

UNCLASSIFIED

E1634
1035

ADR672

PAGE 01 SEOUL 06336 190915Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 PC-01 AID-07 SY-05 SYE-00 HA-05
DCT-02 OC-06 CC0-00 QPR-02 A-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00
CIAE-00 CDME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00
STR-09 SIL-01 DODE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00
INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 FEMA-02
ACDA-12 OCS-06 CA-01 IO-14 ANAE-00 /138 W

-----107646 190918Z /10

O 190859Z MAY 80
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6405
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
COMUSKORLEA SEOUL KS//BJ-IS
CHJUSMAG SEOUL KS
SA CINCPAC: KS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE 9003068 IS/FPC/CDR TRB Date 9/13/93

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELEASE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFY	MR Cases Only:
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCISE	<input type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFY	EO Citations _____
<input type="checkbox"/> DENY	IN PART	_____ TS authority to.
<input type="checkbox"/> DELETE Non-Responsive Info		<input type="checkbox"/> CLASSIFY as <input type="checkbox"/> S or <input type="checkbox"/> C OADR
FOIA Exemptions _____		<input type="checkbox"/> DOWNGRADE TS to <input type="checkbox"/> S or <input type="checkbox"/> C OADR
PA Exemptions _____		

██████████ SEOUL 06336

E.O. 12065: GDS 5/19/86 (CLARK, WILLIAM) OR-P
TAGS: SHUM, PINS, KS
SUBJECT: *KOREA SITREP - 5 P.M. MAY 19

REF: SEOUL 6273
1. ██████████

2. ~~SEOUL AND ALL OF KOREA EXCEPT KWANGJU WERE REPORTEDLY QUIET DURING MAY 19. IN SEOUL PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND MEDIA OFFICES WERE GUARDED BY TROOPS. NDP AND DRP HEADQUARTERS BUILDINGS WERE ALSO UNDER GUARD. HOWEVER, NO ONE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN PERMITTED ACCESS TO NDP BUILDING WHILE DRP PEOPLE SEEM TO BE ABLE TO GET IN AND OUT OF THEIR HEADQUARTERS. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME RUMORS OF POSSIBLE STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN SEOUL, BUT NONE HAVE MATERIALIZED AS OF 5 P.M.~~

3. POLICE DETAINED A NUMBER OF PEOPLE SINCE MAY 17
██████████

PAGE 02 SEOUL 06336 190915Z

THROUGH MAY 19. TENTATIVE LIST OF THOSE DETAINED BEING SUBMITTED SEPTEL.

4. RIOTS WHICH BROKE OUT IN KWANGJU MAY 18 ARE CONTINUING TODAY WITH SEVERAL THOUSAND REPORTEDLY STILL IN STREETS AS OF 3 P.M. ON MAY 18 CLASHES PRODUCED CASUALTIES AND RUMORS OF DEATH. REUTERS CARRIES REPORT THAT ONE STUDENT WAS KILLED WHEN RUN OVER BY AN ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER.

UNCLASSIFIED UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 8OSEOUL 006336

1035

5. RUMORS REACHING SEOUL OF KWANGJU RIOTING SAY SPECIAL FORCES USED FIXED BAYONETS AND INFLICTED MANY CASUALTIES ON STUDENTS. SOME IN KWANGJU ARE REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT TROOPS ARE BEING MORE RUTHLESS THAN NORTH KOREANS EVER WERE. BPAO KWANGJU, AS WELL AS KYODO WIRE SERVICE, REPORT SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF ORDINARY CITIZENS JOINING STUDENTS. AT 5 P.M., POLICE REPORT THAT A KWANGJU CROWD OF 3,000 HAD TAKEN A SOLDIER HOSTAGE. POLICE WILL NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY BRUTALITY RUMORS. THESE RUMORS COULD WELL AFFECT ATTITUDES OF STUDENTS AND POPULACE GENERALLY IN SEOUL AND ELSEWHERE.

6. COMMENT: MOST PEOPLE WE HAVE TALKED TO IN SEOUL FEEL DISCOURAGED BY TURN OF EVENTS SET IN MOTION BY DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY MARTIAL LAW. DISSIDENTS SHARE DISCOURAGEMENT BUT DO NOT SEEM DISPOSED TO LET MILITARY GO UNCHALLENGED. HOWEVER, THEY ARE AT A LOSS FOR THE MOMENT OVER WHAT THEY CAN DO. FEW DISSIDENTS PLACE HOPE IN POLITICIANS AFFECTING GOVT POLICY. RATHER THEY HOPE U.S. WILL BE ABLE TO PUT GENERALS BACK IN BARRACKS OR THAT STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO REGROUP AND SHAKE MILITARY CONTROL. GREATER TROUBLE IN KWANGJU PROBABLY REFLECTS FACT THAT THIS IS KIM DAE-JUNG COUNTRY.

[REDACTED]

PAGE 03 • • • SEOUL 06336 190915Z

7. LATER REPORT FROM DEFENSE SECURITY COMMAND IS THAT NUMBERS INVOLVED IN KWANGJU MUCH SMALLER THAN RUMORS WOULD SUGGEST AND THAT, IN FACT, CASUALTIES HAVE NOT OCCURRED. GLEYSTEN

[REDACTED]

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE NO. 2

UNCLASSIFIED