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New chapter in US-Cuba relations

World hails move to end 50-yr hostility

AFP, Washington

World leaders welcomed the groundbreaking news that the United States and Cuba are moving to restore diplomatic relations and bury one of the last vestiges of the Cold War after more than 50 years of hostility.

Celebrations broke out on the streets of Havana Wednesday as people living on a pittance per day in the communist-run island savoured the prospect of an end to the crippling US trade embargo and perhaps a brighter future.

From China to Chile, plaudits rang out. South American leaders holding a trade meeting in Argentina interrupted their session and broke into euphoric applause.

The gush of praise for the shock announcement in Washington and Havana -- it emerged that secret talks have been underway for a year and a half -- featured a plethora of terms like "turning

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'71 campaign that never really worked

SHAMIM ASHRAF

With the Pakistan army facing defeats at East Pakistan war fronts one after another in December 1971, there were attempts to use religion to cover up the mindless genocide, boost their morale and raise funds for them.

Terming the Pakistan troops mujahid or those who struggle for the sake of Islam, people were asked through newspaper adverts to stand by them and donate for the military occupation.

Different banks and some businesses were at the forefront of the campaign and its main aim was to exploit the religious sentiments of Muslims and encourage the Pakistan military to "exterminate the

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EXTERMINATE THE ENEMY ONCE AND FOR ALL CONTRIBUTE LIKE A MUJAHID TO THE NATIONAL DEFENCE FUND

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Contribute generously to the
NATIONAL DEFENCE FUND

This is a war in which all of us have a duty to perform. While our Ghaisa defend the motherland, we must contribute to the war effort. As a humble gesture, UBL has already donated Rs. 32 crores to the NATIONAL DEFENCE FUND. Our entire network of branches has been mobilized to go out and sensitise and collect donations from the public. The valuable staff of UBL is at your service to call on you, advise you, and do all they can for this noble campaign.

Countrymen, no sacrifice is big enough for the nation.

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Pakistan's English daily The Dawn has republished these adverts which were run on December 14-18, 1971. See The Daily Star online for more images.



IMAGE: THE DAWN

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Quaid-e-Azam said:

"Muslims can never be crushed. They have not been crushed during the last 1,000 years by any power. This is a dream and a hallucination. Shed them... Our religion, our culture and our Islamic ideals are our driving force..."

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BCIM ECONOMIC CORRIDOR 4 nations agree to create fund

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A multi-billion dollar fund might be established to pull in resources from various parties to set up a thriving economic belt connecting Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar, according to an initial estimate.

The figure is not final and will require more in-depth study to reach a final estimation, according to officials from the foreign ministry who attended the two-day meeting in Cox's Bazar.

Citing an Asian Development Bank study, the Bangladesh delegation, led by foreign secretary Shahidul Haque, told the

proposed Bangladesh, China, India, Myanmar Economic Corridor (BCIM-EC), according to an initial estimate.

It will cost about \$22 billion to build the

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Tarique faces arrest order
Five cases filed for calling Bangabandhu big Razakar

STAR REPORT

A Dhaka court has issued an arrest warrant for BNP senior vice-chairman Tarique Rahman in a defamation case filed for terming Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman a "big Razakar".

Metropolitan Magistrate Md Yunus Khan passed the order, hours after Mostafizur Rahman Dulal, a lawyer, filed the case

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GRAFT CASES AGAINST KHALEDA Judge transferred

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday transferred the judge, who had been dealing with two corruption cases against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia and eight others, midway through the trial after she expressed no confidence in him.

The BNP chief filed two no-confidence petitions with the High Court in October, seeking orders on the government to transfer the cases from the Special Judge Court-3 of Dhaka that had Judge Bashudev Roy as its head.

Justice Bashudev has been transferred to the position of a special judge (district and sessions judge) in Patuakhali.

Following the transfer order, the hearing on the petitions scheduled for January need not be held, Attorney General Mahbubey Alam told The Daily Star.

The court headed by Bashudev framed charges against Khaleda, her son and BNP Senior Vice-chairman Tarique Rahman and seven others in Zia Orphanage Trust and Zia Charitable Trust corruption cases in March.

Judge Bashudev will be replaced by Md

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The bridge on the road between Bakal and Bagdha unions of Agailjhara upazila in Barisal has been like this for over two years. Locals have built a bamboo structure over the broken part so that people could cross. The authorities seem to have no intention to repair it.

PHOTO: ARIFUR RAHMAN



Exonerated 70yrs after execution

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

George Stinney Jr became the youngest person to be executed in the US in the 20th century when he was sent to the electric chair in 1944, but more than 70 years after his death his conviction has been overturned.

On Wednesday, he was exonerated.

Circuit Judge Carmen Mullen said the speed with which the state meted out justice against the boy was shocking and extremely unfair, and that his case was one of "great injustice" in her ruling exonerating Stinney Jr.

The 14-year-old black boy was sentenced to death for the murder of two white girls in a

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Moosa has \$7b in 'frozen' Swiss account

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Flanked by bodyguards, business tycoon Moosa Bin Shamsher yesterday appeared at the Anti-Corruption Commission headquarters to face interrogation over the allegations that he amassed wealth illegally and laundered a huge amount of money to Switzerland.

During interrogation, Moosa admitted that he has deposits worth \$7 billion in



Executive Director Mahfuzur Rahman of Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit said, "We are trying to

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MUMBAI CARNAGE Pak court grants bail to Lakhvi

AGENCIES

A Pakistani court yesterday granted bail to the alleged mastermind of the 2008 terror attacks in Mumbai, lawyers told AFP, a move likely to further inflame tensions with India.

The 60-hour siege on India's economic capital left 166 people dead and was blamed on the banned

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