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NEWS BRIEFS

Dhaka welcomes IRA declaration

Bangladesh has welcomed the IRA (Irish Republican Army) declaration for a 'complete cessation of military operations' in Northern Ireland beginning August 31. The government considers this move of the IRA as a 'stepping-stone' in the long road to peace and final settlement in the violence-torn Northern Ireland. The Foreign Ministry said yesterday, reports UNB.

Hartal observed in Manikganj

MANIGANJ, Sept 1: An eight-hour hartal was observed in the town today demanding the demolition of an embankment the local people alleged was 'causing damage to crops' in Sadar and Singair thanas. All shops, schools and colleges remained closed during the hartal called by an all-party Nayakandi Embankment Removal Action Committee, reports UNB.

Five killed in Somalia

NAIROBI, Sept 1: A Swiss journalist and four Somalis have been killed in fighting in southern Somalia. A UN operation in Somalia (Unosom) spokesman announced today. Major Zubair Chanda told AFP by telephone from the Somali capital, Mogadishu, that Swiss journalist Pierre Anceaux and four Somalis died today during inter-clan fighting in the Somali town of Baule, located between the southern port of Kismayo and the town of Bardera.

Fresh gunbattle at DU

Student hit by tear gas shell dies

By DU Correspondent

A student of the Dhaka University was killed when struck by a tear gas shell on the campus yesterday.

Police lobbed the shells and fired rubber bullets to disperse activists of two rival student bodies locked in a gunbattle which left six others injured.

Kamrul Islam Bulbul, an MA final year student of the Library Science department, was fatally injured when a tear gas

shell hit him in the neck in front of the DU Central Library at about 12:30 pm, witnesses said.

He was rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where he was declared dead.

About 100 shots were fired during an hour-long clash between the pro-Awami League Chhatra League (M-L) and the JSD-backed BCL (B-K) which

began at 11:55 am.

Yesterday's fight was a sequel to a conflict between the two Chhatra Leagues, following an alleged assault on four activists of the BCL (B-K) Monday.

One of yesterday's injured, Rezaul Huq, was admitted to the DMCH with a bullet injury in his leg. The others are Rafiqul Islam, Mir Kanti Ghosal, Kazi Musa Kalimullah, Jahangir Kabir Kamal and Mahbub Faruk.

The trouble began when

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DU classes postponed for 3 days

By DU Correspondent

The Dhaka University authorities have postponed all classes from September 3 (Saturday) to September 5 (Monday) in the wake of yesterday's violence on the campus.

However, all examinations will be held on schedule and different offices in the university function normally.

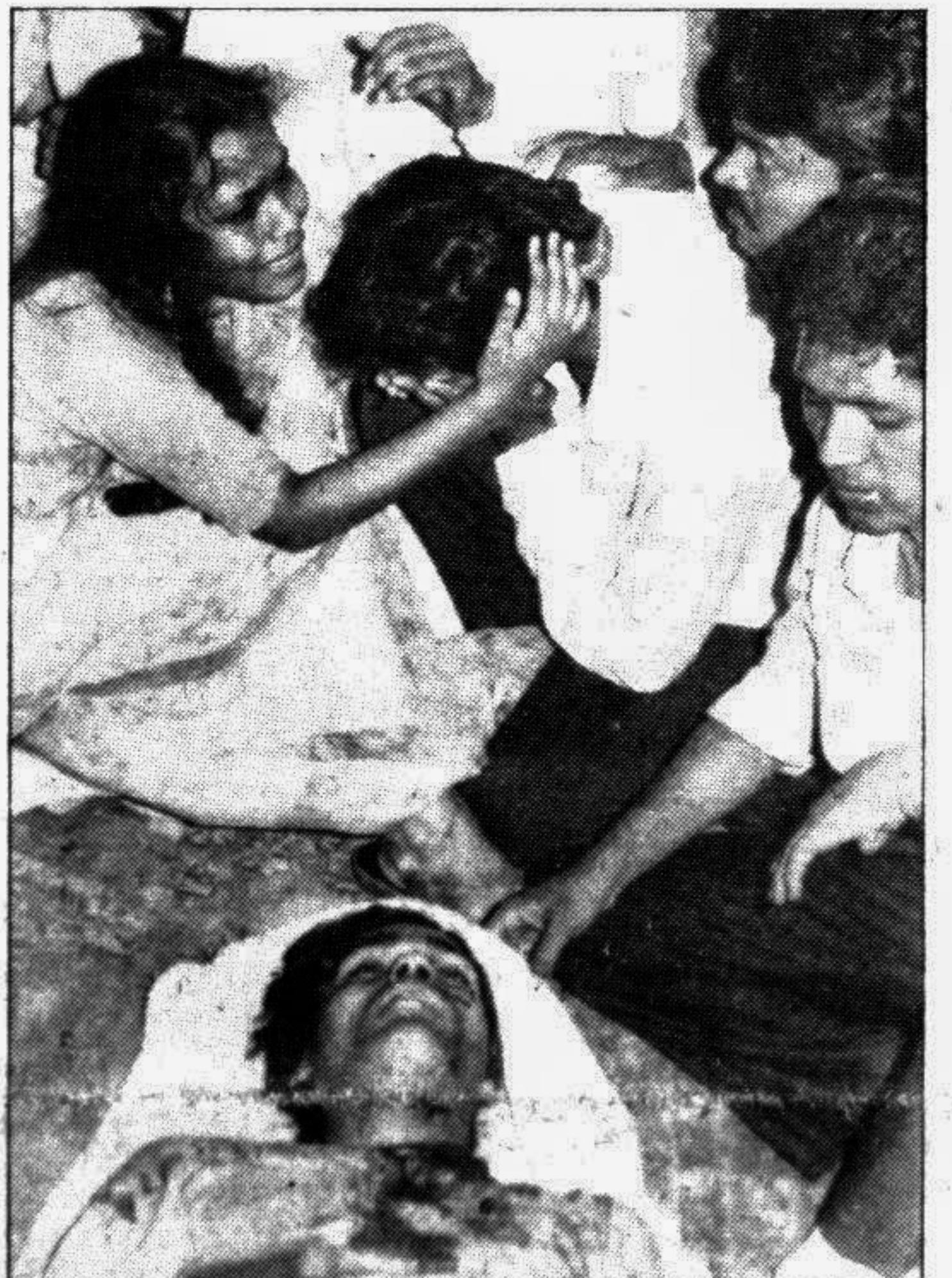
The DU Syndicate at an emergency meeting yesterday also formed a five-man committee to investigate the incidents that occurred Tuesday and yesterday.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Emajuddin Ahmed, presided over the Syndicate meeting held at his official residence.

