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 Bangabanhdu murder case. ALD Sirajul Haq, when the court resumed on Wednesday. Following are the excerpts: Q: Dhanmondi road number

lake. A: I didn't go to road number 32. I was at the point where the

32 is on the north bank of 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. A: Did you see the lake?

A: No, I didn't see the lake.

"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 incharge 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 incharge of the mess.

Q: Did you sign on the copy of your statement after making it to the magistrate? A: Yes, I signed.

Tom and Jerry

IAN FLEMING'S

REVERBND, YOUR SERMON WAS INSPIRING.

Q: Can you read and write

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

Q: The control of the armoury of HQ squadron was under ordnance.

A: No. It was under the control of commanding officer of

they wished.

Q: Was Dhanmondi road number 32 straight? A: The part of the road that I saw was straight.

Q: When did you take break-

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 armoury?

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 and Mirpur Road by truck?

tary jeep at that point. A: Later I saw jeeps coming and going.

Q: Then there was no mili-

Q: Were those jeeps vacant?

Q: Till what time were you on duty in the western side of the

A: Till about 5:30 or 5:45 am. Q: Did you see any military truck on Dhanmondi road until you were withdrawn from

FROM NOW ON

I'M GOING TO

BE 6000 TO

DOES THAT CHANGE TOMORROW'S

PLANS ?

MY BROTHERS.

A: I saw military personnel, no trucks.

James Bond

Q: Did you see any officer going to Dhanmondi road number 32 before you had breakfast? A: I saw several jeeps mov-

ing. 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 con-

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 dis-

banded 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 armoury.

A: Yes. Q: You could not return the ammunition of G-3 that you received from the armoury.

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.

BY NO MEANS!

AND I PROMISE

YOU AN

EXCITING

TAKEOFF!

Q: Was any soldier injured or killed there?

A: I didn't see. Later, I came to know that one was killed. Q: Did army 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 min-

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 num-

ber 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? Q: Your were facing which

direction when you were on 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'm a tank operator. Q: What is the height of a

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 -

FORTUNATELY, I'M

DRAWN BY JOHN McLUSKY

AND SUB-OCEAN LAUNCHED!

NOT RELATED TO MICE.

By Hanna-Barbera

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. A: 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 sup-

port 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 immediate after the whistle? A: Yes Q: How many were present at

the operators classes? A: 70 to 75. What will be the number of all, including operators and

gunners? A: 150 to 200. Q: How many drivers were

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-delence. Q: What kind of weapons for self-defence were there at the

armoury? A: I don't know if there is any weapon only for self-de-

fence. 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

Metropolitan

are a tank operator?

rade.

A: There were only 32 tanks. But operators were many more. Q: Where were the tanks? What was the distance of tank garage from the parade ground?

A" I can't recall. Q: What was the distance of tank garage from the place where trucks were parked?

A: The trucks were on the parade ground. Perhaps, it would be 100 to 150 yards. Q: Was the night parade an

operation parade or an exercise parade? A: It was an exercise parade. Q: You knew about the exer-

cise parade. Were you informed of the operation parade? A: I knew about exercise parade, not about operation pa-

Q: Why did you get into the truck - for exercise or opera-A: We were ordered to get into

the truck. We thought it was part of exercise. 9: You got into the truck knowing everything. A: This is not true. Q: You were involved in the

incident in which the group of Bashir was also involved. A: Not true. Q: On August 14 evening, you had ordered that breakfast and

lunch should be sent to certain points on the following day. A: This is not true. Q: Did you ask why the

trucks convoy were being separated in different points? A: I didn't ask Q: You knew the truck will halt at the beginning of

Dhanmondi road number 32. A: I didn't know. Q: The members of your unit, who got into the trucks, did not

starve on August 15. A: They had breakfast. don't know whether they had lunch or not.

Q: Being the mess-in-charge,

you completed shopping for mess food on the previous day. A: I supplied materials for breakfast. The shopping for lunch was scheduled for the fol-

lowing morning. Q: Was the lunch cooked in absence of you? A: Yes. Q: You handed over the lunch

preparations along with the breakfast on August 14 evening. A: This is not true.

