

# Historic March

March 21, 1971



## People's Movement Passes 20th Day 'Prepare Yourselves in Every House', Bangabandhu

**S**HEIKH MUJIBUR RAHMAN asserted on Sunday that the movement would continue till the demands of the people were realised.

### Tells Demonstrators

The teachers of Dacca University, Engineering University, East Pakistan Government Secondary School Teachers' Association on Sunday jointly held a rally before the Baitul Mukarram. After the meeting they brought out a procession.

The Bikkhubda Shilpee Goshhi held their third musical programme at Central Shaheed Minar. They reiterated solidarity with the people.

The Dacca Municipal Vaccinators' Association also brought out a procession and went to the house of Mujib and expressed their confidence in the leadership of the AL.

All Pakistan Engineering Supervisors' Association also held a meeting at the Telephone House to register their support to the people's movement.

Purba Bangla Life Insurance workers held a rally before the Baitul Mukarram in the morning. They urged the President to accept the demands of the Sheikh which reflected wish of the people of Bangladesh.

Pakistan Medical Samity, the National Awami Party and Awami League Women's branch also met on Sunday. Nabiganj Union AL organised a boat procession by the ladies. The members of the Homeopathic Pharmaceutical Association also held a rally at Baitul Mukarram.

### Civil Aviation Officers' Support

APP adds: The Executive Committee of the Civil Aviation Officers' Association of Bangladesh in a meeting expressed its solidarity with the present non-violent non-cooperation movement launched by Sheikh Mujibur Rahman for the emancipation of Bangladesh from exploitation by the colonial vested interest of West Pakistan.

Meetings, rallies and processions continue to be the high rights of the day. They renewed their pledge to continue struggle for realising the rights of people of Bangladesh. They also expressed their solidarity with the people's

The meeting condemned activities of a few non-local officers of Civil Aviation Department in defiance of the clear directives from Sheikh Mujib so as to facilitate the limited movement of internal flights some of which were used for the import of troops.

The meeting also condemned the illegal occupation of the civil airport terminal building and other associated installations by the troops and unwarranted harassment of Bangalee people in and around the airport areas.

Pakistan Observer, March 22, 1971

### Women's Rally

DAULATPUR, Mar 19: In protest against killing of the innocent people of Bangladesh



Bhutto and body guard in hotel room. Outside, the people's placards read, "No Pakistan, We Want Bangladesh", "Bhutto the Killer of Democracy".

a procession was brought out from the local college by the women and girl students of Daulatpur on March 19.

Early in the morning the processionists assembled at the Shaheed Minar of the college carrying the banners inscribed with various slogans and took an oath led by Mrs. Aref Ahmed to carry on people's struggle under all circumstances.

Afterwards they paraded the main roads of the town and raised slogans in support of the demands of the people of Bangladesh.

The Pakistan Observer, March 22, 1971

**Media Flashback**  
Compiled by Ekram Kabir, Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury and Dipak Kumar Karmakar

### Journalists Could Not Wear Badges

LAST SUNDAY, the journalists who went to Tejgaon airport on the occasion of Pakistan People's Party Chief Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's arrival, were not allowed to put on black badges.

Sangbad Monday, March 22.

## Bhutto in Dhaka, Meets Yahya Behind Closed Doors

**S**HEIKH MUJIBUR RAHMAN and Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto had talks with President General Yahya Khan on Sunday separately. Both the meetings were unscheduled.

Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto had two hours long talks with President Yahya Khan on Sunday evening immediately after his arrival in Dacca. "Every thing will be alright" was his cryptic comment to newsmen on his return to his hotel from the President Bhaban. Mr. Bhutto repeated the comment.

Escorted by an army jeep and followed by a lorry full of troops Mr Bhutto's car entered

into the President Bhaban at 7-10 pm and came out at 9-15 pm.

Mr Bhutto had no advisers with him when he went to the President Bhaban. No traffic was allowed in the roads around the President Bhaban while the talks were on.

Mr Bhutto went into a closed door meeting with his partymen after coming back to the hotel. The meeting was continuing till the writing of this report at 11-30 pm.

No newsmen were granted any interview at the hotel. A spokesman of the PPP told me on Sunday evening that Mr Bhutto would not see anybody now.

Sheikh Mujib was scheduled to meet the President, according to his previous announcement, on Monday morning.

