

E1843

DEPARTMENT OF STATE 9003668 IS/FPC/CDR TRB Date: 9/13/93

TEXT OF TELEGRAM BOSEDUL 008590

RELEASE  DECLASSIFY  
 EXCISE  DECLASSIFY  
 DENY  IN PART  
 DELETE Non-Responsive Info  
FOIA Exemptions \_\_\_\_\_  
PA Exemptions \_\_\_\_\_

MR Cases Only: \_\_\_\_\_  
EO Citations \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ TS authority to:  
 CLASSIFY as  S or  C OADR  
 DOWNGRADE TS to  S or  C OADR

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ADPO36  
[REDACTED]

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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 HA-05 IO-14  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-12 /081 W  
-----069180 050446Z /16-10

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O 060347Z JUL 80  
FM AMEMBASSY SEUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7521  
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY  
SA CINCUNC KS  
CHJUSMAG SEUL KS  
COMUSKOREA SEUL KS//BJ-IS

[REDACTED] SEUL 08590

E.O. 12065: GDS 07/05/86 (GLEYSTEN, W.H.) DR-M  
TAGS: PINT SHUM KS JA  
SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT CONTINUES HARD LINE AGAINST  
POLITICAL OPPOSITION AND "PURIFICATION" TARGETS

REF: (A) SEUL 8207 (B) SEUL 8562 (M)

1. [REDACTED] - ENTIRE TEXT)
2. THE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE OR IS RUMORED TO BE ON THE POINT OF MAKING A NUMBER OF MOVES IN LINE WITH ITS PURIFICATION DRIVE AND WHICH WILL REMOVE SEVERAL OF ITS ENEMIES. FIRST, THE MARTIAL LAW COMMAND (MLC) ISSUED A 47-PAGE REPORT JULY 4 DETAILING CHARGES AGAINST EX-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE KIM DAE JUNG (M-R: KIM TAE-CHUNG) AND 36 OF HIS ALLEGED HENCHMEN. ALLEGEDLY, KIM PLANNED TO SEIZE POWER FOLLOWING THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT PARK BY TAKING CONTROL OF THE NDP AND USING VARIOUS PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS TO OVERTHROW THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND ESTABLISH HIMSELF AS HEAD OF AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT. THE REPORT SAYS KIM IS A CONFIRMED COMMUNIST WHO HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH [REDACTED]

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COMMUNIST ORGANIZATIONS SINCE 1945, SPECIFICALLY LINKS HIM TO THE NORTH KOREANS, AND CHARGES HE HAD PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KWANGJU DISTURBANCES. KIM AND THE OTHERS WILL BE TRIED BY GENERAL COURT MARTIAL. (SUMMARY OF MLC REPORT FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.)

3. THE GOVERNMENT'S PURIFICATION DRIVE IS ALSO RUMORED TO BE ON THE POINT OF CLAIMING ITS FIRST CABINET-LEVEL VICTIM, MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY JAE SUK CHUNG (M-R:

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CHONG CHAE-SOK). OTHER HIGH LEVEL MCI OFFICIALS SUCH AS DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE OFFICE OF MONOPOLY AND ASSISTANT MINISTERS ARE ALSO RUMORED TO BE ON THE LIST OF THOSE TO BE DISMISSED AND POSSIBLY BROUGHT TO TRIAL. THAT THESE RUMORS MIGHT BE CORRECT WAS INDICATED BY MINISTER CHUNG'S "INDEFINITE POSTPONEMENT" OF A DINNER HE HAD JUST ARRANGED WITH THE AMBASSADOR "FOR REASONS TO BE EXPLAINED LATER." IN ADDITION, ALTHOUGH IT HAS NOT BEEN PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED, MORE THAN 90 HIGH-RANKING POLICE OFFICIALS (INCLUDING THE CHIEF OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS DIVISION, WHO ATTENDED THE AMBASSADOR'S JULY 4 RECEPTION AND RESIGNED THE FOLLOWING DAY) HAVE BEEN REMOVED. SEVERAL NATIONAL ASSEMBLYMEN, HITHERTO NOT INCLUDED AMONG THOSE ARRESTED OR RUMORED TO BE ON THE GOVERNMENT'S HIT LIST, ARE SAID TO BE ON THE POINT OF BEING ARRESTED. OTHERS, PRINCIPALLY SENIOR NDP ASSEMBLYMEN, ARE RUMORED TO HAVE SUBMITTED THEIR RESIGNATIONS TO ACTING ASSEMBLY SPEAKER MIN KWAN SHIK (M-C: MIN KWAN-SIK). ALONG THIS LINE, ACTING SPEAKER MIN ACCEPTED THE RESIGNATIONS OF NINE EX-ASSEMBLYMEN, INCLUDING KIM JONG PIL (M-R: KIM CHONG-P'IL).

4. FINALLY, ON JULY 3 THE GOVERNMENT CLOSED THE SEOUL OFFICES OF THE ASAHI SHIMBUN AND JIJI PRESS AND ISSUED A "STRONG WARNING" TO THE SANKEI SHIMBUN'S SEOUL REPRESENTA-

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TIVE. THE EXPULSION OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL THREE NEWS SERVICES IS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE JUSTICE MINISTRY AND IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO BE APPROVED. THE JAPANESE NEWS MEDIA ARE ACCUSED OF PUBLISHING "MALICIOUS AND GROUNDLESS REPORTS ABOUT KOREA, ESPECIALLY ABOUT THE INTERNAL SITUATION FOLLOWING THE KWANGJU INCIDENT." THE EXPULSION OF THE JAPANESE PRESS COMES ALONG WITH EARLIER EXPULSION OF THE SEOUL KYODO CORRESPONDENT, THE "VOLUNTARY" SUSPENSION OF THE "MONTHLY JOONGANG" (REF \*B) AND MENTION OF MEDIA PEOPLE IN THE MLC'S REPORT ON KIM DAE JUNG.

5. COMMENT: IT IS STILL UNCLEAR HOW FAR THE PURIFICATION DRIVE AND MOVES AGAINST THOSE DEEMED ENEMIES BY THE GOVERNMENT AND MLC WILL GO. THE GENERALS OBVIOUSLY SENSE THAT THE PUBLIC IS REACTING RATHER POSITIVELY TO THEIR ANTI-CORRUPTION CAMPAIGN. BUT SOME IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF THE SOCIETY ARE DISTRAUGHT AND NOTE THE SELECTIVITY OF THE ARRESTS SO FAR. ALMOST EVERYBODY UNDERSTANDS THE POLITICAL MESSAGE. NOT SURPRISINGLY, BUREAUCRATS AND POLITICIANS HAVE TOLD US THAT IT HAS RESULTED IN NEAR PARALYSIS AMONG MANY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND VIRTUALLY ALL POLITICIANS. GLEYSTEN

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