DEPARTMENT OF STATE 9003668 IS/FPC/CDR TRB Date. 9/13/93
(X) RELEASE (X) DECLASSIFY
( ) EXCISE ( ) DECLASSIFY IN PART
( ) DENY
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FOIA Exemptions
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MR Cases Only:
EO Citations
TS authority to.
( ) CLASSIFY as ( ) S or ( ) C OADR
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TEXT OF TELEGRAM 80SEOUL 011647

ADP660
[redacted]

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 HA-05 PM-07 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 /069 W
----------120154 050941Z /21

P 050906Z SEP 80
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8934
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
SA CINCUNC KS
CHJUSMAG SEOUL KS
COMUSKOREA SEOUL KS//BJ-IS
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

[redacted] SEOUL 11647

E.O. 12065: GDS 09/06/86 (RICHARDSON, K. SPENCE) OR-P
TAGS: PINS, ELTN, SOPN, KS
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT CHUN VISITS KWANGJU: MIXED SIGNALS

1. (U) PRESIDENT CHUN (M-R: CHON TU-HWAN) ON SEPTEMBER 5 VISITED KWANGJU, CAPITOL OF CHOLLA SOUTH PROVINCE AND SCENE OF MAY'S DISTURBANCES. AFTER HEARING BRIEFINGS ON FLOOD CONTROL FROM THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR, CHUN SAID HE WAS "SATISFIED THAT THE KWANGJU INCIDENT HAS BEEN SETTLED THROUGH THE CONCERTED EFFORTS OF THE PEOPLE. WE SHOULD NOT DISCUSS THE INCIDENT ANYMORE," HE SAID, ADDING THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT THE PROVINCE "WOULD RESTORE ITS HONOR AND SELF-RESPECT AND BE A MORE EXEMPLARY PROVINCE THAN OTHERS." IN A POTENTIALLY FAR-REACHING MOVE, CHUN ORDERED THE CONSTRUCTION MINISTRY TO FORMULATE A PLAN FOR BUILDING AN EXPRESSWAY "THROUGH (MASSIVE) CHIRI MOUNTAIN" WHICH WOULD CONNECT THE CHOLLAS WITH THE KYONGSANG PROVINCES.

2. [redacted] COMMENT: SUCH AN EXPRESSWAY, IF BUILT, WOULD BE OF CONSIDERABLE ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE TO THE CHOLLAS,
[redacted]

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WHICH HAS POORER HIGHWAY AND RAIL FACILITIES AND CONNECTIONS THAN THE KYONGSANG AREA. TO CHOLLA RESIDENTS, WHOSE ATTITUDE TOWARDS CHUN IS PRESUMABLY COLORED BY MEMORIES OF KWANGJU AND BY THE KIM DAE-JUNG (M-R: KIM TAE-CHUNG) CASE, THE ROAD WOULD BE A CONCILIATORY GESTURE. HOWEVER, CHUN'S IMPLICATION THAT CHOLLA SOUTH PROVINCE HAS LOST ITS HONOR IS NOT LIKELY TO BE HELPFUL. GLEYSTEEN

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