Q: Your officers and also all of you didn't commit any offence. (Judge Kazi Golam Rasul asked the defence lawyer to refrain from asking such questions. Anyone may be involved by his answer — yes or no). 9: Rankers didn't commit

mili any offence. (The Judge again asked lawyer Khan Saifur Rahman to make suggestion more specifically)

Q: The 33 men of your truck didn't commit any offence. A: Those who entered road number 32 with Major

Mohiuddin committed the killings. (As Khan Saifur wanted a direct answer, the Judge said: Not all 33 entered).

Q: All men of the truck had breakfast together. A: Those who were deployed on road took breakfast to-

gether. Q: The vehicle carrying breakfast entered road number

A: The car was parked at beginning of the road. Those who served breakfast had carried the food there.

Q: You were in charge of distributing the breakfast. A: I was not in management

of the food. Q: There was no necessity to ask the man, who was serving breakfast, to go to road 32. He

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 was. 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 armoury

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

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. (Launch break). Q: No exercise was held out-

side the cantonment area. A: It is not true. Q: No exercise took place in

the city area. A: Exercise took place out-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. (retd) 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 knowl-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 of adjoining areas of cantonment. I know about Road-32

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 any-

thing 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.

tion of Bangabandhu's house.

Jessore Board HSC merit lists

Mohavidyalaya, Chuadanga,

with 859 marks (St. Ag). 5.

A: I did not know the loca-

Q: Do you know the house

lay of the proceedings. - UNB Further text of cross exami-

(710974), of Sheikh Amanullah

College, Kalaroa, Satkhira,

with 779 marks (Bk. Isls). 8.

Saroj Kumar Biswas (700653).

of Mozaharuddin Biswas Co-

llege, Patuakhali, with 773

marks (Shnd). 9. Mohammad

Ruhul Quddus (711176), of

The defence counsels, how-

ever, assured the judge that they

would not make any willful de-

HERE and THERE

WELL DONE, JAMES! YOU'VE JUST EARNED YOURSELF A

COMMISSION IN MY ELITE GUARD!

Biman

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

others in "SITA Air Cargo Systems Course." Both the courses were two-week long. Biman Deputy Managing Director Lt Col (retd) 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) Waltul Huq Khondoker. Biman Training Centre Principal Captain (retd) 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 programme — MBA and Masters in Economics, says a press release.

mme 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

At an orientation progra-

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.

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



Assistant Professor of Cardiology, National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases, has been awarded membership (MSCAI) of the United States Society of Cardiac Angiography and Intervention, says a press release.

Dr. Faruque did his training

in balloon angioplasty and

stenting from Mayo Clinic.

Minnesota, USA. He is presen-

tly joint secretary of Bang

ladesh Cardiac Society

Speaker to attend CPA conference Dr GM Faruque. 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

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

attend a CPA Executive Com-

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

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

handout, Additional District

and Sessions Judge of Chit-

tagong AFM Mostafa has been

promoted to District Judge in consultation with the Supreme

merit lists of first 10 positions in the HSC Science, Humanities and Commerce groups under

Jessore Board: Science 1. Tawfique Hasan (113320)

of Jhenidah Cadet College, with

964 marks (E,M,P,C,Ed). 2. Md

Munirul Haque (113331) of

Jhenidah Cadet College, with

Following are the combined

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 Ta lukder (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 Nomani (101970), of Barisal Cadet College, with 918 marks (M.P.C.St). 8. Hasan Ahmed Sagor (101977), of Barisal Cadet College, with 904 marks (M,P,C,St), and Md Shafful Alam (113323), of Jhenidah Cadet College, with 904 marks (P.C.St). 9. Md Golam Murshed (101976), of Barisal Cadet College, with 898 marks

with 896 marks (M,P,C,Bio). Humanities 1. Md Yousuf Ahmed Polash

(P,C,St). 10. Kamrun-Nesa-

Moni (110504), of Adarsha

Mohila College, Chuadanga

(513908), of Barisal Cadet Co=llege, with 886 marks (Ec,St,IsIs,G). 2. Meher Afroze (580801), of Cantonment College, Jessore, with 884 marks (Ec, L, St, Bk). 3. Md Shahidur Rahman (513906), of Barisal Cadet College, with 883 marks (EC.St.Isls, G). 4. Md. Nurul Islam (573654), of MS Zoha

