

TEXT OF TELEGRAM BOSTATE 196255

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ORIGIN EA-12

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E.O. 12065:GDS 7/24/86 (RICH, ROBERT G.)

TAGS: SOPN, PINS, PINT, MPOL, PDIP, SCUL, PEPR, KS, KN, US

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT - KOREA

TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/K - ROBERT G. RICH

1. THE FOURTH ESTATE: SLOW ON THE DRAW

WIRE SERVICES OUT OF KOREA TODAY REPORTED THE DETENTION EARLY THIS MORNING OF FIVE KOREAN STRINGERS FOR FOREIGN NEWS MEDIA (AP, REUTERS, NHK, ASAHI SHIMBUN, AND THE NEW YORK TIMES). THE NYT STRINGER HAS SINCE BEEN RELEASED, ACCORDING TO REUTERS. ANTICIPATING A STORM OF QUESTIONS.

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WE PREPARED PRESS GUIDANCE, BUT THE NOON BRIEFING TODAY WAS LARGELY TAKEN UP WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT BILLY CARTER. NEVERTHELESS, WE HAVE HAD EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM NEWS MEDIA HERE AND ANTICIPATE QUESTIONS ON FRIDAY, AFTER THE STORY HAS BROKEN IN AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS. (MC NEAL)

2. SECOND INCIDENT AT ICA KWANGJU CULTURAL CENTER (C)

IN A SECOND INCIDENT OF HARASSMENT AT OUR KWANGJU CULTURAL
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE 9003668 IS/FPC/CDR TRB Date: 9/13/93

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELEASE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFY	MR Cases Only:
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CENTER A KOREAN POLICEMAN ON MONDAY ASKED LOCAL EMPLOYEES AND OUR BPAO ABOUT COPIES OF ARTICLES FROM U.S. PUBLICATIONS THAT WERE FOUND IN THE POSSESSION OF A POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR DETAINED IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE KWANGJU INCIDENT. WHEN THE OFFICER ASKED OUR STAFFERS TO SIGN A STATEMENT, OUR BPAO PUT HIM OFF, PLEADING LACK OF AUTHORIZATION FROM SEOUL. THIS INCIDENT FOLLOWED BY ONE MONTH THE JUNE 23 INTRUSION OF ARMED SOLDIERS INTO THE KWANGJU LIBRARY. AS IN JUNE, WE PROTESTED THE INCIDENT IN SEOUL AND WERE GIVEN PROFUSE APOLOGIES. THE BASIC PROBLEM APPEARS TO LIE WITH OVERZEALOUS AUTHORITIES IN KWANGJU. (MC NEAL)

3. LETTERS CONTINUE TO FLOW IN (U)

FOR THE PAST MONTH, THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN RECEIVING ABOUT 75-80 LETTERS PER WEEK EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT MARTIAL LAW IN KOREA. THIS WEEK HAS BEEN TYPICAL: 78 LETTERS, ABOUT HALF SPECIFICALLY MENTIONING KIM DAE JUNG. THEMES FREQUENTLY SOUNDED: THE ROK MILITARY SHOULD NOT MEDDLE IN POLITICS, ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS MUST BE FREED, USG SUPPORT FOR THE ROK IS INCONSISTENT WITH OUR HUMAN RIGHTS STAND, AND "ALL FORMS OF AID" TO THE ROK SHOULD BE CUT OFF. (MC NEAL)

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4. CULTURAL EXCHANGE

THE NORTH KOREANS APPEAR TO BE SERIOUS ABOUT ONE PROPOSAL THEY PRESENTED TO SOLARZ--ACADEMIC AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES. THE NORTH KOREANS CAN BE EXPECTED TO MAXIMIZE THE PROPAGANDA AND POLITICAL VALUE OF THESE EXCHANGES. WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ON THE INVITATION TO A GROUP OF KOREAN-AMERICANS TO VISIT NORTH KOREA. IN ADDITION A WIDE RANGE OF ACADEMIC SPECIALISTS ON KOREA ARE PRESENTLY ARRANGING VISITS TO THE DPRK. UNTIL NOW THIS "EXCHANGE" HAS BEEN ALL ONE-WAY, BUT WE EXPECT THAT SOME NORTH KOREAN VISITORS WILL BEGIN TO APPLY FOR U.S. VISAS IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE. (RASMUSSEN) MUSKIE

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED PORT MORESBY.

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