

Myrt & John
Her is Jim's & my account and appeal. We're sending it to Congressmen in Mass, Ohio, & RI. Can you use it?

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Two days ago my wife and I were evacuated from Dacca, East Pakistan where I have been posted for the past three years as ~~a physician~~ ^{for the} under USAID. I am certain that you are aware of the political events preceding the army crackdown on March 25th. ^{As a result of} ~~the~~ complete press censorship and expulsion of journalists, banning of the major political party in Pakistan, and repressed information about the military campaign against the civilians of East Pakistan, it probably has been difficult for you to obtain a clear picture of events since that date. From the outset of the army action, the American Consul General, ^{for Dacca (D.A.)} and his staff in Dacca, have continued to send detailed factual accounts enumerating first hand reports of the situation. These reports have been carefully collected and verified before transmission to the State Department. Publicly the State Department claims they do not have enough facts; but I have seen the facts sent at length daily from Dacca. The American Consul in Karachi also stated to me that they ~~xxx~~ only recently began to receive the accounts about the situation in East Pakistan, when the Consulate in Dacca has been transmitting information from the start of the action.

Although Consul Flood's reports contain a more detailed account of the current situation, I wish to bring to your attention the observations I have made in the past weeks in Dacca. My wife and I watched from our roof the night of the 25th as tanks rolled out of

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The information collected and verified before
the start of the war. Publicly by the State Department
is not available; but I have seen the facts sent
to the American Consul in Karachi also
and he has recently begun to receive the
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in Dacca. The information from the start of the
war contains a more detailed account
to bring to your attention the
situation at Dacca. My wife and I
were evacuated on the 25th as tanks rolled out of

the Cantonment illuminated by the flares and the red glow of fires
as the city was shelled by artillery, and mortars were fired into
overcrowded slums and bazaars. After two days of loud explosions
and the ceaseless chatter of machine guns, we took advantage of
a break in the curfew to drive through the city. Driving past
streams of refugees, we saw burned out shacks of the families living
by the railroad tracks coming from Gulshan to Mohakhali crossing.
A Bengali friend living close by had watched the army set fire to the
hovels, and as the families ran out, he saw them shot "like dogs".
He accepted our offer to take ^{him} and his family of 12 into our home.
In the ^{Old City of Dacca} we walked through the remains of Nayer Bazaar,
where Moslem and Hindu woodcutters had worked, now only a tangle of iron
sheet and smouldering ruins. The Hindu shopkeepers and craftsmen
still alive in the bombed ruins of Shankari Bazaar, begged me to
help them only hours after the army had moved in to kill all the inhabitants.
(One man had been shot in the ^{abdomen} ~~arm~~ and killed by the army only $\frac{1}{2}$ hour
before we arrived. Others were lying in the streets rotting. ~~over~~
~~experiendoxfixivxdays~~ The day before we were evacuated, I saw Moslem
names in Urdu on the remains of the houses in Shankari Bazaar, ^{previously} ~~previously~~ ^{4 total}
stood on the ^{Mar} 29th at Ramna Kali Bari, an ancient Hindu village of
200-300 in the center of the Dacca Ramna Race Course, and ^{we saw} ~~witnessed~~ the
stacks of machine-gunned, burning remains of men, women and children
butchered in the early morning hours of March 25th. I photographed
the scene hours later, although the following day three British
citizens suspected of photographing a church were set against a wall

from execution by the ^{arrival} arrival of

reported that the Army officer
3 more wouldn't matter.)

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to include: Professor G.C. Dev,
Professor Maniruzzaman, Head of
for Jotirmoy Guhathakurta, Head
of the English Department, Dr.
Department of History. Professor
Department, and Professor Dr.

Department, former Governor and

and Finance Minister were shot in their quarters, injured and left for
dead.) ^{and} Many families of these professors were shot as well. Full
documentation of the names of people killed is difficult due to
the army's thorough search of people leaving Dacca. (However, I
managed to get these names past the search.) Complete censorship
was facilitated when three prominent mass circulation dailies
were burned: The People, The Ittefaq, and the Sangbad.

(Military action continued after the attack of the first two days.
We listened as the early morning of ~~the first~~ April first was wracked
for two hours by artillery pounding Jinjira, a ^{town} town across the
Turiganga river from Dacca that had swollen with an estimated
100,000 civilians fleeing the terrorized city. Radio Pakistan continued
to broadcast that life had returned to normal, but we witnessed
a nearly deserted city.

In Gulshan, one of the (wealthy) suburbs of Dacca where we
lived, we witnessed the disarming of the East Pakistan Rifles
stationed in the Children's ~~Park~~ Park across the street, the army
looting the food supplies from the market nearby, and finally the
execution of several EPR as they were forced by Punjabi soldiers onto
a truck to be "taken away." ~~It was~~ The mass execution of ~~the~~ several thousand
Bengali policemen and the EPR is already documented. We also
witnessed from a neighbor's house, army personnel fire three
shots across Gulshan Lake at several little boys who were

swimming. Nearly every night there was a curfew.

