

## BANGABANDHU MURDER CASE

### Verbatim Text of Cross Examination of Twelfth Prosecution Witness

**(Continued from yesterday)**  
 Advocated Khan Saifur Rahman began his Tuesday's incomplete cross-examination of the 12th prosecution witness in Bangabandhu murder case, ALD Sirajul Haq, when the court resumed on Wednesday.

Following are the excerpts:

**Q:** Dhanmondi road number 32 is on the north bank of the lake.  
**A:** I didn't go to road number 32. I was at the point where the road begins.  
**Q:** Is there any road beside the link point of Dhanmondi road number 32 and Mirpur Road?  
**A:** There is a lake on right side of Mirpur Road if one stands on the road facing he south.  
**Q:** Is it in the west of the road?  
**A:** Yes.  
**Q:** Did you see the lake?  
**A:** No, I didn't see the lake.  
**Q:** Major Farooq came by a tank from road number 32 in between 7 and 7:30 am. Later, he disappeared by a jeep towards road number 32. I took food when a vehicle carrying the food came at about 9 or 10 am. I went to my regiment withdrawing myself from duty when the meal vehicle returned as I was in charge of mess. You made this statement to magistrate on 6/11/96.  
**A:** The statement was not recorded properly. I said: At about 7 or 7:15 am a tank came out of Dhanmondi road number 32 on to the Mirpur Road. I saw Major Farooq proceeding towards southern direction of Mirpur Road by the tank. After passing a certain distance Major Farooq got down from the tank and talked to some army personnel posted on the road there. Later he disappeared towards southern direction by a jeep. At about 9 am, our breakfast came from regiment. I took breakfast. I returned to regiment by the meal vehicle as I was in charge of the mess.  
**Q:** Did you sign on the copy of your statement after making it to the magistrate?  
**A:** Yes, I signed.

**Q:** Can you read and write Bangla?  
**A:** Yes.  
**Q:** Was not the statement sealed as a proof that the witness admitted that his recorded statement was read out to him?  
**A:** There was no seal when I signed it.  
**Q:** The statement made by you to magistrate and police was not recorded as you made it.  
**A:** This is not true. They wrote what I said, I was not forced to say anything as they desired or they did not write as they wished.  
**Q:** The control of the armory of HQ squadron was under ordinance.  
**A:** No, it was under the control of commanding officer of our unit.  
**Q:** Was Dhanmondi road number 32 straight?  
**A:** The part of the road that I saw was straight.  
**Q:** When did you take breakfast?  
**A:** Approximately at 9 am.  
**Q:** Sitting on Mirpur Road?  
**A:** Yes.  
**Q:** Did you see any military truck on the part of Dhanmondi road number 32 that you saw straight?  
**A:** I didn't see any jeep in the convoy of trucks when you returned to parade ground after taking ammunition from the armory?  
**A:** I can't recall if there was any jeep.  
**Q:** Were you accompanied by any jeep when you came to link point of Dhanmondi road number 32 on to the Mirpur Road by truck?  
**A:** No.  
**Q:** Then there was no military jeep at that point.  
**A:** Later I saw jeeps coming and going.  
**Q:** Were those jeeps vacant?  
**A:** No.  
**Q:** Till what time were you on duty in the western side of the road?  
**A:** Till about 5:30 or 5:45 am.  
**Q:** Did you see any military truck on Dhanmondi road until you were withdrawn from there?  
**A:** I saw military personnel, no trucks.

