

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
MESSAGE CENTER

RECEIVED

ZYIHW JUN -3 1980

DIA RIS-2B 16753

VZCZCMLT275

MULT
ACTION

DIA:

DISTR

J5(02) J3:NMCC NIDS SECDEF(07) SECDEF: USDP(15) ATSD:AE(01)
ASD:PA&E(01) :DIA(20) NMIC
CMC CC WASHINGTON DC
CSAF WASHINGTON DC
CNO WASHINGTON DC
CSA WASHINGTON DC
NSA WASH DC

FILE

(046)

TRANSIT/1540912/1540946/000:34TOR1540938
OE RUEHULA #7020 1540912
ZNY SSSSS

TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUHQHQA/COMIPAC HONOLULU HI//IPAC-IC// IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC//DDO-INT-RQ// IMMEDIATE
INFO RUAGOTC/COR501MIGP SEOUL KS PRIORITY
RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RUAGAAA/COMUSKOREA SEOUL KS PRIORITY
BT

07020

032

SUBJ:

THIS IS AN INFO REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTEL

1. (U) CTY: REPUBLIC OF KOREA (KS)
2. (U) TITLE: RESIGNATION OF ((CHON)) TU HWAN AS KCIA
CHIEF (U)
3. (U) DTD OF INFO: 800602
4. [REDACTED]
5. [REDACTED]

PAGE 1

00101110

469

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

MESSAGE CENTER

PAGE 2

16753

6. (U) LOCAL PRESS.

7. (U) SUMMARY: THIS REPORT TRANSMITS INFORMATION ABOUT THE RESIGNATION OF CHON, TU HWAN, AS KCIA DIRECTOR.

8A. (U) DETAILS: LOCAL NEWS MEDIA REPORTED THAT EFFECTIVE 2 JUNE 1980, LTG CHON TU HWAN RESIGNED AS ACTING KCIA DIRECTOR. A REPLACEMENT WAS NOT MADE PUBLIC AS OF THIS TIME.

8B. CHON HAD BEEN UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE TO STEP DOWN AS KCIA DIRECTOR. ONE OF THE KEY BASIS FOR STUDENT RIOTS/DEMONSTRATION HAD CENTERED AROUND CHON'S APPOINTMENT TO THE KCIA POST. OBSERVERS FELT HE WAS PREPARED TO STEP DOWN AT SOME POINT IN THE FUTURE. MANY DID NOT EXPECT HIS RESIGNATION TO COME THIS SOON AFTER THE KWANGJU RIOTS. BASED ON HIS NEW POSITION AS PERMANENT CHAIRMAN OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE "SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY MEASURES" PERHAPS HE FELT THAT HE HAD ACHIEVED THE POWER BASE HE WANTED. MORE LIKELY HOWEVER HIS MOVE IS INTENDED TO HELP DEFUSE THE CIVIC UNREST WHICH STILL COULD BOIL OVER. DESPITE THIS RESIGNATION CHON TU HWAN WILL CONTINUE TO BE A CENTRAL FIGURE IN THE PROTEST MOVEMENT IN SOUTH KOREA.

9. (U) PROJ NO: N/A

10.

11.

12.

13.

14. (U) REQ EVAL: NO; REL TO: NONE.

15. (U) ENCL: N/A

16. (U) DIST BY ORIG: N/A

BT

#7020

ANNOTES

EW 117

PAGE 2

00101110

NNNN

0209477