CONFIDENTIAL OADR EXCISE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR TRB Date. 9/13/93

( ) RELEASE ( ) DECLASSIFY
(X) EXCISE (X) DECLASSIFY IN PART
( ) DENY
( ) DELETE Non-Responsive Info
FOIA Exemptions B1, B6
PA Exemptions

MR Cases Only:
EO Citations
TWAinsworth TS authority to
(X) CLASSIFY as ( ) S or (X) C OADR
( ) DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) S or ( ) C OADR

E1888

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TEXT OF TELEGRAM 80SEOUL 009378

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SSO-00 MMO-01 INR-10 INRE-00 /024 W
----------061857 220924Z /22

O 220508Z JUL 80
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7897
INFO USICA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 09378

SECSTATE FOR EA/K

USICA FOR EA

E.O. 12065: GDS 7/22/86 (MONJO, JOHN C.) OR-M
TAGS: PINT, KS
SUBJECT: POLICE VISITS TO ICA KWANGJU CENTER

1. (C) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. ICA KWANGJU CULTURAL CENTER WAS VISITED MORNING OF JULY 21 BY KOREAN POLICE LIEUTENANT (MEMBER OF THE UNIFIED INVESTIGATIVE UNIT, COMPOSED OF MILITARY AND POLICE) SEEKING INFORMATION IN CONNECTION WITH POLICE INVESTIGATION OF [ ] AT KWANGJU CHONNAM NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, DETAINED IN AFTERMATH OF RECENT KWANGJU INCIDENTS. B6

3. POLICE OFFICER EXPLAINED THAT, IN COURSE OF INVESTIGATION, [ ] FOUND TO HAVE IN HIS POSSESSION XEROX COPIES OF ARTICLES FROM U.S. PUBLICATIONS OF LAST NOVEMBER REPORTING ON ASSASSINATION OF PARK CHUNG HEE. [ ] WAS SAID TO HAVE STATED HE OBTAINED THE ARTICLES FROM ICA LIBRARY. B6 B6

4. OFFICER ASKED ICA KOREAN LIBRARIAN IF [ ] B6

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IN FACT OBTAINED ARTICLES FROM ICA. LIBRARIAN REPLIED THAT HE COULD NOT BE CERTAIN (PARTICULARLY SINCE THE OFFICER DID NOT HAVE THE ARTICLES TO SHOW HIM), BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT NORMAL LIBRARY SERVICES INCLUDED MAKING COPIES OF ARTICLES FROM U.S. PUBLICATIONS FOR SCHOLARS AND RESEARCHERS. OFFICER THEN ASKED LIBRARIAN (FIRST) AND THEN BPAO TO SIGN A STATEMENT TO THAT EFFECT ON FORM WHICH HE SUPPLIED. BPAO REPLIED SHE COULD NOT SIGN STATEMENT WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS FROM SEOUL. SHE AGREED TO CONTACT POLICE-

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ICA Kwangju

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MAN ON RECEIPT OF INSTRUCTIONS, WHEREUPON OFFICER DEPARTED.
5. AFTER BPAO LEFT CENTER AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS, SAME LIEUTENANT RETURNED TO LIBRARY (WHICH REMAINS OPEN LATER THAN OFFICES) AND TOLD ICA LIBRARIAN THAT HE (LIEUTENANT) WOULD TELEPHONE OR VISIT HIM AT HOME LATER IN THE EVENING FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE MATTER. WHEN LIBRARIAN RETURNED HOME AT 2100 HOURS, HIS WIFE TOLD HIM THAT POLICE LIEUTENANT HAD PHONED RESIDENCE TWICE AND VISITED ONCE. THERE WERE NO FURTHER DISTURBANCES THAT NIGHT AND LIBRARIAN REPORTED FOR WORK AS USUAL FOLLOWING MORNING (JULY 22). A POLICE SERGEANT VISITED CENTER AT 1630 HOURS JULY 22, MAKING THE SAME REQUEST OF THE LIBRARIAN, WHO AGAIN REFUSED.

6. EMBASSY PLANS TO PROTEST THIS INCIDENT WITH MOFA.

B1 A5

7. COMMENT: THIS INCIDENT FOLLOWS BY ONE MONTH INTRUSION OF ARMED SOLDIERS INTO KWANGJU LIBRARY JUNE 23 (SEOUL 8268-C, 8080-C, 8256-C). SINCE IMPROPRIETIES HAVE OCCURRED ONLY IN KWANGJU AND, IN PREVIOUS INSTANCE, WERE FOLLOWED BY PROFUSE APOLOGIES (AFTER EMBASSY PROTEST), WE ARE INCLINED FOR THE MOMENT TO ATTRIBUTE THEM TO OVERZEALOUS INVESTIGATORS UNFAMILIAR WITH SPECIAL STATUS OF FOREIGN

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CULTURAL CENTERS, RATHER THAN TO OFFICIALLY SANCTIONED HARASSMENT OF ICA CENTERS. WHATEVER THE MOTIVATION, EMBASSY PLANS TO CONTINUE TO PROTEST PROMPTLY ANY OBSTRUCTION, INTENTIONAL OR OTHERWISE, OF ICA OPERATIONS HERE.
MONJO

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