

EXCISE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE 9003608 IS/FPC/CDR TRB Date. 9/13/93

ADP773

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION SS-30

RELEASE DECLASSIFY
 EXCISE DECLASSIFY
 DENY IN PART
 DELETE Non-Responsive Info
FOIA Exemptions 81
PA Exemptions _____

MR Cases Only:
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TS authority to:
 CLASSIFY as () S or () C OADR
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INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SS0-00 /031 W
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O 231016Z MAY 80
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6548

SECTION 01 OF 02 SEUL 06610

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y T E X T

E.O. 12065: RDS-1 5/23/00 (GLEYSTEN, W.H.) OR-M
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PINS, PEPR, KS, US
SUBJECT: INITIAL CALL ON ACTING PRIME MINISTER

2. SUMMARY: IN INITIAL CALL ON ACTING PRIME MINISTER PARK, I OUTLINED U.S. POLICY TOWARDS KOREA IN PERIOD FOLLOWING PRESIDENT PARK'S DEATH. I MADE CLEAR OUR UNHAPPINESS WITH THE EVENTS OF MAY 17 DID NOT RELATE TO MEASURES TO CONTROL RIOTING, WHICH WERE NECESSARY, BUT TO THE ACCOMPANYING POLITICAL CRACKDOWN WHICH HAD EXACERBATED EXISTING PROBLEMS AND HELPED BRING ABOUT THE KWANGJU CRISIS. I NOTED THAT WE ARE GOING ALL WE CAN TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE RESTORATION OF ORDER, CITING THE STATEMENT ISSUED IN WASHINGTON AND OUR AFFIRMATIVE REPLIES WHEN ASKED TO "CHOP" CFC FORCES TO KOREAN COMMAND FOR USE IN KWANGJU.

3. I SAID WE FEEL EQUALLY STRONGLY THAT, WHEN CALM IS RESTORED, POLITICAL PROGRESS MUST RESUME; UNLESS PEOPLE HAVE SOME HOPE FOR THE FUTURE THE SITUATION CANNOT BE TRULY STABILIZED. PARK AGREED, SAYING HE HAD MADE A SIMILAR COMMENT IN HIS FIRST SPEECH, MAY 22. PARK STATED THAT THE

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END SUMMARY.

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4. AT MY REQUEST I PAID AN INITIAL CALL ON ACTING PRIME MINISTER CHOONG HOON PARK (M-R: PAK CHUNG-HUN) MAY 23. THE DCM ACCOMPANIED ME; PARK WAS ALONE. AFTER CONGRATULATING PARK (WHO IS LIKELY TO REMAIN "ACTING" A LONG TIME SINCE HE ALONE OF THE CABINET MUST BE APPROVED BY THE ASSEMBLY), I OUTLINED IN SOME DETAIL U.S. POLICY TOWARDS KOREA SINCE PRESIDENT PARK'S DEATH. I SAID THAT THE POLICY DECISIONS OF MAY 17 HAD STAGGERED US. WE AGREED THAT FIRM ANTI-RIOT MEASURES WERE NECESSARY, BUT THE ACCOMPANYING POLITICAL CRACK-DOWN WAS POLITICAL FOLLY AND CLEARLY HAD CONTRIBUTED TO THE SERIOUS BREAKDOWN OF ORDER IN KWANGJU. THE GOVERNMENT'S STATEMENT OF MAY 22 MAKING FURTHER ACCUSATIONS AGAINST KIM DAE JUNG (M-R: KIM TAE-CHUNG) HAD ONLY WORSENEED THE SITUATION.

5. THE UNITED STATES IS DOING ALL IT CAN TO HELP IN THE RESTORATION OF ORDER. I CONTINUED. WE ISSUED A STATEMENT IN WASHINGTON WHICH HAD THE APPROVAL OF THREE CABINET-LEVEL OFFICIALS. AND WE HAVE AGREED TO "CHOP" FORCES UNDER CFC COMMAND TO KOREAN AUTHORITIES FOR USE IN KWANGJU. HOWEVER, AS WE NOTED IN OUR STATEMENT, ONCE CALM IS RESTORED, WE ARE CONVINCED THE POLITICAL PROCESS MUST ONCE AGAIN RESUME. I COMPLIMENTED PARK FOR INCLUDING A REFERENCE TO THIS ISSUE IN HIS FIRST SPEECH MAY 22. PARK

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NOTED THAT HE HAD DONE SO. I AGAIN STRESSED THAT ONLY IF PEOPLE HAVE HOPE OF POLITICAL PROGRESS CAN WE EXPECT PERMANENT STABILITY.

6. (PARK SAID THE KWANGJU SITUATION)

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7. TOWARDS THE END I REITERATED THAT, PRIOR TO ISSUING THE STATEMENT IN WASHINGTON WE HAD HAD ASSURANCES FROM CHUN DOO HWAN (M-R: CHON TU-HWAN) AND OTHERS THAT (A) THE STATEMENT WOULD BE PUBLISHED IN KOREA AND (B) THERE WOULD BE NO MILITARY SOLUTION ATTEMPTED FOR AT LEAST A REASONABLE PERIOD WHILE A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION WAS BEING SOUGHT. PARK AGAIN PRAISED THE STATEMENT.

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EXHIBIT REVIEW

cat. A Caption and custody transferred by [redacted]

Cat. B - Transferred by [redacted] with additional copies controlled by S-8

Cat. C - Caption and custody retained by S-8

Reviewed by: Elijah Kelle Jr.

Date: 4-28-93

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