

ON HIS TRIP TO THE KWANGJU AREA, AND URGED STUDENTS TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES. HE CALLED FOR A DIALOGUE AND PROMISED REHABILITATION AID BUT STATED THAT ORDER WOULD HAVE TO BE RESTORED. THE OVERALL TONE OF THE SPEECH, WHICH WAS BROADCAST AGAIN MONDAY MORNING, WAS REASONABLE AND CONCILIATORY. A LENGTHY MARTIAL LAW "ANNOUNCEMENT" SUNDAY

NIGHT REPORTED THAT HARDLINERS HAD DECIDED TO "STRUGGLE TO THE END," BUT THAT MOST OF THE CITIZENS OF KWANGJU "ARDENTLY DESIRE THE GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES TO RESTORE ORDER." IN AN ENCOURAGING MOVE TOWARD ACKNOWLEDGING MISTAKES, THE STATEMENT ALSO MADE REFERENCE TO "ATROCITIES OF STABBING BY THE TROOPS."

4. (S) ACCORDING TO GEN. C H U N DOO HWAN, HE IS UNDER GREAT PRESSURE (FROM AN UNSPECIFIED SOURCE) TO END THE STALEMATE AND MOVE AGAINST THE CITY. SUBSEQUENTLY, JCS CHAIRMAN LEW INFORMED U.S. COMMANDER GEN. WICKHAM THAT THE ROK ARMY WILL MOVE INTO KWANGJU UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS AT MIDNIGHT MONDAY (1100 EDT MONDAY). IF THERE ARE LARGE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE IN THE STREETS (EARLIER REPORTS OF 200,000 MILLING DOWNTOWN HAVE BEEN DISCOUNTED), THE CHANCES OF LARGE CASUALTY FIGURES WILL BE GREATLY INCREASED.

SECRET
SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 138687

5. (C) AS FAR AS WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ASCERTAIN, THERE ARE 31 AMERICANS IN KWANGJU, 25 OF WHOM HAVE BEEN CONTACTED. SOME REPORT THEY WILL ATTEMPT TO LEAVE THE CITY BUT OTHERS SAY THEY WISH TO STAY. THE EMBASSY IS CONTINUING ITS EFFORTS TO CONTACT ALL AMERICANS IN THE AREA. LATE INFORMATION CONFIRMS THAT FIVE OF THESE SAFELY EXITED KWANGJU ON MONDAY.

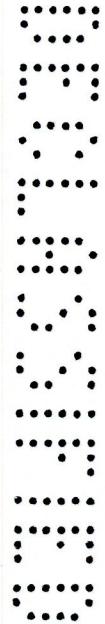
6. (C) OTHER KOREAN CITIES, ASIDE FROM KWANGJU, REMAIN QUIET. SPECIAL FORCES TROOPS DID MAKE A SHOW OF FORCE IN SEOUL, POSSIBLY IN RESPONSE TO REPORTS OF A UNIVERSITY RALLY MONDAY AFTERNOON.

7. (C) NORTH KOREAN SOURCES REPORT THAT RALLIES HAVE BEEN HELD IN PYONGYANG "TO DENOUNCE SUPPRESSIVE MEASURES" IN SOUTH KOREA. THE RHETORIC SHOWS NO CHANGE IN PREVIOUSLY STATED POSITIONS. MUSKIE

SECRET

NNN

*Low told Wickham
move to quell
uprising*



ADPO55
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 06660 02 OF 02 260840Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 IO-14 ACDA-12 SY-05
SYE-00 OC-06 CCO-00 AID-07 PC-01 OPR-02 A-02
ONE-01 OCS-06 CA-01 ANAE-00 /112 W
.....
-----029973 260843Z /12

O 260807Z MAY 80
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6566
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
SA CINCPAC Ks
CHJUSMACO SEOUL Ks
COMUSKOREA SEOUL KS//BJ-IS

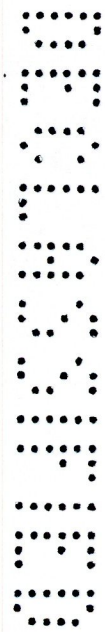
C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 SEOUL 06660

9. NORTH KOREA/SOVIETS: FBIS HAS BRIEF REPORTS ON TWO RALLIES HELD IN PYONGYANG: ONE MAY 25, "TO DENOUNCE SUPPRESSIVE MEASURES" IN SOUTH KOREA; THE OTHER, MAY 24, AT WHICH SOVIET AMBASSADOR SPOKE, IN OBSERVANCE OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF CH'ŌCHONGNYON (KOREAN RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION IN JAPAN). EARLY TAKES INDICATE THAT THE RHETORIC SHOWS LITTLE OR NO CHANGE IN NK/SOVIET POSITIONS.

