

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 80SEOUL 008917

ADP376
CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 DNY-00 SSO-00 SVC-00 /013 W
-----109769 110914Z /12-R

O 110840Z JUL 80
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7688
INFO SA CINCUNC KS
CHJUSMAG SEOUL KS
COMUSKOREA SEOUL KS//BJ-IS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 SEOUL 08917

E.O. 12065: GDS 07/11/86 (GLEYSTEN, W. H.) OR-M
TAGS: PEPR MILI PINT SHUM KS US
SUBJECT: RESPONSES TO WOLFF SUBCOMMITTEE

REF: STATE 181043
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1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)
2. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT IN GENERAL THE PROPOSED ANSWERS TO THE WOLFF SUBCOMMITTEE ARE APPROPRIATELY STRAIGHTFORWARD AND COMPLETE. WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTED CHANGES.
3. ANSWER 2 SHOULD READ AS FOLLOWS:

"FORMAL LEGITIMACY HAS BEEN RETAINED BY THE AUTHORITIES IN SEOUL. PRESIDENT CHOI KYU-HAH HAS CONTINUED IN HIS CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICE, AND A CIVILIAN CABINET REMAINS. HOWEVER, A NUMBER OF EXTRAORDINARY ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE SINCE MID-MAY, INCLUDING PREVENTING THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FROM MEETING OR FUNCTIONING AND THE ESTABLISHING OF MILITARY-CIVIL "SPECIAL COMMITTEES FOR NATIONAL SECURITY MEASURES" WHICH ARE INCREASINGLY ASSUMING

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AUTHORITY NORMALLY RESERVED TO THE CABINET, LEGISLATURE, AND OTHER AGENCIES OF THE GOVERNMENT.

THE SENIOR ARMY OFFICERS WHO WIELD VERY GREAT AUTHORITY OVER ALL ASPECTS OF KOREAN GOVERNMENT AT THE PRESENT TIME DO SO FORMALLY THROUGH THE MECHANISM OF EXTENDED MARTIAL LAW, ALTHOUGH THEIR ACTIONS HAVE A DEPTH AND PATTERN WHICH GOES MORE DEEPLY INTO THE GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEM THAN WOULD APPEAR TO BE WARRANTED BY CONSIDERATIONS OF

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

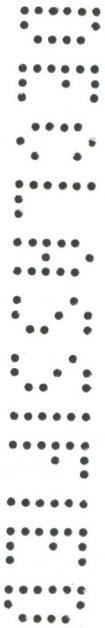
IS, FPC/CDR *TRB* Date: *9/13/93*

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RELEASE DECLASSIFY
 EXCISE DECLASSIFY
 DENY IN PART
 DELETE Non-Responsive Info
FOIA Exemptions _____
PA Exemptions _____

MR Cases Only: _____
EO Citations _____
_____ TS authority to.
 CLASSIFY as S or C OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to S or C OADR



RESTORING SECURITY AND ORDER."

REMAINDER OF ANSWER 2 SHOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED.

4. ANSWER 3 SHOULD READ AS FOLLOWS:

"THERE HAVE NOT BEEN ENOUGH SIGNIFICANT RELEASES SINCE THE EXTENSION OF MARTIAL LAW IN MID-MAY TO INDICATE A MAJOR EFFORT AT RECONCILIATION OR LENIENCY. IN THE WAKE OF THE LARGE STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS IN SEOUL AND THE SUBSEQUENT NEAR-INSURRECTION IN THE SOUTHERN CITY OF KWANGJU IN MAY, LARGE NUMBERS OF PERSONS WERE DETAINED BY MARTIAL LAW AUTHORITIES FOR INVESTIGATION. REPORTEDLY, OVER 1,000 HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN RELEASED WITHOUT CHARGES, BUT THIS WOULD APPEAR TO BE NO MORE THAN THE RESULT OF A SCREENING AND INVESTIGATIVE PROCESS RATHER THAN RELEASES OF THOSE AGAINST WHOM THE GOVERNMENT FELT IT HAD A CASE.

A SMALL NUMBER OF POLITICIANS, INCLUDING THE PRESIDENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN PARTY, FORMER PRIME MINISTER KIM JONG-PIL, AND SEVERAL OTHER FORMERLY PROMINENT INDIVIDUALS WERE RELEASED AT THE BEGINNING OF JULY AFTER HAVING REPORTEDLY AGREED TO TURN MOST OF THEIR WEALTH OVER TO THE GOVERNMENT AND TO REFRAIN FROM ANY FURTHER

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POLITICAL OR POLITICAL PARTY PARTICIPATION. THESE INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN PUBLICLY ACCUSED OF CORRUPTION, ALTHOUGH NO LEGAL PROCEEDINGS WERE EVER HELD AND THEIR REMOVAL FROM THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN EXTRACTED IN RETURN FOR THEIR FREEDOM. A VERY SMALL NUMBER OF OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE DETAINED, INCLUDING SOME NATIONAL ASSEMBLYMEN, HAVE ALSO BEEN RELEASED."

REMAINDER OF ANSWER 3 SHOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED.

5. ANSWER 6 SHOULD READ AS FOLLOWS:

"AFTER NEARLY TWO DECADES OF SPECTACULAR ECONOMIC GROWTH DURING WHICH REAL INCREASES IN GNP AVERAGED ABOUT 9.5 PERCENT ANNUALLY, KOREAN ECONOMIC GROWTH SLOWED TO 7.1 PERCENT IN 1979. PART OF THE SLOWDOWN WAS SELF-INDUCED AS THE GOVERNMENT IN EARLY 1979 ADOPED A STABILIZATION PROGRAM TO COMBAT GROWING INFLATIONARY PRESSURES, BUT THE DOWNTURN WAS MUCH SHARPER THAN EXPECTED DUE TO LAST YEAR'S PETROLEUM PRICE INCREASE AND THE SLOWDOWN IN THE WORLD ECONOMY. FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 1980, GNP HAS DECLINED ABOUT 2 PERCENT AND OVERALL GROWTH FOR THE YEAR WILL BE MINIMAL. ALTHOUGH KOREAN ECONOMIC PLANNERS EXPECT THE INFLATION (#)



ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN AND RISING UNEMPLOYMENT."

PARAGRAPH BEGINNING "WHILE KOREA EXPERIENCED..." REMAINS UNCHANGED.
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NOTE BY OC/T: SEOUL 8917/1. (#)OMISSION PARA 5 CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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