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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY Pakistan

SUBJECT Dissension in the Moslem League

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1. Withdrawals from Pakistan's Moslem League are primarily due to Mohammed Ali's close association with the West. This is regarded as incompatible with a developing Pakistani Asiatic policy. Protest is raised, above everything else, against the construction of a political cofferdam from Pakistan, across Afghanistan and Iran, to Turkey. Many business people regard such a front against the Soviet Union as definitely dangerous.
2. Politicians now out of office are also inclined to look askance at the idea of an "Islamic Republic of Pakistan." They fear that emphasis on the religious accent in the new state will stir up religious struggles anew with the Hindu minorities.
3. Tendencies for the Moslem League to break up have also begun to appear in East Bengal. Fazlul Haq, the old leader of the Moslem League there has made the following statement on the possibility of reconstruction: "It is wholly impossible for a respectable man either to remain in the Moslem League or to return to it. I regard Mohammed Ali's appeal as absolutely negative!" In the meantime, Haq has set up a new Peasants and Workers Party (Krishak-Shramic Party).
4. The apparent breakup of the Moslem League is especially serious because it is the only organization in the country capable of carrying on. There are the following dangers:
 - a. Development of an autonomy movement in the Province of East Bengal, which is geographically cut off completely from the rest of Pakistan.
 - b. Increase of tension between India and Pakistan.

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