<u>Rom</u>, U.M. High commissioned in Flatson

RPID: U.M. HIGH COMMISSIONER IN INDIA DEPUTY U.M. HIGH COMMISSIONER IN LAHORE

D: KARACHI, 15.00 hours, 11th March, 1953 R: 13.00 hours, 11th March, 1953

<u>OYPHER</u>

PRIORITY

No. 442 SECRET

Addressed Commonwealth Relations Office No. 442, repeated U.K. High Commissioner in New Delhi No. 249, Deputy U.K. High Commissioner in Lahore No. 143.

## AHRAR AGITATIONS

I had long (? conversation with) Zafrullah last night. Full record follows today's bag.

Chief points are

- (1) That Daultana's (corrupt group) communique (my telegram 405) had been given widest circulation in Punjab through official sources to ensure public opinion was guided on these lines.
  - (2) Centre had sent emissaries to Daultana who were to instruct him to disavow and withdraw his communique. Any persistence would mean his dismissal. (It was not in fact necessary to use this threat) Daultana had agreed.
  - (3) He was then required to issue definite statement in terms of Central Government's earlier policy statement that there would be no compromise with Ahrars. This appeared in today's press. (Full text follows by bag).
  - (4) Daultana was (?first) obtaining formal assent of his Muslim League to this action. He is to do this today.
  - (5) Object of Centre is to prevent Daultana "wriggling back" to power by destroying his reputation and discrediting him in the Punjab. My immediately following telegram (sic).

Copy to:-

D. II

C. R. O.

Mr. W.J. Smith Miss Hanchet

P.S. to Prime Minister (2)

Foreign Office Mr. R.A. Burrows

ALLOTTED TO POLITICAL AFFAIRS DEPT.