Mujib met the President on Sunday morning at the President Bhaban. Sheikh Mujib was accompanied by the General Secretary of his party Tajuddin Ahmed, while the President had no aide with him. The talks lasted for about seventy minutes.

The Awami League Chief had a brief session with his party High Command before he left his Dhanmondi residence at 10:45 am for talks with the President.

Later, after his return from the President Bhaban, Sheikh Mujib told the waiting newsmen at his residence that he had been to President Bhaban for 'certain clarifications' connected with his earlier discussions. "It was nothing surprising, the Sheikh replied with a smile when a correspondent suggested that his meeting with the President was quite a surprise. He told the newsmen that he might call on the President any time today (Monday).

The West Pakistani leaders who are in Dacca are also having group discussions amongst themselves. And the leaders who have already met President Yahya are communicating the views of the President on the present situa-

tion to those leaders who are yet to call on him. Pakistan Observer, March 22, 1971

### Mozaffar in Workers Committee

A MEETING of the National Awami Party (NAP) of Dhaka city unit was held at its provincial office last Sunday, at 6 pm.

Chaired by Qazi Idris, the meeting was NAP Chief Professor Mozaffar Ahmed addressed the meeting in the presence of a large number of NAP union committee members.

He firmly declared that the movement for people's liberation, financial demands and right, would be carried on under any circumstances. Progressive organization, NAP, are always in favour of the movement to realize the hope and aspirations of the people — peasants, labourers, middle-class people, intellectuals, i.e., all classes of people. They will establish an independent Bengal free from oppression. He urged people to struggle hard to achieve freedom.

The meeting discussed the activities of NAP action committees in the different unions of the city. The meeting also decided to make freedom-fighters, and hold meeting in the unions of Dhaka city. —Sangbad, Monday, March 22

### Form a Government under Mujib Says Bhasani

CHITTAGONG, March 21: "After the infinite torture of past 23 years, Bengalees are now united. No force can suppress their Liberation movement." Maulana Bhasani said while addressing a large meeting today at the local polo ground.

He called upon America, Russia, China, India and other countries to recognise the national government of Bengal. —Sangbad March 22, 1971

## Feature Science and Technology

### Satellite Beams Medical Data in Africa

Allan Thompson writes from Toronto

A new health satellite project will help doctors and academics in the South to get access to vital medical information and to communicate better with their counterparts in other developing countries.

Through the Healthnet satellite network, information from libraries, hospitals and universities in the industrialised countries will be beamed directly to medical research facilities and hospitals in the South.

Right now, because of the lack of foreign exchange, it is often extraordinarily expensive to receive the latest medical information in countries like Zambia, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

Because of limited resources, the University of Zambia was forced a decade ago to cancel all its subscriptions to medical journals. In Tanzania, it can cost equivalent of two-thirds of a week's salary for a doctor to send a fax message, and nearly as much to receive one. And telephone and mail service is often poor. In Uganda, where an estimated 24 per cent of the population is HIV positive, current information about the Aids-causing virus is scarce.

Healthnet hopes to ease communication between doctors in Africa. Its organisers say innovative use of satellite technology will help them receive journal articles and communicate with medical centres around the world.

The Healthnet project was begun by Satelife, a United States-based international non-profit agency.

Satelife was conceived by the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in a reaction to President Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative known as Star Wars. It got off the ground in 1989.

Last July, Satelife's low-earth orbit satellite was launched to transmit information and receive messages from ground stations based at medical institutions in the developing world.

Said Julia Royall, deputy director of Satelife: "The idea is to facilitate transmission of medical information in Third

World countries, for doctors to enhance communication not only with each other, but with colleagues in the rest of the world."

The satellite, no bigger than a beachball, revolves around the earth at an 800 km orbit twice a day. It is currently operating on an experimental basis and official transmission began in late February.

Initially, ground stations have been set up in six countries: Zambia, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Each has an IBM-compatible computer, a type of ham radio and a modem to connect the computer and radio.

The satellite sends and re-

ceives messages using radio waves. Its continuous signal is picked up by the radio attached to the computer. Once the signal is recognised, a message transfer takes place at the ground station. The information can either be stored in the station's computer, or printed out.

