

Private security deployed at cantt residence of Khaleda

By Staff Correspondent

An 18-member private security force was deployed at the Cantonment residence of the Leader of the Opposition in parliament and BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday.

The new security force was arranged by BNP following the withdrawal of 18 members of the Armed Police Battalion and deployment of a six-member DMP police team on Tuesday, party sources said.

The new securitymen, hired from a private security company, will guard Begum Zia's private house in three shifts (six in each shift), they added.

The Leader of the Opposition uses her official residence at 29, Minto Road, for party activi-

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PCJSS proposes next round of talks from July 14

KHAGRACHHARI, June 18: Parbatya Chattogram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) has proposed to hold the next round of peace talks on CHT in Dhaka from July 14, reports UNB.

Officials said Hangsadhaja Chakma, convenor of Joga Jogi Committee, which maintains liaison with the government and the PCJSS, handed over a letter in this regard to the government here today.

The PCJSS was learnt to have agreed to extend the truce in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) up to September 30. The ongoing ceasefire expires on June 30.

New 10-taka note to have portrait of Bangabandhu

By Staff Correspondent

The government has decided to issue a new ten taka bank note with the portrait of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman inscribed on it, finance minister Sams Kibria told the Jatiya Sangsad yesterday.

In reply to a question by Awami League MP Shamsur Rahman Sharif, the minister said, the picture of Bangabandhu would be inscribed on one side and that of the Lalbagh

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শেয়ার বাজারে

বিনিয়োগ সম্পর্কিত কতিপয় পরামর্শ

সিকিউরিটি ক্ষয় বিক্রয় কালে ষ্টক-ডিলার বা ষ্টক-ব্রোকার বা তাদের প্রতিনিধিকে নিয়িতভাবে ক্ষয়/বিক্রয় আদেশ প্রদান করবেন। ষ্টক-ডিলার বা ষ্টক-ব্রোকার ক্ষয়-বিক্রয় শেষ হওয়ার ২৪ ঘণ্টার মধ্যে বিনিয়োগকারীকে নিম্নোক্ত তথ্যাদিসহ কনফারমেশন নেট প্রদান করতে বাধ্য :-

(ক) আদেশ কার্যকর করার তারিখ

(খ) সিকিউরিটি জেজের নাম ও সংখ্যা

(গ) লেনদেনের প্রকৃতি (অর্ধাং রেতি ক্ষয় কিংবা বিক্রয়)

