

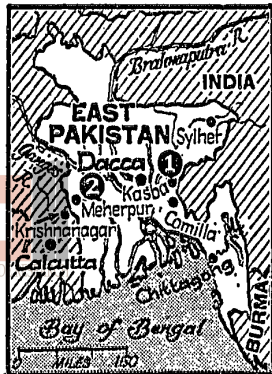
claimed last Saturday as the independent republic of Bangla Desh, or Bengal Nation. Meherpur is near Baidyanathala, where the independence ceremony was held.

Fighting in East Reported

NEW DELHI, April 19 (Reuters)—Heavy fighting was reported today in several areas of East Pakistan where the Pakistani Army was said to be pressing an all-out offensive to seal off the province's borders.

Last night the army, which is believed to hold the major cities, was reported to have gained control of almost the entire eastern border area.

Today The Press Trust of India reported that fighting had been going on for Meherpur, three miles from the Indian border in the western sector of the province, which was pro-



The New York Times April 20, 1971
Pakistan accused Indians of attacking Kasba (1). Fighting was reported at Meherpur (2) and other places between West and East Pakistani forces.