

DILI - 1 May 2006 - 105 words

East Timor: thousands shelter in Catholic centres after riots

More than 5,000 civilians took refuge in the Don Bosco Seminary of the Salesian missionaries in Dili, East Timor, while thousands more fled to a Carmelite convent, after a demonstration by ex-soldiers exploded into violence at the weekend.

Two people were killed on Friday and 34 were injured during the riots in which police and solders took over the streets.

The country has seen weeks of unrest following the sacking of 593 solders last month.

An uneasy calm appears to have returned to the city. But MISNA reports that embassies and government buildings are all heavily guarded, and there is a large military and police presence on the streets.

Source: MISNA

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