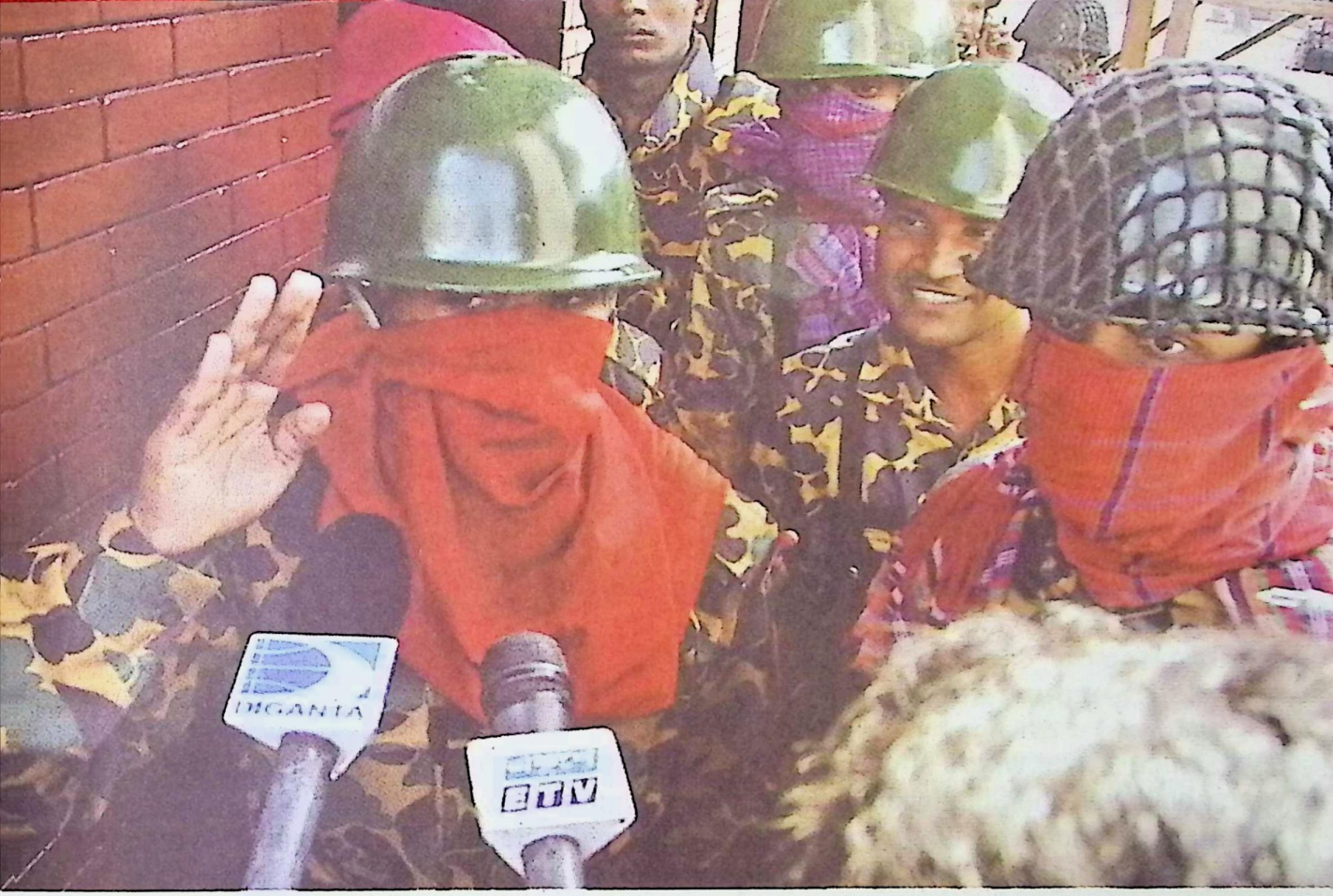


Just to remind us how the 'facts' became known to the nation here are some of the headlines of the first three days from The Daily Star:

Feb 26:

Mutiny, bloodshed at BDR HQ

A bloody mutiny by Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) soldiers sent Dhaka into a war footing yesterday as the paramilitaries fired several thousand shots from machineguns, killing at least two army officers, one non-commissioned BDR officer, and three civilians in BDR Pilkhana Headquarters.

Intelligence agencies fail to give hints

Yesterday's rebellion at Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) headquarters was an outburst of years of pent-up anger and frustration, observed former director generals of BDR and an ex-army chief.

Mutineers tell of pent-up fury

The BDR mutineers claim the mutiny was not culmination of any long-term plan, rather results of long-repressed feelings of being deprived of financial and other in-service benefits and being ignored by the army high command.

Feb 27:

BDR mutiny over as tanks roll in

The 33-hour mutiny by disgruntled border guards ended yesterday in their surrender at the Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) headquarters after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina warned of tough action to take them off a "suicidal route".

Haunted they rush out of BDR headquarters

Traumatised survivors of the bloody mutiny told harrowing tales of their two-day ordeal as they came out of the BDR headquarters yesterday.

Feb 28:

The barbarity is unimaginable, unforgivable

... For what possible action of theirs could a section of BDR jawans murder their officers in such an inhuman and unsoldierly manner? ... if there were some sympathy for the points raised by the rebellious jawans, not an iota of it remained in the public mind after the initial extent of the crime became evident yesterday.

20-25 soldiers behind carnage

The mutiny in Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) was spearheaded by a group of 20 to 25 non-commissioned soldiers who forced others to take up guns and participate in the savagery that followed, according to information shared by surviving officers and some fleeing mutineers.

Mutineers started to flee after 1pm Thursday

Several thousand BDR personnel who were in their headquarters at Pilkhana started to flee at around 1:00 pm on Thursday, sensing trouble.

As said last week in this column, hindsight is the lame tool of trouble creators.

Let us please remain united. The conspirators are probably busy hatching their next plot.

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