Said William Sangiwa, computer programmer from the University of Dar es Salaam, who will operate the ground station in Tanzania: "Just sending a fax from here costs 5,000 Tanzanian shillings (about \$35) when a doctor makes \$50 a week." He added: "It was quite impossible for academics to get quick information. Even receiving it is expensive."

The only communication available was from North to South, with little input from the receiving end. Now doctors and academics will be able to make requests for specific information from libraries and university databases.

Sangiwa's station, for example, has established an information-sharing arrangement with Massachusetts General, Johns Hopkins Hospital and Massachusetts Library. Sangiwa said: "It gives us access to information that we can hardly get now."

The satellite stays within range of each ground station for about 15 minutes, transmitting a page every second. It can deliver about 50,000 pages of electronic mail each month to Africa. Included in the transmissions will be literature from the New England Journal of Medicine, which is donating its articles for the project.

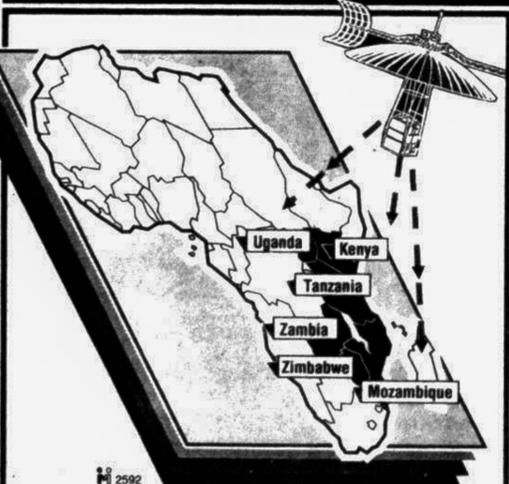
Satelife does not own the satellite; it bought the operating capacity from Survey Satellite Technology, the British company that launched it into orbit.

The cost of the ground stations — about \$7,500 each for the experimental stage — has been covered by such sources as the McArthur and Rockefeller foundations in the US. Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) has helped by buying 10 per cent of the satellite's air time.

Said David Nostbakken, IDRC director of communication: "The primary importance of this innovation is South-South communication which is otherwise difficult, if not impossible to undertake. Empowerment through knowledge is the purpose."

There have already been twinning arrangements between some libraries in Canada and Zambia, for example. And the Aids Network, a group established in east Africa to help spread information about the disease, will also be able to make use of the satellite. The World Health Organisation, too, has expressed interest in getting involved with the network.

### Healthnet: sharing medical knowhow



	Pop (1989)	Pop per doctor (1984)	Health expenditure (as% of GNP) 1986
Zambia	7.8m	7,150	1.2
Zimbabwe	9.5m	6,700	2.9
Tanzania	23.8m	26,200	1.2
Kenya	24m	9,970	1.7
Uganda	16.8m	21,900	0.2
Mozambique	15.3m	37,960	1.8

Source: Human Development Report, World Bank

### Cruise Ships Attract New Generation

by Jean Chabrier

PLEASURE cruises as we know them today hardly existed. They only appeared between the two wars and even then the ships only followed the regular lines across the oceans. The era of four-engined aircraft dealt a fatal blow to all shipping and, apart from a few exceptions, liners disappeared between 1960 and 1970 as they were far too expensive and unprofitable to run.

However, some clever people came to the conclusion that if boats could in no way compete with aircraft from the point of view of cost and speed, the latter could in no way rival the numerous pleasures of life on board ship, the joys of sailing to distant horizons or among islands illustrated in so many adventure books.

From 1980, American and Scandinavian tour-operators planned for the development of the market for cruises and the enthusiasm it would arouse among well-off customers. An example of this is the purchase and refurbishment of the former "Le France" liner by Norwegians. The liner was refurbished with a view to economy and it was intended strictly for cruising. But it was a makeshift transformation and something new needed to be found.

Thus the idea of a cruise liner powered by the cheapest form of energy there is, wind-power, was born. J. C. Potier, formerly of the Compagnie Generale Transatlantique, was asked to develop a ship with sails, for 200 passengers. He, in turn, contacted the Chantiers du Havre shipyards, which have a hundred years of reputation behind them and whose latest achievement had been the construction of Captain Cousteau's turbosail boat, the "Alcyon".

