

EXCISE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE ⁹⁰⁰³⁶⁰⁸ IS/FPC/CDR ^{TR-B} Date. ^{9/13/9}

RELEASE D. CLASSIFY MR Cases Only:
 EXCISE DECLASSIFY Ex Citations _____
 DENY IN PART _____
 DELETE Non-Responsive Info _____ TS authority _____
 FOIA Exemptions B1 CLASSIFY as S or C O
 PA Exemptions _____ DOWNGRADE TS to S or C O

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 80SEOUL 006525

ADP559

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /031 W
-----000024 221049Z /17

O 221024Z MAY 80
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6512

SEOUL 06525

FOR EA ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE FROM GLEYSTEN

E.O. 12065: RDS-3 5/22/00 (GLEYSTEN, W.H.) DR-M
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PINS, KS, US
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE FURTHER U.S. STATEMENT ON KWANGJU
CRISIS

REF: SEOUL 6463

1. [REDACTED]
2. I WISH TO RENEW MY RECOMMENDATION OF YESTERDAY (REF-TEL) THAT WE ISSUE A FURTHER STATEMENT FOCUSED ON THE KWANGJU SITUATION. HOODING CARTER'S MAY 21 COMMENTS WERE HELPFUL BUT WERE NOT HEARD BY ANYONE IN KWANGJU. MEANWHILE, THE SITUATION REMAINS EXTREMELY SERIOUS; MORE AND MORE PEOPLE WANT TO KNOW THE U.S. ATTITUDE; THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT WANTS US TO MAKE A STATEMENT; AND, MOST IMPORTANT, GENERAL WICKHAM AND I HAVE BEEN ASSURED BY THE MILITARY HIERARCHY THAT THEY WILL ENCOURAGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE UNCENSORED TEXT AND WILL NOT UNDERCUT US BY TAKING FORCEFUL ACTION IN KWANGJU FOR AT LEAST TWO DAYS UNLESS THE SITUATION GOES COMPLETELY SOUR.

3. TO BE USEFUL, THE STATEMENT SHOULD BE ISSUED AT TO-

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DAY'S PRESS BRIEFING SO THAT IT CAN BE PUBLISHED IN TOMORROW'S PAPERS HERE. THE TEXT SHOULD MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

- WE ARE ALARMED BY THE CIVIL STRIFE IN KWANGJU.
- WE URGE ALL PARTIES, CONCERNED TO EXERCISE MAXIMUM RESTRAINT AND UNDERTAKE A DIALOGUE IN SEARCH OF A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT.

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TEXT OF TELEGRAM BOSEOUL 006525

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--CONTINUED UNREST AND AN ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE WILL RISK DANGEROUS MISCALCULATION AND EXPLOITATION BY EXTERNAL FORCES.

-- WE REITERATE THAT THE USG WILL "REACT STRONGLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS TREATY OBLIGATIONS TO ANY EXTERNAL ATTEMPT TO EXPLOIT THE SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA."

4. BOTH THE KEY MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND THE BLUE HOUSE ARE NOT ONLY AGREEABLE TO A STATEMENT ALONG THESE LINES, BUT WOULD WELCOME IT. I HAVE POINTED OUT TO THEM THAT IT WOULD PUT US IN AN IMPOSSIBLE POSITION IF IT WERE ISSUED ON THE EVE OF A MILITARY ATTEMPT TO RETAKE THE CITY, AND IN RESPONSE TO THIS THEY HAVE GIVEN US THE HIGH LEVEL ASSURANCE MENTIONED ABOVE THAT THEY DO NOT HAVE IN MIND FORCEFUL ACTIONS FOR AT LEAST THE NEXT TWO DAYS AND WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO PROMOTE THE DIALOGUE WHICH HAS BEGUN BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES AND SOME KWANGJU CITIZENS. IF WE MAKE THE PROPOSED STATEMENT, THE ROKG WILL NOT ONLY PUBLISH IT, BUT WILL BUILD ON THE SAME THEMES IN A STATEMENT THAT PRESIDENT CHOI WILL MAKE TO THE KOREAN PUBLIC, PROBABLY TOMORROW.


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5. 

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I WOULD PLAN TO TELEPHONE THE BLUE HOUSE TO CONFIRM THE UNDERSTANDING BEFORE HODDING MAKES HIS STATEMENT.

6. FURTHER, I WILL BE TELEPHONING YOU BY SECURE PHONE BETWEEN 8:00 AND 8:30 A.M. YOUR TIME. GLEYSSTEEN


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