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# The Daily Star

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**Inside Today**  
**Article**

**Aryan—Dravidian Synthesis: Fear or Hope?**  
 Column: Enchiridion by Waliur Rahman

**Ershad's Last Address-II**  
 by Maj Gen (Retd) Manzur Rashid Khan  
 Page 4

**Focus**  
**Agroforestry: Enhancing ecological sustainability, human rights—looking at our own perspective, and 'Prince of Death' prepares for another assault**  
 Page 5

**International**  
**Afghan jets bomb major Taliban base**  
**Israel hands over Tulkarm town to Palestinians**  
 Page 8

**Business**  
**Ten major Asian economies likely to grow by 7.4 pc in '96**  
**Bosnia needs \$4.9 b to rebuild economy, WB report says under Republican pressure**  
 Pages 6, 7

**Metropolitan**  
**Dhaka Day by Day**

**Friend Mamus and their mini shops**  
 Page 3

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Rickshaws to ply from 3 pm today**  
 Rickshaws in the city and elsewhere of the country will be allowed to ply from 3 pm today, the last day of the 72-hour hartal, reports UNB.

**Biman's Barisal flight Tuesday**  
 From Staff Correspondent  
**BARISAL, Dec 10:** The first flight of Biman Bangladesh Airlines between Dhaka and Barisal has been cancelled today. However, Biman will operate today's flight on Tuesday at 9:45 am, said the deputy manager of Biman, Barisal Branch.

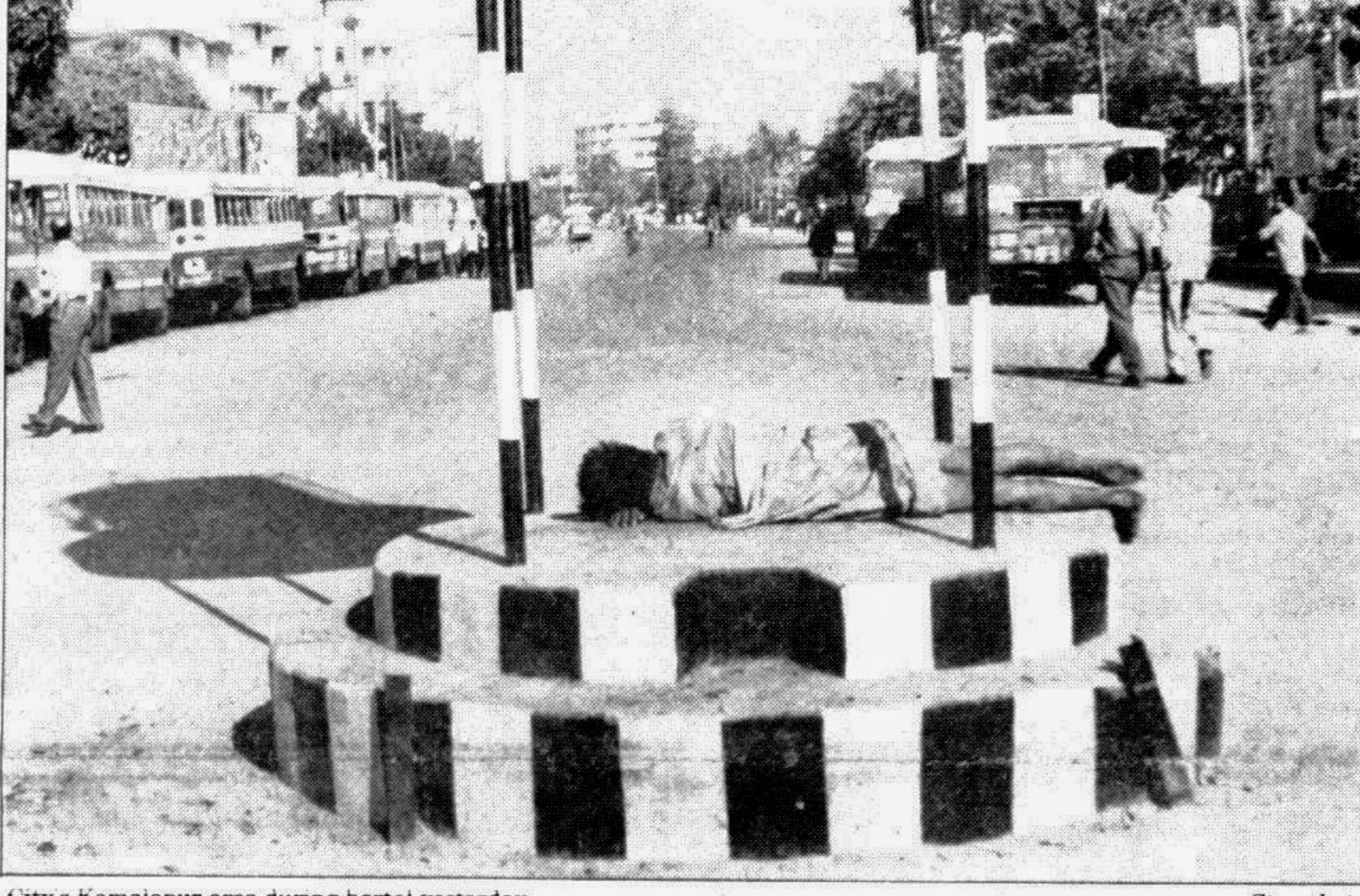
**City BNP meets today**  
 An emergency meeting of the presidents and the general secretaries of all the thana committees of BNP under the Dhaka metropolitan city will be held at the party's central office here today at 6 pm, reports BSS.

