



RECOGNITION OF THE NEW NATION OF BANGLADESH

Mr. BYRD of West Virginia. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the Record a statement and an insertion by the distinguished Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS) on the subject of according full diplomatic recognition to the new nation of Bangladesh.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore (Mr. ALLEN). There being no objection, the statement was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

STATEMENT BY SENATOR HOLLINGS

Mr. President, with each passing day, additional countries accord full diplomatic recognition to the new nation of Bangladesh. It is right that they do so, for the people of that land have earned their freedom. They have earned the right to forge their own destiny in their own way. Leaders of governments all around the world have recognized the reality of Bangladesh. The simple fact of the matter is that Bangladesh is no longer a part of Pakistan. To ignore that fact is to close our eyes to the most obvious reality.

As of today, thirty nations have granted recognition to the newly-independent people of Bangladesh. Others are on the verge of doing so. Mr. President, I am attaching a list of nations which have recognized Bangladesh.

The most conspicuous absentee on this list, Mr. President, is the United States of America. For over a year now, the Nixon Administration has followed a policy of moral and political bankruptcy on the subcontinent. First, the United States ignored the results of a free and open election, in which the people of East Pakistan gained a clear majority of representatives. When the leaders of West Pakistan ignored the results of the election and jailed the leader of the East Pakistanis, the United States underwrote the suppression by shipping arms and ammunition to the military government in the West.

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When suppression turned to outright genocide, the Administration closed its eyes. And defenders of the Administration countered by saying we should all be thankful to the military dictatorship in Islamabad, because—after all—they helped Henry Kissinger fly to mainland China. How blind can we be, Mr. President.

Now that Bangladesh exists, we should have as our goal the continued independence of that land. We should want it to be no nation's client—be it India's or Russia's or anyone else's. The logical way to do that is to start out by recognizing the fact of independence. If we continue to hold back, others will fill the vacuum. The leaders of Bangladesh will find their options closed. The United States should not delay another day in fulfilling its responsibilities.

Mr. President, on January 25th, Senator Saxbe and I introduced a resolution calling upon the President to grant such recognition. Since then, twenty-eight Senators have joined us—Senators, I am happy to say, from both sides of the aisle. This is not a partisan issue, and it must not be allowed to become a partisan issue. Republicans and Democrats alike have been equally befuddled at the refusal of this country to deal with the world around us as it really exists.

We have suffered a severe setback in our South Asian policy. We cannot recoup what has been lost. But we can try to get in step, and we can try to live up to our heritage of democracy. Two centuries ago we were a newly-emerged nation, in search of freedom and of recognition by the nations of the world. Now we are asked to do much the same thing for another new country. We are asked to recognize that a new people have joined the ranks of freedom, overthrowing repression, overcoming genocide, and now struggling to make their nation succeed. I hope and pray that we will soon stop throwing roadblocks in their way.

BANGLADESH RECOGNITION STATUS REPORT

Country and date:
 India, December 6.
 Bhutan, December 7.
 East Germany (Not considered state by U.S.), January 11.
 Bulgaria, January 11.
 Poland, January 12.
 Mongolia, January 12.
 Burma, January 13.
 Nepal, January 16.
 Barbados (Commonwealth), January 21.
 Yugoslavia, January 22.
 USSR, January 24.
 Czechoslovakia, January 25.
 Hungary, January 26.
 Cyprus (Commonwealth), January 27.
 Cambodia, January 30.
 Australia (Commonwealth), January 31.
 New Zealand (Commonwealth), January 31.
 Senegal, February 1.
 United Kingdom, February 4.
 West Germany, February 4.
 Sweden, February 4.
 Norway, February 4.
 Denmark, February 4.
 Finland, February 4.
 Iceland, February 4.
 Ireland, February 4.
 Israel, February 4.
 Austria, February 4.
 Thailand, February 7.
 Netherlands, February 4 statement extending recognition in principle.

Total as of February 7, 1962: 30 nations have recognized Bangladesh. State Dept. has unconfirmed reports that Fiji and Tonga have recognized Bangladesh also.

Cosponsorships on resolution to recognize Bangladesh, February 9, 1972

Allott, Bentsen, Case, Chiles, Church, Cranston, Fulbright, Gravel, Harris, Hart, Hartke, Hughes.

Inouye, Javits, Kennedy, Magnuson, Moss, Muskie, Nelson.

Pell, Percy, Ribicoff, Schweiker, Stevens, Stevenson, Tunney, Weicker, Williams.

Total Senators: 30.

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