

6 E Oakland Tribune Tues., March 14, 1972

Bihari Massacre Reported

DACCA (UPI) — Reliable reports said yesterday that revenge-seeking Bengalis stabbed and beat to death 300 to 1,000 Biharis in the southern city of Khulna, tossing their bodies into a nearby river to be washed out to sea.

The reports said the victims included women and children. Another 250 Biharis were reported being treated at Khulna Hospital, mainly for stab wounds and beatings.

The deaths came in the wake of a withdrawal of Indian troops from the new coun-

try of Bangladesh, formerly East Pakistan.

One version said the killing started Friday, following the murder of a Bengali whose body was discovered near the Bihari colony.

Angered by the murder and resentful because the Biharis took most of their jobs at one of the city's jute mills before the war, the Bengalis reportedly poured into the Bihari settlement, armed with bamboo staffs, knives and machetes.

Most of the dead were thrown into a nearby river

and the wounded were left in the streets, the reports said.

Khulna is 80 miles southwest of Dacca but trouble between the Bengalis and the Biharis also was reported at Mohammedpur, near Dacca, and in Chittagong, the country's second largest city.

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