

\$6 Million Unofficial Toll

9 Sept 70

Sterling Hall Bombing

Bomb Loss Still Not Toted Up

An accurate estimate of the damage caused by the Aug. 24 blast at the University of Wisconsin will not be available for some time, according to Gordon Orr, a campus architect in the Department of Planning and Construction.

Orr is head of a task force which has been trying to come up with a clear picture of the destruction in order to make recommendations about the future use of the buildings involved.

Unofficial estimates have put the damage to buildings and equipment at more than \$6 million.

ORR SAID Tuesday that his group hopes to come up with a

more accurate figure in one week when it reports to Chancellor Edwin Young.

It will be extremely difficult to put a dollar figure on damage or destroyed pieces of equipment that were built by the professors and their students, Orr said.

These one-of-a-kind items were in Physics Department laboratories which were heavily damaged in the blast.

Strict procedures required by the insurance companies also make the job of estimating damage a long and tedious undertaking, Orr said.

ORR SAID that the pharmacy labs in the east wing of the

Physics-Pharmacy Building (old Chemistry) will be ready for use when classes begin Sept. 21.

The labs were heavily damaged in the blast which occurred only 30 feet away.

Physics Prof. Hugh Richards reported that destruction of books and data in his department was not as bad as he earlier had thought. Richards said the destruction was kept down because there was little fire or water damage in the older wing of Sterling Hall.

In the newer wing, which housed the Army Mathematics Research Center — the blast's target — as well as physics and astronomy facilities, the salvage operation is still going on.

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EFFORTS IN this portion of Sterling have been hampered by rubble still hanging from the ceilings, he said.

Richards and Orr said it was impossible to make accurate damage estimates at this time.

Orr's task force includes representatives of the State Insurance Fund; Bureau of Capitol Development; Bureau of Engineering; Department of Industry, Labor, and Human Relations; the UW's Physical Plant; Risk Management Office; Planning and Construction; the academic departments involved; the General Adjustment Bureau; and the chancellor's offices.