10. SHORTLY AFTER 1800 MAY 25 MOFA REQUESTED THAT WE URGE ALL AMERICANS TO LEAVE KWANGJU AND MOKPO AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. WITH THE HELP OF BPAO MILLER, WHO HAD JUST LEFT KWANGJU, AND CONSULAR RECORDS, WE WERE ABLE TO PASS A LIST OF THOSE AMERICANS THOUGHT STILL TO BE IN KWANGJU TO THE AMERICAN OIC AT THE NEARBY ROKAF BASE. TWENTY-FIVE OF THE AMERICANS WERE CONTACTED BY THE OIC. (NO CALLS ARE PERMITTED FROM SEOUL TO KWANGJU, BUT WE HAVE A LINE TO THE AIRBASE AND A MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS LINE TO KWANGJU FOR EMERGENCY USE.) SIX REMAIN TO BE REACHED, BUT, OF COURSE, THERE MAY BE OTHER U.S. CITIZENS THERE NOT PRESENT-
CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 06660 02 OF 02 260840Z

LY KNOWN TO EMBASSY. SOME OF THOSE CONTACTED DECIDED THEY WOULD TRY TO REACH THE MILITARY BASE, ALTHOUGH THEY WOULD HAVE TO PASS THROUGH BARRIERS MANNED BY RADICALS AND ROK MILITARY ASTRIDE ALL ROUTES LEADING OUT OF THE CITY. TWELVE MORMON MISSIONARIES AND FIVE CANADIAN CITIZENS ARE AT THE AIRBASE AT THIS TIME. OTHERS HAVE DECIDED TO REMAIN IN THEIR HOMES FOR SAFETY OR OTHER REASONS. FOUR PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS COULD NOT BE REACHED. (WE HAVE TALKED WITH PCV PAUL COURTWRIGHT.) WE ARE MAKING ANOTHER



ATTEMPT TO CONTACT ALL THOSE WE HAVE NOT SPOKEN WITH AND WILL REPORT AS AMERICANS REACH THE BASE.

11. WE ARE RECEIVING INCREASING EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN FROM THE NON-OFFICIAL/NON-BUSINESS AMERICAN COMMUNITY MEMBERS OVER THEIR PERCEPTION OF THE U.S. ROLE IN THE PRESENT SITUATION. VERY CONCERNED THEMSELVES, THEY CONSTANTLY REFER TO THEIR KOREAN FRIENDS WHO SEE THE U.S. IN FULL SUPPORT OF THE ROK MILITARY. WE HAVE EXPLAINED THE SITUATION AND OUR POSITION TO THEM IN GREAT DETAIL IN THE HOPE THEY WILL ADEQUATELY REPRESENT IT TO THEIR KOREAN CIRCLE. WE DOUBT THIS WILL HAPPEN, AND WE ARE SURE WE WILL BE BLAMED IF KWANGJU'S RECAPTURE INVOLVES HEAVY LOSS OF LIFE. SINCE THESE AMERICANS REPRESENT A WIDE CIRCLE OF GROUPS IN THE U.S., THE DEPARTMENT WILL SOON BEGIN RECEIVING THE SAME VIEWS, IF IN FACT THIS HAS NOT ALREADY BEGUN.

notes special forces driving through Seoul

12. IN A LATE DEVELOPMENT, THE FIRST SPECIAL FORCES BRIGADE BEGAN A SHOW OF FORCE DRIVING THROUGH STREETS OF SEOUL BETWEEN 1300 AND 1700 ON MAY 26 WITH A FORCE OF 971 TROOPS IN 67 VEHICLES. FIFTH SPECIAL FORCES BRIGADE WILL FOLLOW WITH 940 PERSONNEL IN 73 VEHICLES FROM 1730 TO 1830 HOURS. THIS SHOW OF FORCE MAY BE RELATED TO REPORTS OF

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SEOUL 06660 02 OF 02 260840Z

A UNIVERSITY RALLY AT 1800. GLEYSSTEEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

