

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 80SEUL 006709

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

E1697

1133

ADDRESS [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASE DECLASSIFY
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 DELETE Non-Responsive Info
FOIA Exemptions _____
PA Exemptions _____

MR Cases Only:
EO Citations _____
TS authority to:
 CLASSIFY as S or C OADR
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ACTION EA-12

INFO DCT-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 HA-05 SY-05 SYE-00 DCT-02 OCS-06
CA-01 OC-06 CCD-00 PC-01 ANAE-00 /076 W
-----037883 271254Z /51-41

O 271228Z MAY 80
FM AMEMBASSY SEUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6597
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
COMUSKOREA SEUL KS//BJ-IS
CHJUSMAG SEUL KS
SA CINCUNC KS

[REDACTED] SEUL 06709

E.O. 12065: GDS 5/27/86 (CLARK, WILLIAM) OR-P
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, KS
SUBJECT: KOREAN SITREP, 1600, MAY 27, 1980

REF: SEUL 6589
[REDACTED]

2. KWANGJU. THE SITUATION IN KWANGJU IS STABLE, WITH NO REPORTED FIRING OR CIVIL DISTURBANCE. MARTIAL LAW COMMAND HAS ORDERED CIVILIANS TO HAND IN WEAPONS AND HAS BANNED BOTH INDOOR AND OUTDOOR ASSEMBLIES. THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE AND VICE CHIEF OF STAFF OF ROKA ARE VISITING THE CITY.

3. RELIEF SUPPLIES. IN SEUL, PRESIDENT CHOI RECEIVED A BRIEFING FROM THE NATIONAL MARTIAL LAW COMMANDER ON THE SITUATION IN KWANGJU, AND ORDERED FORMATION OF A KWANGJU RELIEF AND REHABILITATION COMMITTEE TO BE CHAIRED BY THE MINISTER OF THE ECONOMIC PLANNING BOARD. PRESS REPORTS [REDACTED]

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INDICATE THAT FOOD, MEDICINES, AND OTHER RELIF SUPPLIES ARE MOVING INTO THE CITY.

4. PUBLIC RELATIONS. THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND INFORMATION (MCI) RELEASED A STATEMENT OFFERING APOLOGIES AND CONDOLENCES TO THE PEOPLE OF KWANGJU FOR THEIR SUFFERING. HE MADE NO REFERENCE TO KWANGJU CITIZENS COMMITTEE'S EARLIER DEMANDS FOR OFFICIAL APOLOGIES; HIS WORDS, HOWEVER, CAN CERTAINLY NOT HURT IN THE PROCESS OF REDUCING

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TEXT OF TELEGRAM BOSEOUL 006709

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LOCAL IRE OVER THE PAST WEEK'S EVENTS.

5. PUBLIC RELATIONS, NATIONALLY. PRESS PLAY MAY 27 EMPHASIZED THE ORDER THAT NOW PREVAILS IN KWANGJU, THE ORGANIZING OF RELIEF EFFORTS, THE MCI'S STATEMENTS, ETC. THE PROVINCIAL POLICE CHIEF IS REPORTED UNDER INVESTIGATION FOR HAVING LET MATTERS GET OUT OF CONTROL.

6. SEOUL RUMORS. TODAY'S RUMORS INCLUDE TWO PARTICULARLY WIDESPREAD: ONE IS THAT THERE WAS A PITCHED BATTLE IN KWANGJU THIS MORNING WITH OVER 1200 CASUALTIES (APPARENTLY UNTRUE). THE OTHER IS THAT STUDENTS ARE GOING TO DEMONSTRATE IN SEOUL TODAY. THE LATTER RUMOR HAS OCCURRED ALMOST DAILY AND HAS SO FAR PROVEN GROUNDLESS, ALTHOUGH POLICE GUARDS DOWNTOWN HAVE BEEN DOUBLED.

7. THE PEOPLE'S LEAGUE FOR DEMOCRACY, WHOSE LEADERS INCLUDE KIM DAE JUNG (M-R: KIM TAE-CHUNG) AND FORMER PRESIDENT YUN PO-SUN (M-R: YUN PO-SUN), ISSUED A STATEMENT CRITICIZING EVENTS IN KWANGJU AND AGAIN DEMANDING THAT LTG CHUN DOO-HWAN (M-R: CHON TU-HWAN) RESIGN. JAPANESE PRESS PICKED UP THE ITEM, BUT THERE IS NO HINT OF IT IN THE ROK PRESS.

8. AMERICANS IN KWANGJU. MOFA ASKED MAY 26 FOR LIST OF

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AMERICANS STILL IN KWANGJU, AND FURNISHED THE LIST OF NAMES WHICH WE SUPPLIED TO THE MARTIAL LAW COMMAND. MOFA ADVISED US TODAY THAT MLC "DID THEIR UTMOST" TO PROTECT FOREIGNERS IN KWANGJU AND THAT, AS OF 0930 MAY 27, THE MLC REPORTS THAT THERE ARE NO AMERICAN CASUALTIES IN THE CITY. GLEYSTEEN

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