum restraint and refrain from raising the matter after resumption of the sitting fol-

lowing the Magreb break. Sheikh Razzak Ali Deputy Speaker told the House after the Magreb recess that the matter would be resolved through an inquiry as assured

Miscalculation

of Parliament members.

Even some of the constituof the Awami League.

They also criticised Awami

They said that if the repeal of the Ordinance was inserted in the Constitution Amendment Bill it could be a good bargaining point for the party.

Constitution.

given by the Awami League was merely an ordinary bill.

Dollar seizure

From Page 1 Col. 8

2,25,000 from a Pakistani national who was leaving for Bangkok by a Thai airlines

Cantonment police said after interrogation, the accused, Mohammad Zubair, confessed that US dollar 2,70,000 was seized from him at the time of his arrest.

appropriating US dollar 45,000 are Mahmood Akhter. assistant collector of customs, Mujibul Huq, customs super and customs inspectors Zaezuddin, Lutfor Rahman, Matiur Rahman, Anwarul Matin Choudhury, Rashidul Hassan, Haridas Shah, Mofizuddin, Abu Saleh Ahmed, Pronab Mohan Mondol, Shafiqul Islam and Harunur Rashid.

When asked about the bill

But the constitutional experts said that the Indemnity Ordinance should be excluded from the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution through a modification which would require the support of a twothird majority of parliament

Clause 18 of the Fourth Schedule which ratified the actions between August 15, 1975 and April 9, 1979 should be rewritten for further ratifiof the Fifth cation Amendment.

confirmed

should be suffixed by the words "except the Indemnity Ordinance 1975" and in this connection another Constitution Amendment Bill should be notified. Constitutional experts said

(repeal) Bill notified by the Awami League on July 4 in no way carried any sense.

Some of the experts said that the Awami League could also file a case in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court demanding the declaration of the Indemnity Ordinance ultravires

lodged any case demanding the repeal of the Ordinance.

From Page 1 Col. 5 jail and then they would sit with Ershad to decide whether they would vote for the amendment bills or not.

Meanwhile. Government has already told the Jatiya Party leaders that they would take immediate steps to bring Kazi Zafar Ahmed and Sardar Amjad Hossain, who are now in Mymenshingh and Rangpur jails respectively, to the Dhaka Central Jail. The source said, the meet-

ing between JP leader Moudud Ahmed and others with the detained MPs might be held this evening in the Dhaka Central Jail.

may take three days more.

killing, coup and conspiracy.

Although BNP was commit-

ted to the declaration, it did

not initiate any move whatso-

ever to implement the declara-

tion, Hasina said adding the

party even did not discuss the

constitutional amendment bill

at its parliamentary party

Hasina in her lengthy

speech recalled her party's

role after the killing of

President Ziaur Rahman and in

the oust-Ershad movement as

well as her personal initiatives

for setting up a caretaker gov-

ernment headed by Acting

President Justice Shahabuddin

she and her party colleagues

were tortured by the Ershad

regime in Dhaka Cantonment

in 1983, she said "many of us

were not seen on the street in

first to show the constitutional

provision of transfer of power

stood "our desire for cons-

titutional rule against auto-

Hasina claimed she was the

Giving a vivid picture of how

meetings.

Ahmed.

those days".

Constitution.

From Page 1 Col. 5 passed by a two-third majority of the members of Parliament

They opined that the repeal of the Ordinance will require an amendment to the Constitution which should be passed by a two-third majority

tional experts of the Awami League raised questions about the notified bill in the recently concluded extended meeting

League leaders for their ignorance to insert the provision of repealing the Ordinance in the Constitution Amendment Bill notified by the Awami League for a transition to parliamentary democracy.

The Fifth Amendment to

the Constitution which ratified the Martial Law regulations, orders and other laws between August 15, 1975 and the 9th of April 1979 incorporated the Indemnity Ordinance in the They said that the notice

on July 12 recovered US dollar

The customs officials of the surveillance unit at Zia charged by cantonment police for mis-

Cantonment police is continuing investigations into the case. Mohammad Zubair is currently being held at the Dhaka Central Jail.

Hasina wants more time

bill should be discussed thor-

oughly and that all should try

to iron out differences that

She said that a conspiracy

was being hatched to foil the

transition to parliamentary

democracy and referred to

Rules 81 and 82 of the

Constitution which are rele-

vant to move amendment pro-

posals by the members of the

Indemnity (repeal) Bill notified

to the Parliament on July 4

had not yet been introduced

due to 'delaying' tactics of the

BSS should be given autonomy

so that none could run autoc-

racy by using the news agency.

presidential election could be

deferred to facilitate the thor-

ough discussion so that the bill

could be adopted on the basis

of understanding, tolerance

and mutual respect for laying

the foundation for an unalloyed

UNB adds : Referring to

pre-election commitment of

the three alliances to the

November 19 joint declaration.

the Leader of the Opposition

said that they were all commit-

ted to sovereign parliament,

autonomy of radio and televi-

sion, independence of judi-

ciary and end of politics of

parliamentary system.

