Chilean Earthquake

The Washington Post reported at 6:05 a.m. EST

News Alert: Huge 8.8-magnitude earthquake hits Chile 06:05 AM EST Saturday, February 27, 2010

A massive 8.8-magnitude earthquake struck Chile early Saturday, collapsing buildings and killing at least 16 people. President Michele Bachelet declared a "state of catastrophe" in central Chile and said the death toll was rising.

Tsunami warnings were issued over a wide area, including Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Antarctica and Australia.

The epicenter was just 70 miles from Concepcion, Chile's second-largest city. In Santiago, the capital, telephone and power outages made it difficult to determine the extent of the damage.

For more information, visit washingtonpost.com: http://link.email.washingtonpost.com/r/IKR2QE/4GAAX/Z6JDIZ/VVDQR2/T8ZXW/B7/t

I first saw the report about 9:30, and immediately started a search for "Chile earthquake."

The first search produced 1,500 tweets reaching back to 9:19 a.m. CST. So, 1,500 tweets in 10 minutes. In less than 15 minutes there were another 1,000 tweets.

g. r. boynton February 27, 2010 9:45 a.m. CST