The Syndicate condemned the terrorist activities and urged the law enforcing authorities to arrest the persons involved in the incidents that had happened since last Monday.

The five-member committee headed by Professor Monirul Huq includes Barrister Mainul Hosein, Dr. Md. Anwar

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Mourners wailing near the body of Kamrul Islam Bulbul, an MA final year student killed by a police tear gas shell on the Dhaka University campus yesterday. — Star photo

WB suggests major reforms in BWDB

By Special Correspondent

A World Bank mission has recommended major reforms in the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) to improve its efficiency.

The three-member mission's findings and recommendations were discussed in a wrap-up meeting with the high officials of the Ministry of Irrigation and Water Development last Sunday and recorded in the aide-memoire.

The mission's suggestions, along with an action plan, are subject to review at the IDA headquarters in Washington shortly. The implementation of the plan will begin after approval of the government.

Sources concerned said the World Bank (WB) will fund two big projects of the Water Board if the proposed action pro-

gramme yields positive results within three or four months of its initiation.

The projects for which the WB is likely to provide funds worth 160 million US dollars are the Coastal Embankment Project and the River Bank Protection Project.

The reforms proposed in the aide-memoire include seven main elements along with benchmarks for 60 tasks to be completed by December 1996.

The WB mission, which spent 11 days in the country last month, recommended separation of the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) and the implementation wings of the BWDB to ensure better management of the con-

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Soccer fans go on rampage

By Staff Correspondent

Frenzied soccer fans went on the rampage in and outside the Dhaka Stadium damaging several vehicles and injuring scores of people yesterday evening.

The vandalism followed a 0-1 defeat for the defending champions Mohammedan Sporting Club at the hands of Brothers Union in a crucial Star Premier League fixture.

Witnesses said the trouble began inside the stadium moments before the final whistle and spread outside, forcing all nearby markets to pull their

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Ex-commander tells press

India using Shantibahini as pressure group

He named nine places in India that were being used by the activists of the Shantibahini as their sanctuaries and hiding places. These

ers have received training from Deradun to my knowledge," Tridip told a questioner.

Priti Kumar Chakma and Bhabatosh Dewan who led the plot which killed Manobendra Larma, were living a secure life under the protection of 'RAW' in Tripura, he said.

Tridip said that the activities of Shantibahini were facing collapse because of nepotism and corruption of Jana Sangat leader Shanto Larma.

The former guerilla commander, who was posted in Maini-Dighinala sector, informed that acts of insurgency and sabotage carried by the members of the Shantibahini created a state of terror in the region that forced the tribals to cross the border.

He observed that the elements who have been carrying out acts of sabotage in the hill region were neither the friends of the people nor the country. Their number is very

Some of the guerilla fight-

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