**Q:** Did you see any officer going to Dhanmondi road number 32 before you had breakfast?  
**A:** I saw several jeeps moving. I can't recall whether there were officers or not.  
**Q:** Where was LD Bashir Ahmed? Before or after you in the convoy?  
**A:** I didn't see him.  
**Q:** Did you not see Bashir at parade ground at 3:30 am?  
**A:** No, I didn't see him.  
**Q:** Did the trucks move altogether from the cantonment?  
**A:** Four trucks of Lancer and two of Artillery moved together.  
**Q:** Did your convoy start for exercise?  
**A:** I didn't know.  
**Q:** Did you know whether any other convoy will start after you?  
**A:** No, I didn't.  
**Q:** Who was JCO of the convoy?  
**A:** I can't recall his name.  
**Q:** NCO?  
**A:** Also, I can't recall.  
**Q:** Do you get pension?  
**A:** No, I don't.  
**Q:** You are not being provided with pension as punitive action was taken against you.  
**A:** I was dismissed. I don't know whether it was a punitive action or not.  
**Q:** The Bengal Lancer disbanded in 1976.  
**A:** I don't know.  
**Q:** You were a member of Bengal Lancer.  
**A:** Yes.  
**Q:** 1st Bengal Lancer disbanded for its involvement in the incident and you were also dismissed.  
**A:** This is not true.  
**Q:** One has to give signature while taking and returning ammunition from the armory.  
**A:** Yes.  
**Q:** You could not return the ammunition of G-3 that you received from the armory.  
**A:** This is not true.  
**Q:** Was any army officer killed at your duty point?  
**A:** No army officer was killed at that point.  
**Q:** Did you see any private car at your duty point?  
**A:** I saw some soldiers pushing a red private car on Dhanmondi road number 32.

**Q:** Was any soldier injured or killed there?  
**A:** I didn't see. Later, I came to know that one was killed.  
**Q:** Did any other troop from any other unit, other than yours, come out on that day?  
**A:** I don't know.  
**Q:** How long after you reached at the point did you hear firing?  
**A:** After three to four minutes.  
**Q:** Did you see Mohiuddin saheb on road number 32 when you heard the shots?  
**A:** I didn't see.  
**Q:** You didn't see him within how many yards in between your duty point and road number 32?  
**A:** I was on duty on the main road. I didn't look at road number 32.  
**Q:** It means you didn't see in what direction Mohiuddin saheb went?  
**A:** I saw him entering road number 32. Then, I didn't see further.  
**Q:** Didn't you look at road number 32 when firing was going on?  
**A:** No.  
**Q:** Your were facing which direction when you were on duty?  
**A:** Eastward.  
**Q:** You didn't see movement of Mohiuddin saheb. You were looking eastward. You didn't see anything on road number 32.  
**A:** I looked at all sides.  
**Q:** People in tanks are not seen.  
**A:** Faces of commander and driver are seen if the cover is open. Rest are not seen. None is seen if the cover is not open.  
**Q:** Who else sit in the tank, besides driver and commander?  
**A:** Gunner and operator?  
**Q:** Are you a tank operator?  
**A:** Yes, I am a tank operator.  
**Q:** What is the height of a tank?  
**A:** I can't say. A tank is taller than me.  
**Q:** Tank operation is not possible in faint light.  
**A:** I don't know as I never went for tank operation in my service life.  
**Q:** In parade ground, you were divided into three groups — tank operators, tank gunners and tank drivers — and you went to classes.  
**A:** Correct. But the drivers didn't go to classes. They went to their tanks.  
**Q:** Is there any personal arms in the tank?  
**A:** Yes. For the security of tank personnel if the tank is destroyed.  
**Q:** What briefing was made at your classes?  
**A:** About army training.  
**Q:** Are such classes taken only in the night?  
**A:** Both in day and night.  
**Q:** You told police in reply to a question that you don't support monarchy.  
**A:** I didn't say that. I said: Major Syed Farooqur Rahman told us that "a monarchy will be proclaimed in the country from a meeting in the University and Sheikh Mujibur Rahman will make the announcement. But, we don't support monarchy."  
**Q:** Did all members of 1st Bengal Lancer go into operation in that night?  
**A:** Not all.  
**Q:** Was any disciplinary action taken against those who didn't go?  
**A:** I don't know.  
**Q:** Was any action taken against those who had gone?  
**A:** I don't know.  
**Q:** Were all members of Lancer present during roll call?  
**A:** All, excepting those who had important duties.  
**Q:** What will be the number of those approximately?  
**A:** I don't know.  
**Q:** You could inform the intelligence by not going and keeping yourself with those who didn't go.  
**A:** There was no such scope.  
**Q:** Were JCOs and NCOs there among those who didn't go on that night?  
**A:** Yes.  
**Q:** Did you tell those who didn't go about the briefing?  
**A:** Nothing is possible in army personally. I didn't tell anyone about the briefing.  
**Q:** Did all assemble for the classes immediately after the whistle?  
**A:** Yes.  
**Q:** How many were present at the operators classes?  
**A:** What will be the number of all, including operators and gunners?  
**A:** 150 to 200.  
**Q:** How many drivers were there?  
**A:** I don't know.  
**(Break for 10 minutes)**  
**Q:** G-3 rifle is one of the most sophisticated weapons in the world for attack.  
**A:** It is both for attack and self-defence.  
**Q:** What kind of weapons for self-defence were there at the armory?  
**A:** I don't know if there is any weapon only for self-defence.  
**Q:** Weapons for self-defence like pistols, revolvers.....  
**(At this stage, Judge Kazi Golam Rasul said: The proceedings of the trial are being carried out by newspapers everyday. One should not ask irrelevant questions. Some of my colleagues, seeing newspapers, asked me about some matters, whether those were relevant or not for the case. I didn't tell them anything, but you should not ask witnesses irrelevant questions. I never got such a good number of senior and experienced lawyers in a case at a time.)**  
**Q:** Major Farooq didn't come out with you when your convoy started.  
**A:** Major Mohiuddin was with us. Farooq saheb didn't come out with us.  
**Q:** Why were you not in the tank with the drivers since your

