



Pol 23-9 Pak

# Department of State TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 DACCA 01007 311424Z

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ACTION NEA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 EA-15 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00  
 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-08 L-04 NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03  
 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-12 AID-28 SY-03 O-03 OPR-02  
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 FM AMCONSUL DACCA  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3026  
 AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
 INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
 AMCONSUL CALCUTTA  
 CINCPAC  
 CINCSTRIKE  
 AMCONSUL KARACHI  
 AMCONSUL LAHORE  
 AMEMBASSY LONDON  
 MAC  
 AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 1007

SUBJECT: EXTENT OF CASUALTIES IN DACCA

REF: LAHORE 521

1. WE ARE STILL HARD PUT TO ESTIMATE NUMBER OF CASUALTIES THAT HAVE OCCURRED AND ARE CONTINUING TO OCCUR AS RESULT OF MILITARY CRACKDOWN. THE MOST CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE OF NUMBER OF STUDENTS KILLED IN UNIVERSITY IS 500 AND HAS RANGED AS HIGH AS 1,000. POLICE SOURCES INDICATE THAT FROM 600-800 EAST PAKISTANI POLICE WERE KILLED IN DACCA DURING THE REALLY HARD FIGHTING ON NIGHT OF THE 25TH. THE NUMBER OF CASUALTIES IN THE OLD CITY WHERE ARMY TROOPS BURNED HINDU AND BENGALI AREAS AND SHOT OCCUPANTS AS THEY CAME TUMBLING OUT IS ALSO DIFFICULT TO ESTIMATE.

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PAGE: 02 DACCA 01007 311424Z

MOST OBSERVERS PUT THESE CASUALTIES IN THE RANGE OF 2,000 TO 4,000. AT THIS JUNCTURE, THEN, WE WOULD ESTIMATE THAT PERHAPS AS MANY AS 4,000 TO 6,000 PEOPLE THUS FAR HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES AS A RESULT OF MILITARY ACTION. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION OF MILITARY CASUALTIES BUT WE GATHER SOME OCCURRED DURING ENCOUNTER WITH POLICE WHO WERE WELL DUG IN AT POLICE LINES.

2. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE WHOLE OBJECTIVE OF THE WEST PAK ARMY APPARENTLY WAS AND IS TO HIT HARD AND TERRORIZE POPULATION INTO SUBMISSION. ALL EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT THEY HAVE BEEN FAIRLY SUCCESSFUL. GP-3. BLOOD

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