**IU convocation postponed**  
**JHENIDAH, Dec 10:** The second convocation of the Islamic University, Kushtia, scheduled for Tuesday, has been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances. Officials said Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, who was scheduled to be present at the function as chief guest, will not be able to attend it as she was suffering from sore throat. The university authorities at an emergency meeting today decided to postpone the convocation. The first convocation of the university was held in 1993, reports UNB.

**Shibir, police clash on campus**

**CMC closed sine die: 100 held, 30 hurt**

From Staff Correspondent  
**CHITTAGONG, Dec 10:** The Chittagong Medical College was closed sine die after at least 30 persons were injured and over 100 arrested during a clash between police and Islami Chhatra Shibir activists on the campus today.  
 Police went into action to avert an impending clash between Shibir and Chhatra Dal activists as explosion of bombs by them rocked the college campus, students hostels and the hospital. None was however injured in the bomb explosions.  
 Tension had been prevailing on the campus for about a week over holding of the students' union polls on December 26. JCD and its allies were for the polls on schedule but the Shibir was opposing it. The rival groups were holding demonstrations since morning today.  
 The Academic Council of the college at an emergency meeting at about 5 pm decided to close the college sine die and asked the resident students to vacate hostels by 8 pm to night. Foreign and female students were given time until December 12.  
 A large contingent of 250 police men cracked down on the campus and hostels at about 1-30 pm. The demonstrators led by Shibir who opposed the election pelted brick-bats when police resorted to lathicharge to disperse them. At one stage they dispersed and then police raided the college hostels.  
 Police also recovered some See Page 12 Col 1



City's Kamaiapur area during hartal yesterday. — Star photo

**Directive to deposit illegal arms by December 20**

The government has directed the manufacturers, possessors and users of all kinds of illegal arms and explosives and its ingredients to deposit those to the nearest police stations by December 20, reports BSS.  
 A Home Ministry press release issued yesterday said that no action would be taken against those who would deposit their unauthorised arms, explosives and ingredients within the stipulated time. Stern action would be taken against those who would fail to deposit their illegal and unauthorised arms, weapons and explosives before the expiry of the deadline, the press release See Page 12 Col 2

**CEC tells The Daily Star Polls date can't be refixed beyond Feb 22 deadline**

By Morshed Ali Khan  
 The Election Commission (EC) will refix the schedule for the general elections if all the major political parties reach a consensus before December 17, the last date for submission of nomination, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Justice A K M Sadeque said yesterday.  
 In an interview with The Daily Star at his office, Justice Sadeque said if the elections are rescheduled, the next date has to be sometime before the February 22 deadline.  
 Parliament was dissolved on November 23.  
 "Constitutional provisions only allow us to hold general elections within 90 days after dissolution of Parliament. So the elections have to be held before the deadline," Justice Sadeque said.  
 Asked why he had announced the election schedule without waiting for a consensus, the CEC said that he did not want to waste time since the EC needed at least two months for printing balline. See Page 12 Col 7