She further said that the

She further said that the

government.

She again said that the

may give way to autocracy.

the Deputy Leader of the Opposition Abdus Samad Azad said that it would only require the vote of a simple majority of Parliament members.

The Clause states, 'All

proclamations, proclamation orders martial law regulations, martial law orders and other laws are hereby ratified and Here, the 'other laws'

that thus the Indemnity

Ershad had no opportunity to MSI : Yes. Ershad's case there was no

But till date none has

According to parliament source, the passage of the bills may be delayed further and it

reports AP. Frehad's trial

From Page 1 Col. 4

Lisiau

Yousuf Hossain Humayun, Sudhir Kumar Hazra, A R Mollah and Rezaul Karim.

In the cross-examination Major Saiful Alam replied to volleys of questions from Defence Counsel Strajul Haque.

Following are the excerpts:

Sirajul Haque (Defence Lawyer - DL) : Do you know that the shoes mentioned in Item No 14 and the tiger's skin (valued at Taka 25,000) were presented by the Deputy Commissioner of Rangpur ? Major Saiful Islam (MSI) :

gifts valued at above Taka 500 should be deposited to the Toshakhana? MSI: I have nothing to say

DL: Do you know that the

have no knowledge about it.

I was not involved in the fixation of prices. DL: Did you meet Ershad between December 22 and 26

MSI: Yes.

about that.

DL: Would you have any objection if Ershad and his wife see the listed prices of the ar-

(pause): I have no comment on the prices of the articles. DL (making a suggestion):

trace out his personal articles. DL: Is there any scope in the army to give an accused the right to self-defence? In

scope for him to defend himself during the inventory of the articles. MSI: The inventory and pricing were done under civil

done under army rule. DL (suggestion): It is not an evidence of courage that an accused was not given the oppor-

law of the state. It was not

tunity to defend himself. DL: Do you know the law on prisoners-of-war?

MIS: Yes. DL: A prisoner-of-war is asked about the articles that belong to him.

Attorney General: This is an irrelevant question. DL: Do you know about the Geneva Convention regarding

MSI: Yes. DL: There is a law in the Geneva Convention that prisoners-of-war deserve good behaviour.

prisoners- of-war?

MSI : Yes.

Attorney General: Under the Geneva Convention a soldier who has surrendered is treated as a criminal.

DL: Is it an offence that a President tried to know what is happening in and around the country ? MSI: I don't know.

recovered from the Sena Bhavan was kept there to buy an office for the Jatiya Party. MSI: I don't know anything. Later manager of

MSI: I don't know anything

Sirajul Haque: The money

Cantonment Branch of Rupali Bank who was engaged to count the recovered money, deposing before the Court said that Ershad used to maintain an FDR of Taka 10 lakh with the Rupali Bank which was referred to the Bank on February 1, 1987. The FDR was for a nine-year

Another prosecution witness Mohammad Shafiqullah, commanding officer of the Armed Police Battalion, also deposed before the Court. He said that the detention

order was served by the police

in his presence on December 12, 1990. The Defence lawyer asked him whether the detention order mentioned the place Ershad would be taken. The

prosecution witness replied in the negative. The court will resume on

August 7 at 11 am. Govt employees

From Page 1 Col. 7 meet their demands by August 10, further action programmes would be taken up.

Class three and four employees of Audit and Accounts department observed a daylong strike in support of the three point demand of Bangladesh Sarkari Karmachari Sanghati Parishad, a press release said.

In this connection, the employees also held a protest rally and brought out a procession. Md. Shahajahan Mia, Vice President of the Audit Council, presided over the rally.

Md. Adil Uddin, Sultan Ahmed Khandaker, Saiful Islam, Kajem Uddin, Fazlur Rahman and Jafar Ullah were, among others, addressed the rally. UNB adds from Rangpur:

by Ershad on the basis of Articles 51 and 55 of Government employees of the district Sunday observed a day-At that time also many long strike as part of a counpolitical parties had tried to trywide programme, demandspread false propaganda about ing implementation of new pay the Awami League position, scales and announcement of she said, but people undernew office timings.

> Employees of the eight upazila offices of the district also observed the strike.

During 10 am to 5 pm strike, employees locked their respective office, including the District Accountant's office. Later, a procession was brought out and a rally held in

the town. UNB report from Satkhira says, all Class III and IV government employees abstained

from work Sunday in response to a call by Bangladesh Sarkari Karmachari Sanghati Parishad. They will observe one hour

work abstention from today till August 10 to press for their three-point demand. BSS adds from Khulna

Government employees in Khulna stayed away from offices Sunday in response to a call given by their central organisation for work stoppage to press home their threepoint demands, including announcement of national pay scale.

As per local programme,

the employees brought out a

procession which paraded the city thorough fares shouting various slogans in favour of their demands.

No untoward incident was reported.

No. 88-02-863035. GPO Box No. 3257 GRAM: DAILY STAR, DHAKA.