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# DAMAGE IN RIOTS COST \$45-MILLION

## Figure for Insured Losses Is Set by Association

By The Associated Press

The toll of insured damage from riots and looting in a hundred American cities was at \$45-million yesterday, and expected to go higher.

No total damage figure was available, but losses to uninsured businesses and buildings will send the total over the \$45-million figure of the General Adjustment Bureau of the American Insurance Association. That total was "up to date as of Wednesday" and "conservatively estimated," the bureau said.

More than 500 were homeless in Chicago, 600 in Newark and 1,200 to 1,400 in Washington.

A complete statistical picture of the riots following the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will probably not be known for months, when insurers, city officials and welfare workers finish their accounting.

The week-long disorders erupted in varied patterns.

In Chicago, for instance, many damaged businesses were owned by Negroes, although no breakdown was available. But in Pittsburgh, it appeared that mostly white-owned shops were burned out and looted, while Negro-owned places with "soul brother" signs escaped unharmed.

### Estimates By City

The city-by-city estimate of damages included:

**BALTIMORE** — Riot damage was placed at \$8-million to \$10-million by the American Insurance Association. Mayor Thomas D'Alesandro 3d said his "off the cuff" minimum was \$5-million. From 500 to 600 liquor licensees were hit, the city's liquor board chairman said, and most will not reopen. A spokesman for the Small Business Administration estimated that in some areas 95 per cent of the business were partly or totally destroyed. No downtown department stores were hit. About 25 or 30 grocery stores were "hit real hard," a grocers association

spokesman said.

**NEW YORK** — Some merchants in Harlem and in the Bedford-Stuyvesant and Brownsville sections of Brooklyn said they were "very unhappy" that the police had not prevented damage. T. Lawrence Jones, president of the American Insurance Association, and Walter R. Luehring, president of the General Adjustment Bureau, said that losses in New York State between Friday and noon Wednesday totalled about \$3,037,500.

**BUFFALO**—Fire damage was estimated by the Fire Commissioner's office at \$38,000, but no estimate was made of fires that struck buildings slated for demolition. The Rev. S. Frank Emmanuel, an official of a Negro organization called Build, said few, if any, Negro businesses were damaged. Most damaged businesses said they planned to reopen, although no figures were available on losses.

**CHICAGO**—The Small Business Administration estimated that small businesses suffered \$7-million to \$10-million damages, with more than half uninsured. Insurance policies of many merchants on the West Side were canceled after disturbances in 1966. The agency said 204 businesses were destroyed and 326 others damaged. Insurance investigators, however, estimated total property loss at \$9-million, and said \$6-million worth of the destroyed or damaged property was insured. They said 452 buildings had been destroyed or damaged.

**KANSAS CITY**—Most of the damage was confined to the East Side Negro district. Riot area damage Wednesday night alone was more than \$500,000, firemen estimated.

**NEWARK** — An estimated total of 25 buildings in the predominantly Negro area were heavily damaged. Most businesses were on the ground floor of apartment buildings and were operated by Negroes.

**TRENTON** — There were about a dozen fires, including two major ones in which a factory warehouse and a furniture store were destroyed. But city officials and insurance adjusters have not had time to assess the damages. Most places hit by fires and looting were white-owned. No residential areas hit.

**WILMINGTON, Del.**—Mayor John E. Babiarez said damage would run to \$1-million, which includes \$600,000 owners of two businesses said they suffered. An insurance authority said 15 to 20 residential properties were burned out at a loss of about \$5,000 each. Most businesses were owned by whites, and four have already said they will not return. Several hundred persons are homeless, according to estimates.

**WILMINGTON, N. C.** — Insurance adjusters say damage to stores is \$150,000 to \$200,000, most of it covered by insurance. The police say few Negro businesses were damaged. Sale of liquor, beer and wine was banned in the state for five days and the North Carolina Liquor Board estimates lost sales at \$2.1-million in the first four days. The state tax loss was \$225,000.