**This day in '71**



By Staff Correspondent  
 Today is December 11 — the day the people of Tangail, Mymensingh, Munshiganj and Jamalpur areas breathed the air of freedom in 1971 after nearly nine months of armed struggle against the Pakistani occupation forces.  
 The day also saw the surrender of hundreds of Pakistani soldiers at Matlab.  
 However, the new-found freedom was bitter-sweet as human casualties were high and the retreating Pakistani soldiers left a trail of destruction.  
 The liberation of Tangail See Page 12 Col 4

**Stray incidents mark second day of hartal**

By Staff Correspondent  
 The Opposition called 72-hour countrywide hartal continued for the second day yesterday, marked by stray clashes, gun shots, cracker explosions, damage of vehicles and putting up barricades on rail tracks.  
 In the city, at least 25 people were injured in clashes and explosions. Police picked up 32 people, 16 each from Dhaka and Narayanganj, for picketing yesterday.  
 Three major opposition political parties — Awami League, Jatiya Party and Jamaat-e-Islami — called the hartal to press their demand for a caretaker government for holding general elections, resignation of the Prime Minister and cancellation of the election schedule announced recently.  
 At least five persons were injured when some activists from a Jamaat rally attacked them with sticks at around 12 noon near Suhrawardy Hospital, witnesses said. See Page 12 Col 4

**Karachi tense as MQM chief's brother, nephew murdered**

**KARACHI, Dec 10:** Paramilitary troops patrolled Karachi's main streets today in an effort to forestall renewed violence following the murders of a powerful opposition leader's brother and nephew, report AP, Reuters.  
 Police late last night discovered the bodies of Nasir Hussain, 62, and Arif Hussain, 28, the brother and nephew of Altaf Hussain, a leading ethnic activist from the opposition Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM).  
 The battered bodies, eyes blindfolded and hands bound, were covered with bruises and had multiple bullet wounds, a police spokesman said. Hussain's family yesterday identified the bodies.  
 The MQM were said today it was extending a general strike to Tuesday in protest.  
 The MQM had originally called for a one-day strike today throughout Sindh.  
 The MQM last week accused police and paramilitary rangers of arresting the two men in raids on their home in central Karachi. The security forces denied that they had been detained.  
 After the bodies were identified, MQM leaders in Karachi accused the govern-

**Ctg EC office fire: 6 held**

From Staff Correspondent  
**CHITTAGONG, Dec 10:** Police in a raid last night arrested six persons in connection with yesterday's fire incident at Chittagong Election Commission office.  
 The arrested were identified as Tutul Chandra Dey, Biraj Mitra, Abdul Hamid, Manman Sarkar, Abul Kasem and Amir Hossain.  
 Police said they were sent to jail from court this morning. See Page 12 Col 6

**A Public protest**

By Staff Correspondent  
 Some war-injured freedom fighters, who protested the use of loud speakers at a rally near their rest house at College Gate in the city yesterday, were attacked allegedly by activists of Jamaat-e-Islami.  
 Jamaat was holding a rally in front of the Suhrawardy Hospital, opposite the Mukti-joddha Kalyan-Trust-run rest house, at around noon.  
 At least five persons including a freedom fighter, Abu Shahid Billah Bakul, were injured when Jamaat activists See Page 12 Col 6

**Bombs hurled at Nasim's house**

By Staff Correspondent  
 Two unidentified youths hurled two bombs at the residence of Awami League leader Mohammad Nasim at Dhanmondi last night. However, none was injured in the explosion.  
 Nasim's son Tamal told this correspondent that their guard from a nearby shop saw the youths hurling the bombs inside the boundary walls of the house at See Page 12 Col 2

