

AOA

Plotters took oath at Kalurghat

Killers fired volley of shots at a time on Zia

By A Staff Correspondent

The third instalment of the White Paper on the killing of President Ziaur Rahman was issued on Thursday. This part of the White Paper dealt with how the mutineers executed the plot of killing the President and inadequate Police guard at the Circuit House on May 29, 1981.

The White Paper stated that out of required 127 uniformed policemen and 39 plain clothed Special Branch personnel only 45 uniformed and 12 plain clothed Special Branch personnel were posted for the security of the President.

The White Paper further said that the mutineers went to the Circuit House in three groups. One group headed by Lt. Col. Motiur Rahman was assigned for the killing of President who was sleeping in his room in the first floor. Lt. Col. Motiur Rahman started looking for the President. He knew that President was staying in room No. 4. It had two doors, one near the stairs going upwards which was bolted from inside and the other opening towards the southern verandah was locked from outside. Lt. Col. Motiur Rahman and Capt. Sattar started kicking the locked door. At that moment, the White Paper stated, the President came out opening the door near the stair side. He was stated to be calm and cool without any sign of alarm on his face. Some one shouted, "President is coming out." The White Paper said every one rushed and fired at the President. The President fell down to the floor near the stairs with his chest littered with the bursts of sub-machine guns from pointblank range. Even after this, the White Paper said, his face was turned upwards by Lt. Col. Motiur Rahman who by that time went completely berserk.

and hysterically fired and emptied a complete magazine on him.

The White Paper said that Lt. Col. Mahfuz contacted Army Headquarters over wireless and talked to Director of Military Operations and his staff and asked for a helicopter to be flown with Chief of Army Staff, Military Secretary to the President and Home Minister so that President's body could be taken out.

The following is the third part of the text of the first instalment of the White Paper issued by the Government on the abortive mutiny in Chittagong on May 30, 1981.

TROOPS FROM BANDAR- BAN. Major Fazlul Haque brought 2X Platoons 1E. Bengal with 2X Junior Commissioned Regiment (40 Persons) along.

Officers namely Subedar M.A. Zafar Chowdhury and Naib Subedar Solaiman Major Kha led briefed the officers and Junior Commissioned Officers of 1 East Bengal Regiment about the impending operation at Circuit House where President was staying for night but the response from them were not encouraging Lieutenant Motiur was left behind with his troops and Major Khaled told him to

collect all the vehicles including the civil car of Lieutenant Colonel Mehboobur Rahman and park them on the other side (Bandarban) of the bridge.

PREPARATION AND BRIEF- ING. The magazines of Sub-

Machine Guns were 1 filled rocket and grenades were fitted in the hand launcher and Gra-

nade Firing Rifles by the offi-

cers. Lieutenant Colonel Moti

ur Rahman called all officers

present at Kalurghat inside

one pickup because of space a

few kept standing outside. He

briefed them about the details

of the plan of President's assas-

sination with a sketch of Circuit House He conducted oath

to all officers with the Holy

Quran and put them into threes

groups. Each group was further

briefed by him separately. The

first group was selected from

the volunteers who were to be

for the first floor of the Circuit House where the President

was staying Grouping, and

tasks distributed to each were

as under.

(i) FIRST GROUP

(a) PERSONS

(i) Lieutenant Colonel

Mehboobur Rahman

(ii) Lieutenant Colonel

Fazle Hussain

(iii) Major S M Khaled

(iv) Captain Jamil Haq

(v) Captain Md Abdus

Sattar

(vi) Lieutenant Rafique

Hassan Khan

(b) TASKS

(i) Once the pick up will

cross the main gate of the

Circuit House Lieutenant Colo-

nel Fazle Hussain will fire

Hand Launcher at the main

door of the ground floor

(ii) Simultaneously Lieute-

nant Rafique and Captain Sattar

will fire grenades from Gra-

nade Firing Rifles towards the

Circuit House and Captain Ja-

mil will spray the area with 7.62

mm Light Machine Guns fire.

(iii) On reaching the portico

they will rush to the first floor

with Sub Machine Guns and

go for the room each one assis-

ned to.