The first design was for "Wind," a four-masted ship with 2,000 m<sup>2</sup> of sails, a hull 134 metres long for 148 passengers and a 5,000 h.p. auxiliary engine. As a comparison, a traditional liner of that size would have accommodated 600 passengers, which gives an immediate idea of the space and luxury available for each passenger. In the same vein, the "Wind" boats have one crew member (hotel services, entertainment, cooking, etc.) for every two passengers.

At the end of last century, liners were little more than a means of transport, the only one existing at the time to join two continents. The passengers, businessmen, civil servants or people in the army on their way to take up posts abroad, or else poor immigrants, took advantage of the luxury offered them, according to their means, and had the added excitement of sailing on the seas.

The sailing crew is reduced to fewer than twenty men: 250 sensors permanently inform the on-board computers of the direction and strength of the winds and give an answer within a 1/30th of a second. The sails take on the most favourable position. Hydraulic pulleys unfurl or reduce their surface. Tons of water move around in the ballast tank, ensuring a list of less than 5 which means that the ship is always perfectly posed and so are the passengers.

If, for some extraordinary reason, the electronics should break down, the sails would roll up themselves in less than a minute and the engines would come into operation. The boat only has a draught of four metres which means that it would be able to wind its way through shallow passages and draw closer to interesting sites or ones which are difficult to

reach. The average speed would be between 8 and 10 knots.

Since October 1986 the "Wind Star", since April 1987 the "Wind Song" and, since March 1988 the "Wind Spirit" have been in service without a hitch. The ship-owners have made a profit and are ordering two more.

Encouraged by this experience, the owner of "Club Mediterranee", the oldest tour operator in France, also ordered a ship of this kind, "Club Med One". It is of the same design and has the same purpose, but this time, the shipyards in Le Havre worked on a slightly larger scale, building a ship with five masts, 50 metres high with 2,500 m<sup>2</sup> of sails. It is 187 metres long and has a draught of 5 metres.

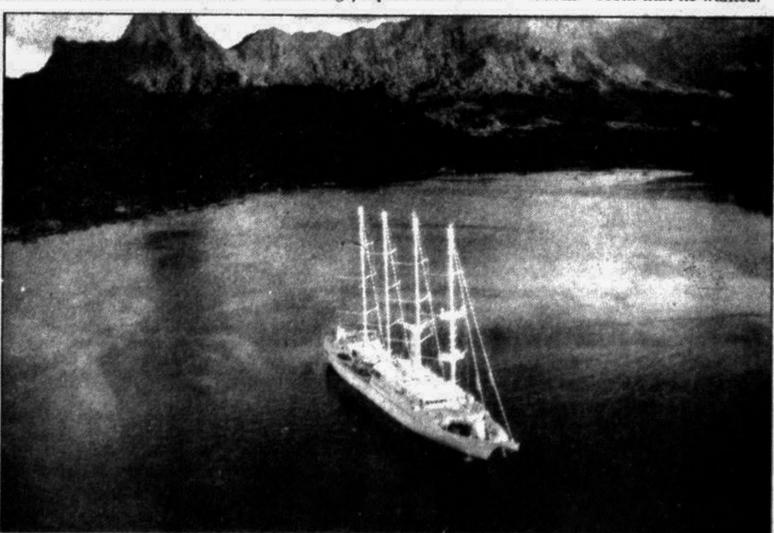
There is one member of staff to every three passengers. Its sailing properties and reli-

ability are also satisfactory as, in January 1990, in a storm in the Bay of Biscay, it went faster than 13 knots using its sail-power alone. It is such a success that it is already fully booked and "Club Med Two" was to be launched on 12th July.

It should be pointed out that this essentially French technology and the irreplaceable work of the Chantiers du Havre shipyards are arousing great interest and covetousness, particularly the famous CEYX-13 computer programme (exclusively owned by the shipyard).

One can imagine the work it carries out by moving 80 tonnes of water in the ballast tanks from one place to another, as soon as the wind becomes stronger or the sea rough.

Another great achievement is in naval architecture. The ship-owner wanted a large 600m<sup>2</sup> room to encourage conviviality. This meant that one of the masts could not be fixed into the deck. Using a very clever technique and despite its height of 50 metres and the 260 tonnes of pressure, coming from the sail, which it can withstand without failing, the mast simply stands on the deck. So Gilbert Trigarn managed to have the 600m<sup>2</sup> room that he wanted.



Another great achievement in naval architecture (L'Actuelle en France)