**ADB okays 6 projects till Nov this year**

By Govinda Shil  
 The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved six projects in the agriculture, social infrastructure and education sectors in the country this year till November, involving loans and assistance of Taka 432 crore.  
 The newly approved projects will help sustainable development of agriculture in selected rural areas and social infrastructure, education and housing in selected urban areas, according to the November issue of "ADB Business Opportunities".  
 The projects are: Small-scale Water Resources Development Sector, Non-Formal Education, Secondary Towns Infrastructure Development II, Third Livestock Development, Urban Poverty Reduction and Urban Primary Health Care.  
 The ADB is likely to sanction another Tk 280 crore for the Jamuna Bridge Access Road (JBAR) project soon. The project was enlisted with the ADB last month.  
 The total cost of the JBAR project has been estimated at Tk 880 crore of which the share of foreign exchange will be Tk 352 crore.  
 An ADB fact-finding mission for the proposed JBAR project will visit Bangladesh soon.  
 The ADB has approved 'advance action' for pre-qualification of contractors and tendering of the contracts for civil works to facilitate timely implementation of the projects, the ADB bulletin said.  
 The JBAR project work includes development of 98 kilometres of highway in Dhaka-Tangail section, 168 kms in Dhaka-Daudkandi-Feni-Chittagong-Cox's Bazar section and 6 kms by-pass road in Tangail.  
 The ADB has also taken a technical assistance project on "Financing Health Services" that would cost Tk 1.60 crore approximately.  
 The 128 crore taka ADB-funded Small-scale Water Resources Development Sector project aims at supplementing the income of about 140000 landless and marginal farmers through increasing agricultural production.  
 The Non-formal Education project which will cost Tk 120 crore approximately, is to strengthen the capacity of the Primary and Mass Education. See Page 12 Col 7

**AL to reply to Emeka's letter soon**

By Staff Correspondent  
 The Awami League is likely to reply, within a couple of days, to Cominogweh's Secretary General Chief Emeka Anyakou's letter to party chief Sheikh Hasina, sources said yesterday.  
 The Commonwealth Secretary General, who had initiated a negotiation process between the ruling BNP and the opposition Awami League through Sir Ninian Stephen, is learnt to have faxed two letters to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and Sheikh Hasina on Friday.  
 Top leaders of the Awami League confirmed receipt of the letter. See Page 12 Col 6

**Poster size for polls campaign**

The Election Commission (EC) yesterday said that no posters beyond the size of 12 inches by 10 inches could be printed by any candidate intending to contest the forthcoming parliamentary polls, reports BSS.  
 The commission, quoting Articles 73 and 44 of the Representation of People Order-1972 and the Code of Conduct for political parties and candidates, also prohibited the use of all kinds of imported paper for printing posters and leaflets.  
 It has also banned wall writings in favour of individual candidates and use of multi-colour posters.  
 The EC, in a press release, directed all printing presses and organisations to refrain from publishing posters other than those prescribed by the Commission.  
 It warned that legal measures would be taken against See Page 12 Col 1

**Palestinians take control of another town**

**HEBRON, West Bank, Dec 10:** A first contingent of 13 PLO policemen arrived in Hebron today to open a liaison office with Israel under a deal expanding Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank, witnesses said, reports Reuter.  
 They said about 100 residents waving Palestinian flags and holding posters with pictures of PLO head Yasser Arafat greeted the policemen at the office set up in an industrial area in the south of the West Bank city.  
 Earlier today, the Palestinian self rule authority took full control of the northern West Bank town of Tulkarm when the last Israeli troops withdrew from it. See also Page 8