was informed of it earlier.  
**A:** No, he has to be asked.  
**Q:** In parade ground, there was no briefing on committing offence.  
**(The Judge ruled out the suggestion.)**  
**Q:** In parade ground, there was no briefing on anything except exercise.  
**A:** There were words like monarchy....  
**(As Khan Saifur wanted a direct answer, Judge Kazi Golam Rasul said if you make such suggestion then his reply will also be recorded. Saifur repeated the suggestion and the witness also said that there was briefing on other things also, other than exercise.)**  
**Q:** You left the parade ground following the briefing.  
**A:** Immediate after the briefing, we were ordered to receive ammunition from the armory and we did it. Later we got into trucks following an order from Major Mohiuddin.  
**Q:** The briefing on any other matter is not true.  
**A:** Your statement is not true.  
**Q:** What was the immediate senior post of you?  
**A:** LD.  
**Q:** What was his name?  
**A:** I can't recall his name.  
**Q:** What is the immediate senior post of LD?  
**A:** I don't know.  
**Q:** How many posts have to be crossed to reach lieutenant from your post ALD?  
**A:** ALD, LD, Havildar, Havildar Major... seven posts. (Lauch break).  
**Q:** No exercise was held outside the cantonment area.  
**A:** It is not true.  
**Q:** No exercise took place in the city area.  
**A:** Exercise took place outside.  
**Q:** You gave a false witness as you were on duty in the city area on August 15.  
**A:** It is not true.  
**Examination by advocate Abdur Razzaq Khan, defence counsel for arrested accused Lt Col. (ret'd) Sultan Shahriyar Rashid Khan:**  
**Q:** Each and every truck, jeep and other vehicle of the army maintained log books.  
**A:** I don't have any knowledge.  
**Q:** Can a driver use a vehicle as per his whim?  
**A:** Permission is required from seniors.  
**Q:** How did CID office come to know that you were on duty on that night (August 15)?  
**A:** I can't say.  
**Q:** Where a jawan or an officer in the army is performing duty remains recorded.  
**A:** I don't know.  
**Q:** You have a fair idea about the roads and lanes of Dhaka city. Adjoining roads and lanes of the cantonment area and Road-32.  
**A:** I used to know some of the roads and lanes of the city and also adjoining areas of cantonment. I know about Road-32 now.  
**Q:** Where was the position of your truck in the convoy?  
**A:** I was on the first truck of the convoy. A convoy of six trucks came out of Balurghat in cantonment and were together till Farmgate.  
**Q:** More vehicles were added to the convoy.  
**A:** No.  
**Q:** How many trucks went to Road-32 from Farmgate?  
**A:** The truck in which I was went to Road-32. I can't say anything about five other trucks.  
**Q:** Could you see the gate of the President's house from the crossing of Road-32 and Mirpur road where you were on duty?  
**A:** I did not know the location of Bangabandhu's house.  
**Q:** Do you know the house

### Tom and Jerry



### James Bond



### Metropolitan

#### HERE and THERE

**Biman**  
 The certificate awarding ceremony of two courses of Biman Bangladesh Airlines was held at its training centre in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

Thirteen officers and employees took part in "Passenger Proration Course," while 39 others in "SITA Air Cargo Systems Course." Both the courses were two-week long.

