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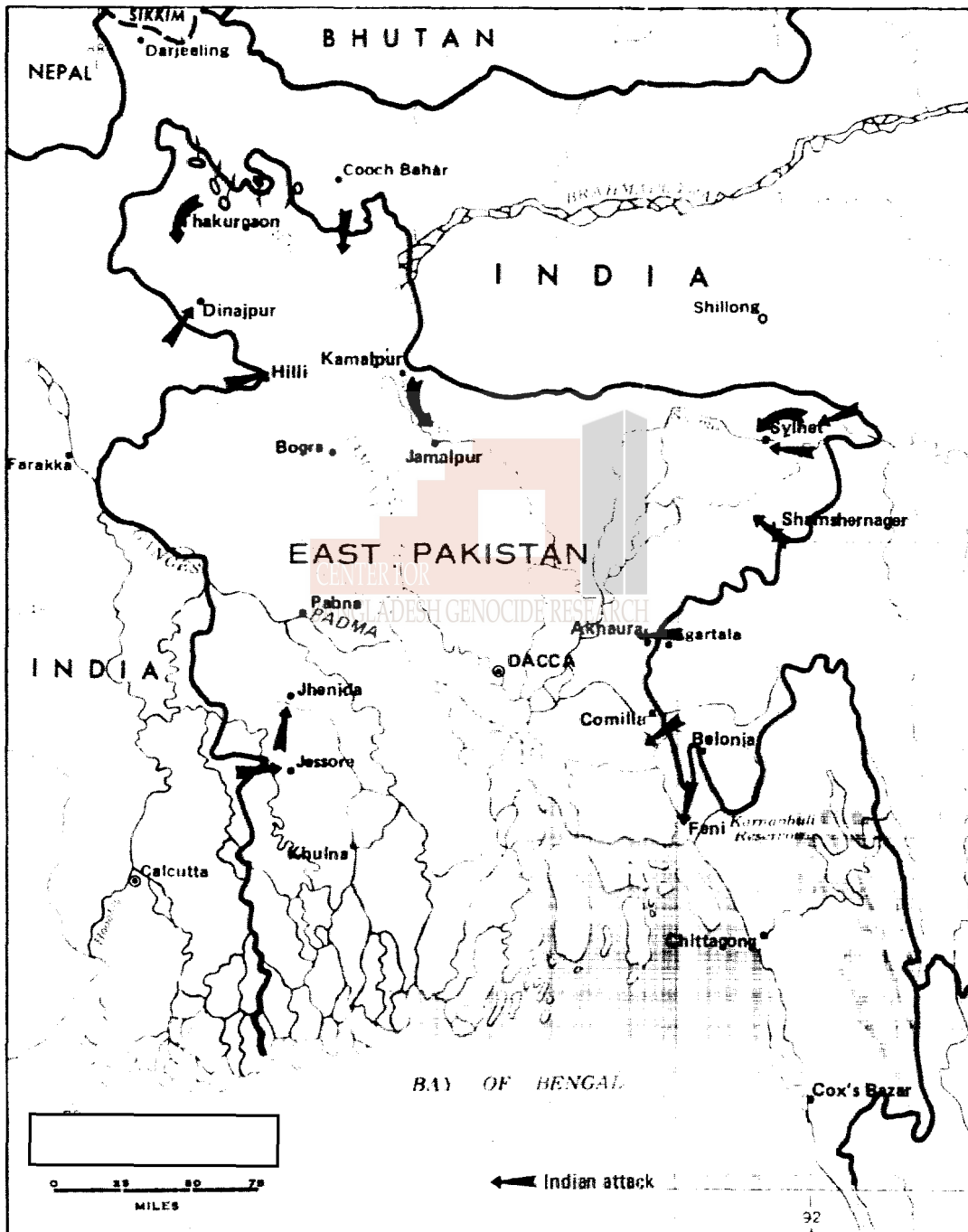
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INDIA-PAKISTAN: Fighting in the West reportedly has intensified, while the Pakistanis continue bitterly to contest Indian gains in the East.

Indian forces in East Pakistan continued to gain ground yesterday. They captured the airfield and military base at Jessore, but the town itself was still being contested. The Indians also claimed to have taken Sylhet town in the northeast and to be moving on Jamalpur in the north. The Pakistanis apparently are still holding out in Hilli and Comilla.

With the Mukti Bahini holding sway over much of the countryside, particularly in the northwest and to the south of Dacca, the Indians and guerrillas now probably control about half the province. According to Indian radio reports, as areas are "liberated" they are being turned over to the Mukti Bahini for administration.

There is no good evidence yet, however, that Pakistani forces in East Pakistan are falling into disarray or abandoning military discipline. In fact, the Indians have apparently suffered fairly heavy casualties in some encounters as the Pakistanis continue to offer stubborn resistance.

In the West, Indian officials have indicated some concern over the Pakistani offensive in Indian Kashmir and have admitted the loss of the town of Chhamb near the border. The Pakistanis' other drive into Kashmir has yet to take Poonch, however, and their offensive toward Amritsar in India's Punjab State reportedly has been halted. Indian forces in turn have penetrated a few miles into West Pakistan near Sialkot, but the Pakistanis claim to have stopped this drive. In the Sind area there has been little further progress by the Indian offensive that reportedly was mounted to relieve the pressure on Indian forces farther north. At last report this drive had penetrated at least 15 miles into West Pakistan. Both sides continue to make air strikes

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on the western front, but neither has yet gained the upper hand.

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President Yahya Khan moved ahead yesterday with his plan to establish a civilian coalition government in Pakistan. Islamabad announced that Nurul Amin, an East Pakistani friendly to the Yahya government, will be prime minister. Leftist West Pakistani politician Z. A. Bhutto has been appointed deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Peking has denounced India's recognition of Bangla Desh and has again criticized Moscow for its role in the crisis, alleging that the Soviets encouraged the Indians to invade East Pakistan and create a Bengali state. Moscow, however, has not followed New Delhi's lead thus far in recognizing Bangla Desh and probably will hold off doing so in order to avoid a rupture in diplomatic relations with Islamabad.

The UN General Assembly last night voted 104 to 11 to accept a US-supported resolution calling for both a cease-fire and withdrawal of troops. Despite the impressive margin of the vote, it is likely to have little effect because India has indicated it will disregard this type of resolution.



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