**Charles bares his soul to Diana's psychiatrist**

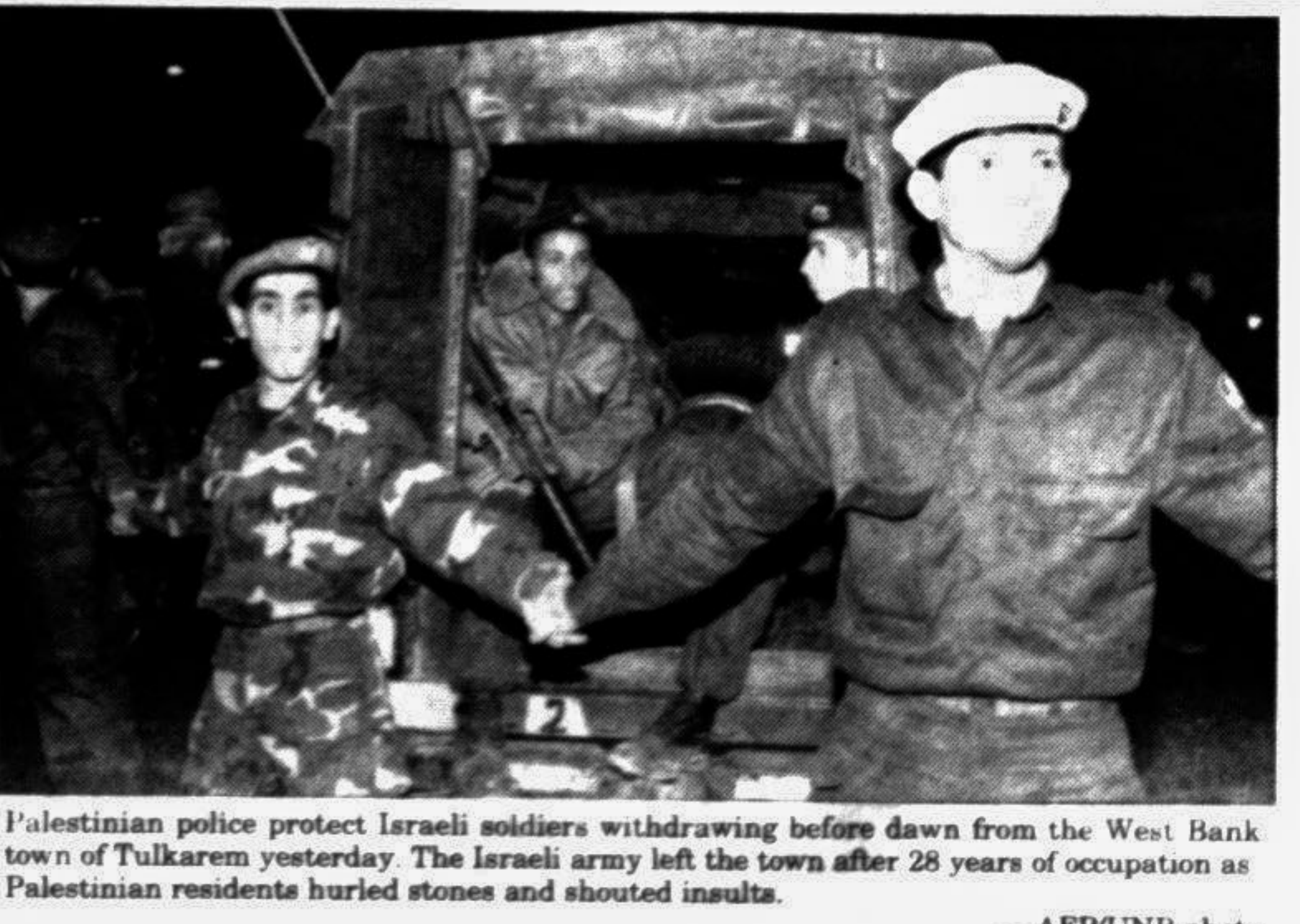
**LONDON, Dec 10:** Royal heir Prince Charles has consulted a psychiatrist who formerly treated his estranged wife Princess Diana, British newspapers reported today, says Reuter.  
 It was the latest revelation in a long-running dysfunctional marriage, marked by televised confessions of adultery by each party and books replete with current psychobabble.  
 The ill-matched Charles and Diana, who seem locked in a "Dallas"-type soap opera, have each now bared their troubled souls to the same expert on dreams.  
 Newspapers with headlines like "Charles sees a shrink" said he made a secret visit to a top psychoanalyst. See Page 12 Col 8



Prince Charles

**BNP procession against terrorism tomorrow**

The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) will bring out a procession against anarchy and terrorism tomorrow, reports BSS.  
 The decision was taken yesterday at a joint meeting at the central office of the BNP with Standing Committee member Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia in the chair.  
 The meeting was attended by the central leaders of the BNP and its front organisations and the leaders of the city unit.  
 The procession will be brought out from the Jatiya Press Club at 10 am.  
 Barrister Abdus Salam Talukdar, secretary general of the BNP, has requested leaders and workers at all levels to take part in the procession.



Palestinian police protect Israeli soldiers withdrawing before dawn from the West Bank town of Tulkarm yesterday. The Israeli army left the town after 28 years of occupation as Palestinian residents hurled stones and shouted insults. — AFP/UNB photo