Biman Deputy Managing Director Lt Col (ret'd) M Zainal Abedin attended the function as chief guest and distributed certificates among the participants, said a press release.

It was also addressed by Director (Marketing and Sales) Walid Huj Khondoker, Biman Training Centre Principal Captain (ret'd) SMM Rahman chaired.

**NSU**  
 North South University has started its fall semester with 4 undergraduate programmes — Business Administration, Computer Science, Economics, Environmental Science and English and 2 graduate programmes — MBA and Masters in Economics, says a press release.

At an orientation programme recently, founder-president, Muslehuddin Ahmad, said that NSU is extremely conscious about the quality of education it provides.

The president stressed on the importance of NSU's policy against student politics. He said students can learn politics through courses offered by NSU but they are not allowed to practice it here until completion of their studies.

He said that the students are the worst victims of politics in this country. He stressed on the importance of a joint effort of the institution, its students and parents to change this vicious atmosphere.

Dr Hafiz GA Siddiqi, Vice President, Academic Affairs, addressing the students said that NSU maintained a strict code of conduct which all the students and faculty members must abide by.

NSU administration, faculty members, the new students and their parents paid tribute to Mother Teresa and Princess Diana by observing one minute silence during the programme.

**Youth training academies, centres to be set up in all dists: Quader**  
 CHITTAGONG, Sept 11: State Minister for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs Obaidul Quader has said modern youth training academies and training centres will be set up in all districts and thanas of the country to train the youths, reports UNB.

He disclosed this while addressing the review meeting of Youth Training and Development Programme at Pahartali here, organised by Youth Training Centre on Wednesday.

Referring to the prestigious role of young generation in country's socio-economic and cultural activities, the state minister said that the present government has undertaken the training programme with a view to building a Sonar Bangla, dreamt by the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.



US Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia Karl F. Inderfurth talking to former peacekeepers of the Bangladesh Army when he called on Chief of the Army Staff, Lt Gen Muhammad Mahbubur Rahman, yesterday in the city. The blue-helmeted soldiers were stationed in Angola and Mozambique as members of UN peacekeepers. — USIS photo

**Dr Faruque honoured**  
 Dr GM Faruque, Assistant Professor of Cardiology, National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases, has been awarded membership (MSCAL) of the United States Society of Cardiology and Intervention, says a press release.

Dr Faruque did his training in balloon angioplasty and stenting from Mayo Clinic, Minnesota, USA. He is presently joint secretary of Bangladesh Cardiac Society.

**Speaker to attend CPA conference**  
 Speaker Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury leaves the capital for Mauritius today to attend the 43rd conference of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), report UNB.

The Speaker will lead a seven-member Bangladesh delegation in the conference, beginning on Sunday. He will also attend a CPA Executive Committee meeting.

Other members are MPs HN Ashkur Rahman, Mohammad Fazlul Haq and Sultan Mohammad Mansur Ahmed and Secretary-in-charge of Parliament Secretariat Khandker Abdul Haq Miah.

**Appointments**  
 KM Abdullah, and officer on special duty (Joint secretary) of Establishment Ministry, has been appointed Director of the Bureau Anti-Corruption, reports UNB.

According to an official handout, Additional District and Sessions Judge of Chittagong AFM Mostafa has been promoted to District Judge in consultation with the Supreme Court.

He has been appointed District Judge of the special court on women and children repression control on Jessore until further notice the handout said.

#### Jessore Board HSC merit lists

Following are the combined merit lists of first 10 positions in the HSC Science, Humanities and Commerce groups under Jessore Board:

**Science**  
 1. Tawfik Hasan (113320) of Jhenidah Cadet College, with 964 marks (E.M.P.C.Ed). 2. Md Munirul Haque (113331) of Jhenidah Cadet College, with 950 marks (M.P.C.Ed). 3. Abu Sayeed Muhammad Saifullah (101979), of Barisal Cadet College, with 943 marks (M.P.C. St). 4. Md. Ahaduzzaman Munna (113321), of Jhenidah Cadet College, 942 marks, (M. P. C.ED). 5. Md Hasan Reza Talukder (101996), of Barisal Cadet College, with 928 marks (M.P.C.St). 6. Mohiuddin Mohammad Hafiz (111524), of Cantonment College, Jessore, with 926 marks (M.P.C.St). 7. Md Waliullah Khan Noman (101970), of Barisal Cadet College, with 918 marks (M.P.C.St). 8. Hasan Ahmed Sagar (101977), of Barisal Cadet College, with 904 marks (M.P.C.St). and Md Shaful Alam (113323), of Jhenidah Cadet College, with 904 marks (P.C.St). 9. Md Golam Murshed (101976), of Barisal Cadet College, with 898 marks (P.C.St). 10. Kamrun-Nesha Moni (110804), of Adarsha Mohila College, Chuadanga with 896 marks (M.P.C.Bio).