(ঘ) মূল্য

(ঙ) ষ্টক ব্রোকারের কমিশন

(চ) সদস্যের নিজস্ব একাউন্ট থেকে বা ষ্টক মার্কেট থেকে ক্ষয়-বিক্রয়ের বিবরণ।



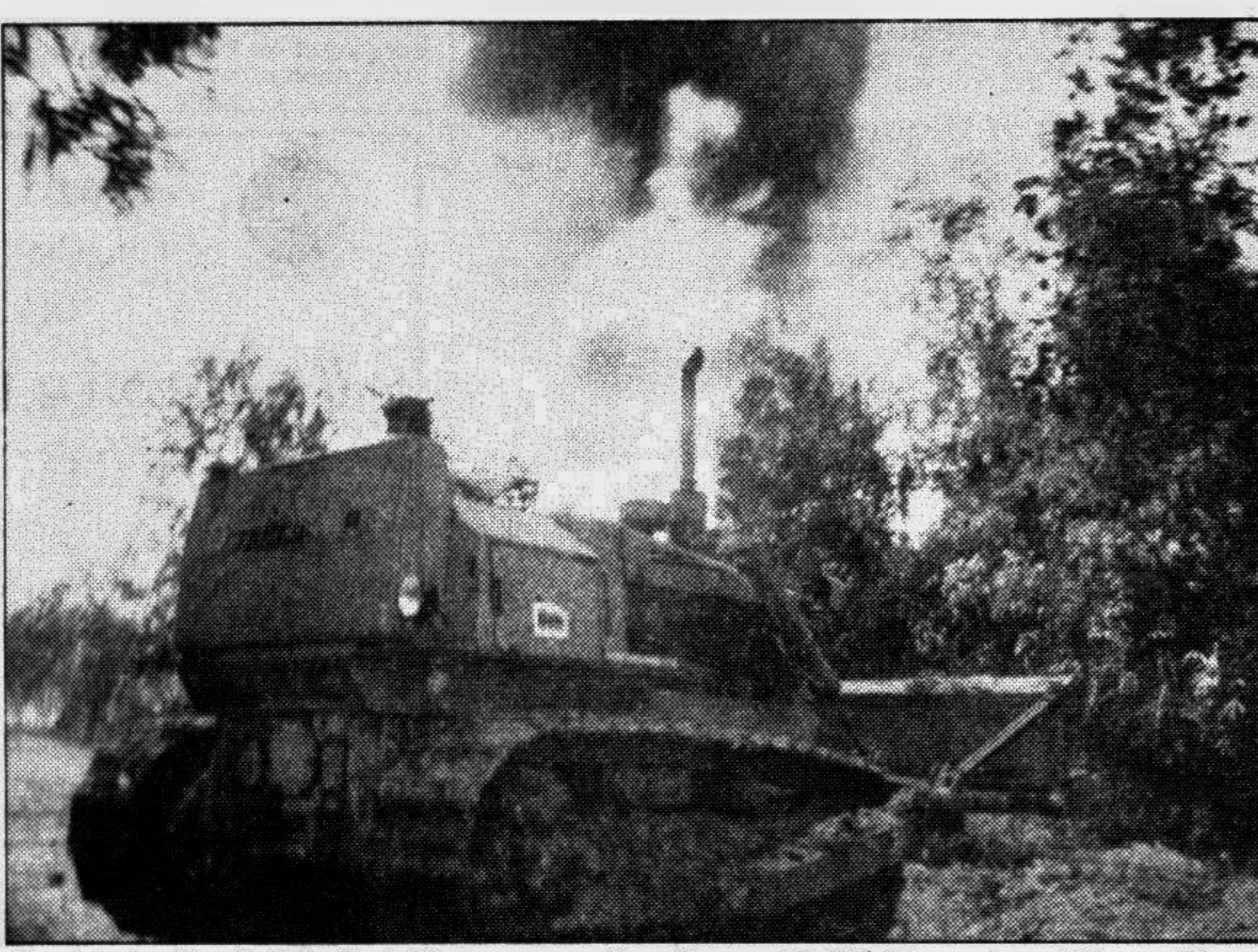
সিকিউরিটি জেজ ও এক্সচেঞ্জ কমিশন

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Occidental to co-ordinate all operations

Dousing gas well fire may take some time: Experts



Earth being levelled for installing new gas lines for an affected tea garden at Magurchhara in Moulvibazar. — Star photo

Star Report

Dousing the gas well fire at Magurchhara in Moulvibazar might take some time as foreign experts involved in the task said that putting out the fire and stopping the gas flow should be conducted simultaneously for the sake of environment and public health.

According to Petrobangla officials, two teams of fire fighting experts from Singapore and Houston working at the site are now devising the strategy to bring the situation under control.

The fire fighting equipment and required chemical reached the city yesterday in two special aircraft.

The foreign experts shared their views with Petrobangla authorities that along with putting out the fire, the gas flow from the affected well should be stopped. Otherwise, the environment and health of the people will be endangered.

The pressure of gas has now reduced and the flames do not rise beyond 100 feet. The well exploded Saturday night during drilling by American company Occidental.

Our Staff Correspondent reported from Srimangal last night that Occidental will

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PDB, UNOCAL negotiate power project

Well was stable before blast: Occidental

From Staff Correspondent

The Power Development Board (PDB) and the US-based UNOCAL started negotiation in Dhaka yesterday for implementation of the proposed Western Region integrated project for boosting power generation in the western part of the country, reports UNB.

Based on technical studies on power generation requirements for the western region, PDB and UNOCAL agreed in principle to implement the nearly 450 million US dollar (Tk 2,000 crore) project in two phases, said an official handout.

"We had quality people up there and the driller was doing his job properly," said Skip Coyer, interim drilling manager of Occidental.

Coyer said, rumours that the company had a sensor down in the hole to detect high pressure, were wrong.

"Nobody can measure pressure of any kind while drilling," he said.

He said the only tool the company could use to measure pressure was hydrostatic head, a calculation of the force exerted by a column of fluid on a given area.

Coyer said the hydrostatic

head readings were normal and there was no abnormal or unexpected pressure before the explosion.

The well was stable, static and dead as a hammer," he said.

He also said the gas detector which measures the amount of gas absorbed by the mud pumped into the drilling hole to remove the rocks, found no gas before the accident.

Coyer also challenged reports that the area was a high pressure zone. He said drill stem tests conducted at Fenchuganj-2, the next field in the area, showed a pressure gradient of 8.3 pounds per gallon at 2,062 meters and 8.4 pounds at 2,578 meters. This measurement shows the relationship between pressure and depth. The gradient at Magurchhara was 9.0 which, Coyer said, was normal.

Although the well was stable, said Coyer, gas erupted 75 feet into the air around the area.

An official on duty that

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Chairman of National Pay Commission Mujibul Haq handing over the report of the Commission to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her Secretariat office yesterday. — PID photo

From Nurul Alam

A year ago, the yard had the capacity to accommodate only 8,500 containers and later to cope with the growth of container cargo, the capacity was raised to 9,500 containers.

