

TEXT OF TELEGRAM BOSEOUL 006644

ADP932

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ACTION EA-12

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INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 ANAE-00 SY-05 SYE-00 DCT-02 OC-06
CCO-00 AID-07 PC-01 DPR-02 A-02 FEMA-02 HA-05
OMB-01 ACDA-12 IO-14 OCS-06 CA-01 /116 W

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D 250314Z MAY 80 ZFF1
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6562
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

SEOUL 06644

E.O. 12065-2 GDS 5/25/86 (CLARK, WILLIAM) DR-P
TAGS: JASEC, PINS, KS
SUBJECT: KOREAN SITREP, 12:00 NOON, SUNDAY, MAY 25, 1980

2. THE DIFFICULT PROCESS OF A RETURN TO NORMAL CONTINUES
IN KWANGJU. NEGOTIATIONS ARE PRESENTLY REPORTED DEAD-
LOCKED, BUT NOT BROKEN OFF. STRIFE WITHIN THE CITY HAS
APPARENTLY DIED DOWN, BUT THERE IS AN UNCONFIRMED REPORT
OF AN ARMED CLASH, WITH "DOZENS" OF CASUALTIES, BETWEEN
TROOPS AND AN ARMED CONVOY OF CIVILIAN DIEHARDS OUTSIDE
OF KWANGJU. WITHIN THE CITY, A SMALL DIEHARD FACTION IS
REPORTEDLY AGITATING CITIZENS, FRIGHTENING MANY SHOP-
KEEPERS INTO STAYING SHUT, AND INTERFERING WITH THE WEAPONS
TURN-IN PROGRAM. THE CITIZENS' COMMITTEE REPORTEDLY HAS
SEVERAL THOUSAND WEAPONS WHICH IT IS UNABLE TO GET PAST A
DIEHARDS' BARRICADE TO THE ARMY'S COLLECTION POINT IN THE
SUBURBS. MARTIAL LAW COMMAND MEANTIME IS BLOCKING SHIP-
MENTS OF FOOD AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES INTO THE CITY, SAYING
THAT RADICALS WOULD SEIZE THEM. THE RADICALS ARE REPORTED
SENDING EMISSARIES TO OTHER PARTS OF THE PROVINCE AND THE

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COUNTRY, SEEKING SUPPORT.

3. ROADBLOCKS CHECKING NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC ENTERING SEOUL
HAVE APPARENTLY BECOME STRICTER AND MORE NUMEROUS IN THE
LAST 24 HOURS. INTENT EVIDENTLY IS TO PROTECT THE CAPITAL
FROM KWANGJU AGITATORS AND ALSO FROM INFILTRATORS, A
NUMBER OF WHOM ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LANDED SOUTH OF
SEOUL IN THE LAST FEW DAYS.

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

E1682

RELEASE DECLASSIFY
 EXCISE DECLASSIFY
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FOIA Exemptions _____
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MR Cases Only: _____ 1115
EO Citations _____
TS authority to:
 CLASSIFY as S or C OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to S or C OADR

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4. PRESS: PRESS PLAY ON KWANGJU REMAINS CANDID AS TO FACTS BUT CONTINUES TO BLAME SMALL NUMBER OF AGITATORS FOR DISTURBANCES. EXECUTION OF KIM JAE KYU (M-R: KIM CHAE KYU) (SEPTTEL) WAS NOT ANNOUNCED IMMEDIATELY. U.S. MILITARY TV BROKE THE STORY ABOUT NOON AND SEOUL DOMESTIC RADIO FOLLOWED SUIT ABOUT 5:00 P.M. AFTERNOON PAPERS DID NOT COVER THE STORY, BUT A SPECIAL NIGHT EDITION OF DONG-A ILBO DID.

5. REPORTS FROM KWANGJU ARE THAT TBC/KBS BROADCASTS TO THAT CITY ARE COUCHED IN TERMS THAT INDICATE THE U.S. HAS NOT ONLY RELEASED FORCES OPCON TO CFC FOR USE IN MAINTAINING PUBLIC ORDER, BUT IN FACT HAS ENCOURAGED THE USE OF TROOPS IN THIS ROLE. GENERAL WICKHAM HAS PROTESTED (MAY 24) IN VERY STRONG TERMS TO THE MLC OVER THIS DISTORTION OF OUR POSITION, INCLUDING THE PROSPECT OF A U.S. DENIAL IF THE REPORTS ARE NOT CORRECTED. WE DO NOT AT THIS TIME HAVE A READING ON THE EFFECT OF THIS ACTION.

6. DAVID MILLER, BPAO KWANGJU, WHO RETURNED TO SEOUL YESTERDAY, MAY 24, BROUGHT WITH HIM A MESSAGE FROM CATHOLIC BISHOP YUN AT KWANGJU. THE MAJOR POINT IN THE BISHOP'S MESSAGE WAS THAT THE GOVERNMENT MUST APOLOGIZE FOR ACTS OF BRUTALITY COMMITTED BY ROK SPECIAL CORCE TROOPS ON MAY 18

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AND 19 IF A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM IS TO BE ACHIEVED. MILLER, TOGETHER WITH EMBOFF LA MAZZA, CALLED ON CARDINAL STEPHEN KIM MORNING OF MAY 25 TO DELIVER THIS MESSAGE. THE CARDINAL SAID THAT HE HAD GUESSED THAT THIS POINT WOULD BE VERY IMPORTANT AND HAD INCLUDED IT IN HIS TALK WITH THE MARSHAL LAW COMMANDER (MLC) MAY 22, AND IN HIS LETTER OF MAY 24 TO THE MLC. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE NOW BELIEVED THAT THE RELEASE OF KIM DAE JUNG (M-R: KIM TAE-CHUNG) WAS SECONDARY IN THE MINDS OF THE KWANGJU CITIZENS' COMMITTEE TO THIS DEMAND FOR AN APOLOGY. THE CARDINAL APPEARED SOMEWHAT AT A LOSS AS TO WHAT FURTHER STEPS HE COULD TAKE AT THE PRESENT TIME. GLEYSTEN

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