**Humanities**  
 1. Md Youisif Ahmed Polash (513908), of Barisal Cadet College, with 886 marks (E.C.St). 2. Meher Afroze (580801), of Cantonment College, Jessore, with 884 marks (E.C. St. Bk). 3. Md Shahidur Rahman (513906), of Barisal Cadet College, with 883 marks (E.C.St). 4. Md. Nurul Islam (573654), of MS Zoha Mohavidyalaya, Chuadanga, with 859 marks (St. Ag). 5. Nusrat Luja (531688), of Govt. MM City College, Khulna, with 851 marks (L. Psyc. St. Bk). 6. Sabera Fatima (530683), of Govt. Girls' College, Khulna, with 845 marks (L. Psyc), and Shahida Akter Khan (530779), of Govt. Girls' College, Khulna, with 845 marks (L. Psyc. Isis, HE). 7. Gouranga Kumar Dutta (580954), of Cantonment College, Jessore, with 843 marks (L.G.St). 8. Md. Ziaul Hasan (513903), of Barisal Cadet College, with 838 marks (G. St. Isis). 9. Md Hamayun Kabir (516158), of Armitalad Day College, Barisal, with 835 marks (St.L). 10. Shamima Akter (504992) of Baruna Government College, with 834 marks (H.L.Bk), and Jannatul Ferdousi (546155), of SPC Kalfurpura Higher Secondary School, Bagerhat, with 834 marks (E.C. Cv. L. H).

**Commerce**  
 1. Mahfuja Malik (706337), of Govt. MM City College, Khulna, with 881 marks (Bk. St). 2. Md. Bazlur Rahman (710650), of Shahid Mukti-joddha Mohavidyalaya, Satkhira, with 805 marks (Bk. Ag). 3. Bilash Kumar Das (715643), of Mumshi Manik Miah College, Barisal, with 790 marks (Bk.St). 4. Md. Shamir Jahan Rana (714035), of Cantonment College, Jessore, with 785 marks (Bk. Shnd), and Md. Abdus Salam (711310), of Kushtia Government College, with 785 marks (Bk. St). 5. Jiban Kumar Kundu (712183), of Kumarkhali College, Kushtia, with 783 marks (Bk. St). 6. Prodigy (715099), of Mohishahat College, Monirampur, Jessore, with 780 marks (Bk. Shnd). 7. Md. Abdus Babur (710974), of Sheikh Amanullah College, Kalaroa, Satkhira, with 779 marks (Bk. Isis). 8. Saroj Kumar Biswas (700653), of Mozhaharuddin Biswas College, Patuakhali, with 773 marks (Shnd). 9. Mohammad Ruhul Quddus (711176), of Kushtia Government College, with 766 marks (Bk. St). 10. Farjana Quader (706358), of Govt. MM City College, Khulna, with 763 marks (Bk. St), and Md. Alauddin (703899), of Syed Azizul Haque College, Habibur, Barisal, with 763 marks (Bk. Shnd).

**Khaleda greets Jiang Zemin**  
 BNP Chairperson and Leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia greeted Secretary General of the Communist Party of China Jiang Zemin on the occasion of CPC National Congress beginning today, reports UNB.

In a message of felicitation to sent the CPC secretary general, Khaleda said she and her party were happy to learn that the century-old CPC was going to hold its 15th National Congress at a time when the whole world is passing through a critical juncture of socio-economic and political changes.

"We are sure that this congress will be a historic event as China enters a critical period of carrying forward the reform and opening-up drive for socialist modernisation," she said.

Khaleda said she came to understand that the ensuing congress is going to set the next stage of strategic development plan by upholding the Deng Xiaoping theory toward modernisation and building socialism with Chinese characteristics.