

2—Nevada State Journal Sunday, February 13, 1972

Bangladesh Refugee Plight In Dacca Suburb Worsening

DACCA (UPI)—A special representative of the United Nations visited Dacca's troubled suburb of Mirpur Saturday and said something had to be done soon about the plight of Bangladesh's Bihari minority before the situation became more critical.

"It is not a disaster area," Vittorio Winspeare Guicciardi told newsmen after a three-hour tour of the enclave where about 200,000 non-Bengali Moslem Biharis have been virtually sealed off for almost two weeks. "But the situation could become worse if nothing is done."

Winspeare said he would go to Islamabad today to sound out Pakistani President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto about a possible exchange of Bangladesh's 1.5 million Biharis for an estimated 400,000 Bengalis in Pakistan.

The Press Trust of India news agency said Prime Minister Sheikh Mujbar Rahman told Winspeare Bangladesh would welcome such an exchange.

Meantime, the Biharis, issued

their own statement, appealing for immediate relief or their entire community "will soon perish." In a memorandum to Winspeare for "urgent consideration and expeditious action" by U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, they asked for food,

safety, and resettlement in Pakistan or some other country.

"We firmly believe that repatriation is the only solution of our problems and existence," the statement said. It said the Biharis were ready to leave

behind all their assets if they were granted refuge elsewhere.

Winspeare, special representative for humanitarian affairs for Waldheim, arrived in Dacca Friday at the request of Bhutto to check on rumors of Bengali mistreatment of the Biharis.

He toured Mirpur with two Bangladesh army officers and a few newsmen. Several times he was mobbed by hundreds of hungry Biharis, weeping and pleading for food and safety. When he got into his car to leave, several women tried to stop him by lying down in his path.

Weekend Parades Open Mardi Gras

NEW ORLEANS (UPI)—Residents of New Orleans and thousands of visitors, with a series of weekend parades, free-flowing liquor and general merry-making, are working up to the climax of the nation's oldest and biggest almost-no-holds-barred annual celebration—Mardi Gras.

Mardi Gras (Shrove Tuesday) is Tuesday. It is the climax of a carnival calendar that opened in December with a series of Carnival balls. Nightly parades started last weekend and continued in an increasing tempo through this weekend.

Three hundred thousand per-

young people who came to New Orleans with little planning and about the same amount of money. They have become a growing aspect of Carnival and a problem for city officials.

The American Civil Liberties Union, reporting it received "several dozen" complaints about police harassment of youthful carnival visitors, issued notices for youths to "come at your own risk."

Police Superintendent Clarence Giarrusso, responding to the ACLU, said experience has shown that some visitors "must commit burglaries, drug violations, engage in prostitution

Wreckage Found In Ship Mystery

NEW ORLEANS (UPI)—The Coast Guard announced Saturday that the tanker V. A. Fogg, which vanished 11 days ago with 39 men on board, may have been discovered on the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico. "We have found wreckage on the bottom about 50 miles