5 after grilling, only saved ^{by chance} from execution by the ^{arrival} of the British ^{consul} High Commissioner. (They reported that the Army officer said that he had killed 300 and that 3 more wouldn't matter.)

Sadarhat, Shakaripatti, Nayerbazar, Nayer bazar, Pailpara, and Thataribazar ~~Railway Line~~ are a few of the places where the homes of thousands are razed to the ground.

At the University area on the 29th, we walked through Jagannath Hall and Iqbal Hall, two of the student dormitories at Dacca University shelled by army tanks, ~~where all inmates were slaughtered.~~ ^{where all inmates were slaughtered.} We saw the breach in the wall where the tank broke through, the tracks, the mass grave in front of the hall, where a man, who was forced by the army to help drag the bodies outside, counted 103 of the Hindu students buried there. Outside were the massive holes in the walls of the dormitory, while inside were the smacking remains of the rooms and the heavily blood-stained floors. We also saw evidence of tank attack at Iqbal Hall where many bodies were still unburied.

The two ensuing weeks have documented the planned killing of much of the intellectual community, including a majority of the professors at Dacca University. (These include: Professor G.C. Dev, Head of the Philosophy Department, Professor Maniruzzaman, Head of the Department of Statistics, Professor Jotimoy Guhathakurta, Head of the English Department, Dr. Lunim of the English Department, Dr. Haqvi, and Dr. Ali, Head of the Department of History. Professor Dr. Inasali, Head of the Physics Department, and Professor Dr.

and Finance Minister were shot in the dead. ^{and} Many families of these people, documentation of the names of people, the army's thorough search of people, managed to get these names past the was facilitated when three prominent were burned: The People, The Ittefaq Military action continued after We listened as the early morning of for two hours by artillery pounding Furiganga river from Dacca that had 100,000 civilians fleeing the terror to broadcast that life had returned a nearly deserted city.

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AID dollars thereby providing support of the transport of further
military to Dacca. After two long days of travel (instead of the
three ~~short~~ hours to Bangkok), we arrived in Teheran where, due to
local government support of Pakistan I was ~~not~~ allowed to cable
you with the information I am ~~enclosing~~ ^{writing} here.
Fully recognizing the inability of our government ~~at this time~~
to oppose actively or to intervene in this desparate oppression of
the Bengalis, I urge you to seek and support a condemnation by
Congress and the President of the United States of ^{the} inhuman treatment
being accorded the 75 million people of West Pakistan. The silence
of our government is being widely regarded as tacit approval of the action
being taken by the Pakistan military. No political consideration
can outweigh the importance of a humanitarian stand reiterating
the American belief in the value of individual lives and a democratic
process of government. The action of President Yahya banning the
democratically elected majority party, who had 98% of the
East wing's electorate backing them, ought to arouse ~~the~~ a response
from a country who prides itself on the democratic process.

We ^{also} urge you to read the Dacca official community's open cable
to the State Department. It is for unlimited distribution and states
the facts about the situation in West Pakistan. We ~~also~~ urge you
to speak out actively against the tragic massacre of civilians and ~~the~~
take the humanitarian stand which must override any consideration of
power politics. (

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home, adding to the fear of the 26 refugees staying with us. (During the day, Pak fighter planes flew overhead on their bombing missions.)

It would be possible for me to chronicle many specific atrocities, but we have left close friends behind whose lives might be more endangered. It is clear that the law of the jungle prevails in East Pakistan where the mass killing of unarmed civilians, the systematic elimination of the intelligentsia, and the annihilation of the Hindu population is in progress.

The reports of Consul Blood, ^{The Congress General, Calcutta} (available to you as a Congressman,) contain a more detailed and complete account of the situation. In addition, he ^{has} submitted concrete proposals for constructive moves our government can make. While in no way suggesting that we ~~interfere~~ interfere with Pakistan's internal affairs, he asserts, and we support him, that the US must not continue to condone the military action with official ^{*Insert} silence. By not making a statement, the State Department supports the clearly immoral action of the West Pakistani army, navy, and air force against the Bengali people. Most distressing has been the ^{Appare-} reticence of Ambassador Joseph Farland in ~~his~~ Islamabad to give Consul Blood the support he deserves and needs. No sooner had Blood received clearance from the Pak Army to evacuate Americans to Bangkok by US military planes, ^{than} Farland accepted the Pakistan demand that we be flown out by Pakistan's commercial airlines.

When the army finally allowed us to depart, we were loaded onto planes that had just disembarked full loads of West Pakistani troops. American

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