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. Isls). 9. Md. Hamayun Kabir (516158), of Amritalal Dey College, Barisal, with 835 marks (G,St,L). 10. Shamima Akter (504992) of Barguna Government College, with 834 marks (H,L,Bk), and Jannatul Ferdousi (546155), of SPC Kafurpura Higher Secondary School, Bagerhat, with 834 marks (EC, Cv, L, H).

Commerce

Mahfuja Malik (706337), of Govt. MM City College, Khulna, with 881 marks (Bk. St). 2. Md. Bazlur Rahman (710650), of Shahid Muktijoddha Mohavidyalaya, Satkhira, with 805 marks (Bk, Ag) 3. Bilash Kumar Das (715643).

of Mumshi Manik Miah

College, Narail, with 790 marks (Bk,St). 4. Md. Shamsir 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. Prodip Dey (715099), of Moshiahati College, Monirampur, Jessore, with 780 marks (Bk. Shnd). 7. Md. Abdus Sabur

A: Yes. Q: When did you come to

know about the house? A: I visited the museum. Q: After how many years from that day (August 15) you

came to know about that house. A: I can't say. Q: Can you say now whether the gate of Bangabandhu's house can be seen or not from the place where you were dropped and deployed for duty on August 15.

A: It can't be seen. Q: DSP Nurul Islam was on duty on that night (August 14) and the following morning. Did you meet him.

A: I did not see him and I did not even know him. Q: You did not see or hear how many police and army personnel were killed and injured at Bangabandhu's house on August 15.

A: I did not see or hear anything when I was on duty. Later, I heard that an army person was injured beside the lake. Q: Where you were posted was

the only way to come out from Bangabandhu's house. A: From eastern side there was only one way.

Dhaka after August 15?

A: I can't say exactly. Probably, I was in Dhaka till November. Q: You did not give any confessional statement to any authority of the army for whatever participation you had in

Q: How long did you stay in

the August 15 incident. A: I was not asked by any-Q: Where were you posted when you were dismissed?

A: In Bogra. In 1st Bengal

Q: You told the IO about one of your colleagues. Subedar Major Sayed A: I told him about Risaldar Major Sayed. Q: In army, every unit had

darbar in every month with the

Lancer.

service.

A: There was darbar once a month in our unit. I can't say anything about other units. Q: There was a darbar of C-A: I did not see till I was in

Q: Col Momin used to attend such darbar every month after August 15. A: No darbar took place after

August 15. Q: There were darbars from August 15 till November.

Q: you are an accused in nature in the case. A; Not true. Q: You gave a false withess as was taught by the prosecution.

A: Not true. Defence lawyers for Lt Col (LPR) Muhiuddin, Hons Capt (retd) Abdul Wahab Joardar and Taher Uddin Thakur declined to cross-examine the 12th witness as he did not mention

names of their clients in his deposition. However, TM Akbar, defence counsel for arrested accused Lt Col (LPR) Muhiuddin asked the witness a few questions, but later declined to cross-examine

finding no substantive matter.

Presiding Judge Kazi Golam

Rasul today expressed his dissatisfaction over the progress of the case. He said the 12th prosecution witness was not an eyewitness of the killing incident, so delaying process in the name of cross-examination is not de-

nation will be published as and when received.

sirable.

Shnd).

Kushtia Government College, with 766 marks (BK. St). 10. Farjana Quader (706358). of Govt. MM City College, Khulna, with 763 marks (Bk, StT), and Md. Alauddin (703899), of Syed Azizul Haque College, Habibur, Barisal, with 763 marks (Bk.

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, re-

ports 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 .

Dr Hafiz GA Siddiqi, Vice President, Academic Affairs, Thirteen officers and emaddressing the students said ployees took part in "Passenger that NSU maintained a strict Proration Course." while 39 code of conduct which all the