Port officials apprehend the space crisis might lead to a fresh congestion of foreign vessels if new container terminals are not set up to meet the growing demand.

They said that every year container cargo in this port had recorded an increase of 20 to 30 per cent.

During the current fiscal year, the number of containers handled in Chittagong Port may cross three lakhs while in the previous fiscal (95-96) it handled 25,000 containers, port sources said.

About five years ago two container terminals were built at Chittagong port.

Space constraint at Ctg port yard

From Nurul Alam

CHITTAGONG, June 18: The country's main port faces space constraint in its container yard with vessels stranded at the jetties today due to delay in unloading of container cargo.

Talking to this correspondent, a port official said the containers could not be removed from these ships due to space constraint at the yard inside the port.

According to him, arrival of a large number of containers and their slow unloading after the declaration of the national budget have caused the space constraint.

He said, around 13,000 containers are now at the yard since its capacity to accommodate 9,500 containers.

For ID cards

2 female students kept out of RU hall overnight

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, June 18: Two female students of Rajshahi University had to spend a night outside the gate of Begum Khaleda Zia Hall recently as they failed to show identity cards.

Precilla Sharmin, a second-year student of Zoology Department and Lubna Sharmin, a first-year student of History, both registered students of the hall, reached the hall gate, along with their brother Parvez, at about 2 am on June 16.

The hall superintendent asked them to show identity cards before being allowed to enter the hall. But they failed

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42 students of Rangpur Polytech held

From Our Correspondent

RANGPUR, June 18: Police rounded up 42 Polytechnic Institute students during raids on hostels and messes in the town last night.

A bomb weighing 5-kg and some arms were recovered during the raids, police said.

The duty officer of Kotwali thana said the principal of the Polytechnic Institute had filed a case on June 16 accusing the students of resorting to violence, damaging and setting fire to the teachers' quarters and laboratory of the institute causing a loss of property worth Tk one crore.

A two-member team of the Education Department from Dhaka visited the institute today. The team will submit its report to the government.

One killed as AL, BNP workers clash in Pabna

From Our Correspondent

PABNA, June 18: One person was killed and eight others were injured in a clash between the supporters of Awami League and BNP at village Mirzapur yesterday morning, police said.

The dead was identified as Mohammad Firoz, 60, an activist of AL, who was hacked to death on the spot after he was injured in the clash.

Two of the injured were admitted to Pabna General Hospital in critical condition. They were identified as Hasan Ali, 34, and Arshed Ali, 38.

The clash began when the two groups, one led by Sattar Mondol, supporters of AL and the other led Rashid Mondol, supporters of BNP, tried to take possession of a deep tubewell.

Police were patrolling the area. No one was arrested till the writing of this report last night.

Sylhet BNP calls hartal June 22

From Staff Correspondent

SYLHET, June 17: The Sylhet district BNP has called a dawn-to-dusk hartal in Sylhet town on June 22 to press their various demands. The 9-point demand include withdrawal of false cases lodged against BNP leaders and workers and transfer of the ASP of Sylhet Sadar.

JS discussion on nat'l budget begins

Positive changes, hopes AL Economy ruined, says BNP

By Staff Correspondent

on the national budget for 1997-98 yesterday, ruling Awami League (AL) lawmakers claimed that the proposed budget was bound to bring about positive changes in the lives of the people.

They also asserted that the budget was consistent with certain provisions of the Constitution, obliging the state to implement the basic rights of the citizens.

On the other hand, the opposition BNP members belonging to the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) claimed

that the proposed budget for 1997-98 would affect the interests of the majority people, especially the peasants.

They also asserted that the budget reflected the government's mismanagement of national economy. They demanded review of the proposed budget to give it a pro-people character.

A total of 23 MPs took part in yesterday's debate. Of them 12 were AL members, 10 BNP and one Jatiya Party (JP).

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JS snippets

13 died in police custody in Bangladesh : AI

BBC monitoring

At least 13 persons died while in police custody in Bangladesh, BBC said last night quoting the annual report of the Amnesty International (AI) released recently.

The AI report also mentioned about alleged harassment of political workers belonging to opposition parties in Bangladesh.

Many people belonging to the opposition were detained without trial and were even tortured, the report said.

The Amnesty International's letter to the government of Bangladesh demanding the release of the prisoners was not entertained, the report claimed.

Govt blamed for foiling BNP meet at Kaliganj

By Staff Correspondent

BNP has blamed the government for foiling its public meeting at Kaliganj of Jhenaidah district yesterday.

A joint statement issued last night by BNP joint secretary general Abdur Razzak, Noman