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WEEKENDER EXCLUSIVE

Bhaduria speaks

Markham Whitchurch-Stouffville MP Jag Bhaduria provided *The Tribune* with an exclusive interview Friday

ROGER BELGRAVE
Staff Reporter

Markham Whitchurch-Stouffville MP Jag Bhaduria finally broke his silence yesterday and denied any wrong doing.

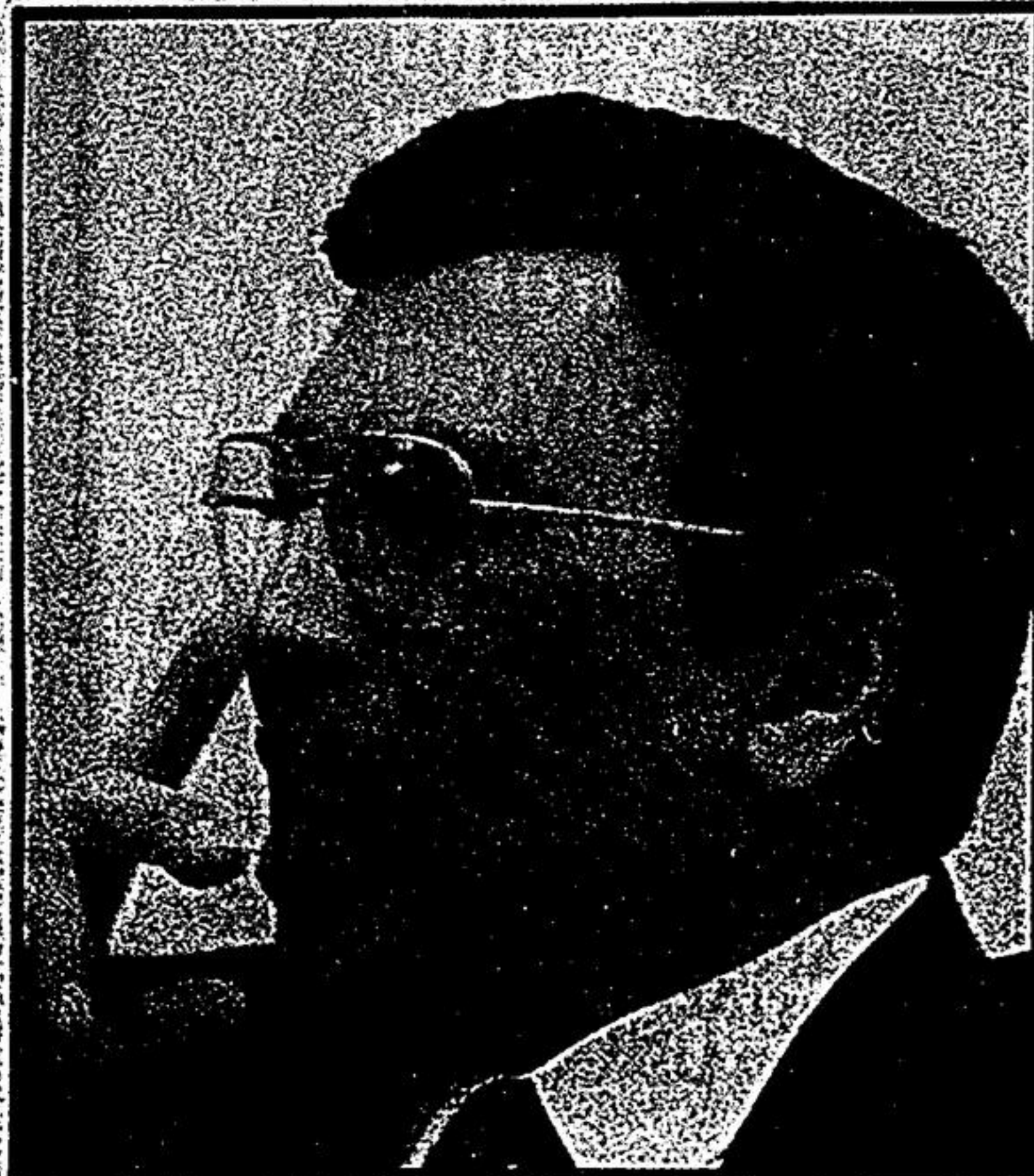
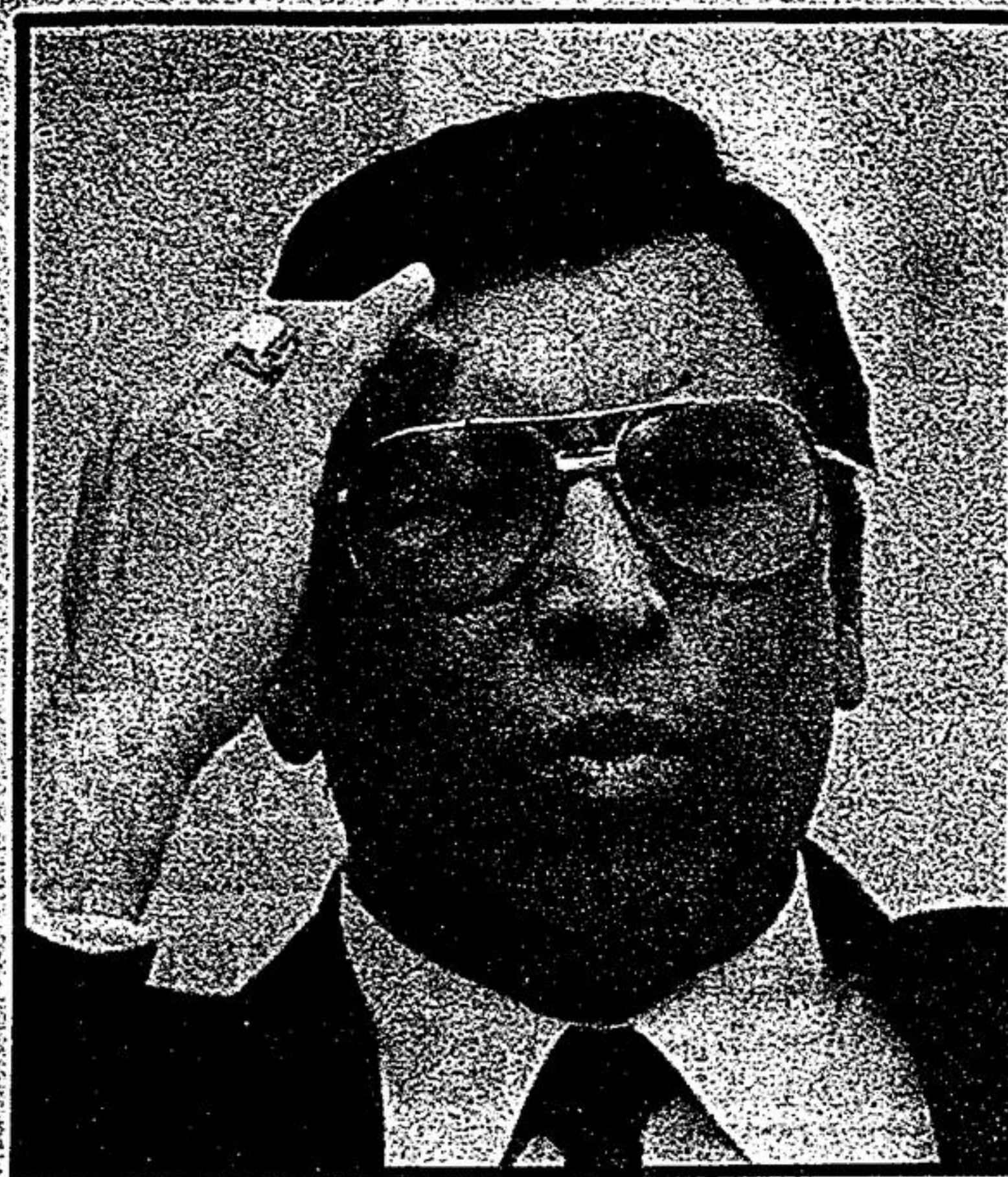
For the last week, Bhaduria has been at the centre of a political controversy that has shaken the country's government. It began when newspaper reports indicated Bhaduria was fired from his Toronto Board of Education teaching position after writing "threatening" letters to his superiors.

According to reports, one letter stated board superintendents should be lined up and shot by Montreal mass murderer Marc Lepine.

The revelations sparked calls for his resignation from constituents and politicians. Subsequent media probes into Bhaduria's background led to claims he lied on his resume. Thursday night, he withdrew from the caucus.

But Friday morning, in an exclusive interview with the Weekender, Bhaduria denied any wrong doing or misrepresentation. "I have

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PHOTOS/JOERD WITTEVEEN

The expressions of Markham MP Jag Bhaduria in an exclusive interview with the Weekender yesterday.

Town slashes \$155,000 in first budget sessions

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

Stouffville politicians have sliced \$155,000 from the 1994 capital expense budget during its first two sessions after about 20 hours of deliberations.

But it's still not enough to reach the town's goal of zero, officials were told.

During a wrap-up of preliminary budget discussions Jan. 19 finance director Ed Blackburn told council that \$334,000 must be slashed somewhere to meet a zero per cent increase on this year's municipal portion of the tax bill.

Blackburn advised officials that park trust, the fire department, anticipated surplus and roads construction/capital reserve and lots fees to offset works facilities are all areas which will have to either be reduced or pumped with more revenues in order to bring the budget in line with a zero increase.

The finance director said actual dollar figures will be available by the end of February.

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