(c) DISTRIBUTION OF

THE ROOMS

(i) Room No. 7—Captain

Jamil Haque

(ii) Room No. 8—Lieutenant

Rafique Hassan Khan

(iii) Room No. 9—Lieute-

nant Colonel Fazle Hussain

and Captain Abdus Sattar

(iv) Room No. 10—Lieutenant

Colonel Fazle Hussain

(2) SECOND GROUP

(a) PERSONS

(i) Lieutenant Colonel

Motiur Rahman

(ii) Major Moninul Ha-

que

(iii) Major Mozaffar Hus-

sain

(iv) Captain Salahuddin

Ahmed

(v) Captain Md Ilyas

Uddin

(b) TASKS

To stop out-

side interference while first

party went for the President.

(c) TRANSPORT 1 X Pick

up to be driven by Lieutenant

Colonel Motiur Rahman.

(d) Command Major Momi-

nul Haque

(3) THIRD GROUP

(a) PERSONS

(i) Major Ilyas Uddin

(ii) Major Fazlul Haque

(iii) Captain Ghias Uddin

Ahmed

(iv) Captain Syed Md

Uddin

(5) CAPTAIN

Chief of Army Staff, Military

Secretary to the President and

Home Minister so that the

President's body could be taken

out. Mr. Badruddoza, Mr.

Mahibul Hassan and Mrs.

Amina Rahman left with a

car for some unknown destination.

Mr. Saifuddin the Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong took along with him Lieutenant Colonel Mahfuz, Lieutenant Colonel Mahtab, Captain Mazhar and wireless operator

to his house.

CASUALTIES From list pro-

vided by the police it was

seen that only three police

guards received bullet injuries

out of 18 injured persons of

which one died. The remaining

ones were injured due to splinters, abrasions, friction and

crawling. The army casualties

were:

(1) Lieutenant Colonel A F M

Moinul Ahsan, Security

Officer to the President—

(2) BS-1090 Captain Ashra

ful Haiz Khan, President

Guard Regiment—dead

(3) Number 394077 Naik

Alau Taher, President

Guard Regiment—dead

(4) Number 3955714 Sepoy

Md Abul Quashem, Pre-

sident Guard Regiment—

(5) Number 3970357 Sepoy

Abdur Rouf, President

Guard Regiment—dead

(6) Number 3953993 Sepoy

Shah Alam, President

Guard Regiment—dead

(7) Number 3955843 Sepoy

Md Uddin, President

Guard Regiment—wounded

(8) Number 3956072 Sepoy

Abdul Hal Sardar, Pre-

sident Guard Regiment—

wounded

(9) Number 3940075 Naik

Rafique Uddin, 8 East

Bengal Regiment, Body-

guard to the President—

Wounded

(10) Number 2520 Constable

Dulal Miah, Chittagong

Metropolitan Police dead

(Continued from page 1)

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(b) TASKS. To act as cut off party near Almas Cinema Hall behind the Circuit House and shoot if any one wanted to escape from the Circuit House.

(c) TRANSPORT 1 X Jeep

(d) COMMAND Major Glas

Uddin.

APPROACH TO CIRCUIT

HOUSE. The mutineers once briefed by Lieutenant Colonel Motiur Rahman left Kalurghat at about 3.30 a.m. on 30 May 81 when it was raining heavily.

The order of march was as per the groupings discussed earlier. Keeping the Chittagong club to the left first 2 Pickup went straight to the Dewanhat over bridge round about and took left turn. Again these two pickups turned left and came straight in to the Circuit House through the C&B Road.

The third group in the jeep stayed back near the Almas Cinema Hall.

SECURITY OF THE CIR- CUIT HOUSE. On that fateful night the following policemen were posted for the security of the President as stated by Mr. Zaman Commissioner of Metropolitan Police Chittagong. Further it is revealed by Inspector Bazlur Rashid Officer in Charge of the House guard that Lieutenant Colonel Mahfuzur Rahman Personal Staff to the President had ordered to remove two constables meant for guarding the President's suite on night 29/30 May 81.

(1) Uniformed Police Personnel

Nature of Duty