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PAGE 01 STATE 100417  
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SECRET STATE 100417

EXDJS

E.O. 12065: RDS-2, 4, 4/14/2000 (HOLBROOKE, RICHARD C.)

TAGS: PEPR, OVIP (PARK, TONG JIN), KN, RS, US

SUBJECT: ROK FOREIGN MINISTER PARK'S MEETING WITH THE  
SECRETARY -- GENERAL ISSUES AND IRAN

(S) - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER P A R K TONG JIN (M-R: PAK  
TONG-CHIN) MET WITH THE SECRETARY FOR MORE THAN ONE AND  
ONE-HALF HOURS APRIL 14 IN HIS ONLY MEETING WITH U.S.  
OFFICIALS DURING HIS ONE-DAY STOP IN WASHINGTON.  
ACCOMPANYING PARK WERE ASSISTANT FOREIGN MINISTER P A R K  
SANG YOUNG (M-R: PAK SSANG-YONG), AMBASSADOR YOUNG SHIK  
K I M (M-R: KIM YONG-SIK), AND AMERICAN BUREAU  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL CHONG HAH Y U (M-R: YU CHONG-HA).

SECRET  
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PAGE 02 STATE 100417

ALSO PRESENT WERE ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE, NSC

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CLASSIFICATION REVIEW

Cat. A - Caption removed; transferred to O/F/AD/AC

Cat. B - Transferred to O/F/AD/AC with additional access controlled by S/S

Cat. C - Caption and custody retained by S/S

Reviewed by: [Signature]

4-28-93

April 28 1980

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Vertical stamp: IS/FPC/PCR: [Signature] Date: 9/13/93

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STAFF MEMBER GREGG, AND KOREA COUNTRY DIRECTOR RICH. THIS MESSAGE COVERS THE INTRODUCTORY REMARKS AND DISCUSSIONS OF THE IRAN HOSTAGE CRISIS. OTHER TOPICS ARE COVERED IN SEPTELS.

3. FOLLOWING BRIEF COMMENTS ABOUT HIS VISITS IN ASIA AND EUROPE BEFORE ARRIVING IN WASHINGTON, PARK EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR USG ACTIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE ROK SINCE THE CRITICAL OCCURRENCES OF LATE OCTOBER. PRESIDENT CHOI HAD ASKED HIM TO CONVEY ASSURANCES THAT HE IS FAITHFULLY CARRYING OUT HIS COMMITMENTS TO THE KOREAN PEOPLE TO OVERSEE RATIFICATION OF A NEW CONSTITUTION BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

4. THE SECRETARY SAID HE HAS FOLLOWED EVENTS IN KOREA WITH GREAT INTEREST, AND WITH GREAT SATISFACTION OVER THE MANY POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS SINCE HIS VISIT IN EARLY NOVEMBER. HE ASKED THAT HIS RESPECT BE CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT CHOI FOR HIS SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS, INCLUDING THE LIFTING OF EMERGENCY MEASURE NO. 9, THE RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS, AND THE BEGINNING OF CONCRETE WORK ON THE NEW CONSTITUTION. NOTING THAT GENERAL WICKHAM (CINCUNC) AND AMBASSADOR GLEYSTEN HAVE INSTRUCTED THEIR PEOPLE IN KOREA TO MAINTAIN VERY GOOD RELATIONS WITH THEIR COUNTERPARTS, INCLUDING THE ROK MILITARY, THE SECRETARY EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT SIMILAR GUIDANCE IS IN EFFECT ON THE KOREAN SIDE AND THAT THERE WILL BE THE FULLEST CONFIDENCE AND MUTUAL COOPERATION.

5. IRAN--THE SECRETARY NOTED THE WIDESPREAD INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DISLOCATION DUE TO OIL PRICE

SECRET  
SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 100417

PROBLEMS. AT PRESENT THERE IS SOMETHING OF AN OIL GLUT, BUT SOME PRODUCERS MAY REDUCE THEIR PRODUCTION TO FIRM THE MARKET. IRAN IS NOW CHARGING A PREMIUM OF TWO DOLLARS OR MORE FOR ITS OIL, BUT HOPEFULLY THE REALITIES OF THE MARKETPLACE WILL DICTATE A REDUCTION. WE ESTIMATE IRAN'S PRODUCTION IS DOWN TO ONE MILLION BPD, OR ONLY ABOUT 300,000 BPD FOR EXPORT AFTER DOMESTIC NEEDS ARE MET. THEY ARE RUNNING OUT OF EQUIPMENT AND SPARE PARTS FOR THEIR PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, THERE IS A HIGH DEGREE

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OF CHAOS IN THE OIL FIELDS, AND PRODUCTION PROSPECTS ARE GENERALLY UNCERTAIN.

6. THE SECRETARY THANKED THE FOREIGN MINISTER FOR THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING SUPPORT AND SYMPATHY OVER THE HOSTAGE ISSUE.

ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS WE WERE HOPEFUL WE HAD WORKED OUT CONCRETE STEPS WITH IRAN REGARDING THE HOSTAGES, BUT EACH TIME WHEN THE CRUNCH CAME THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT COULD NOT CARRY THROUGH. THERE IS SIMPLY NO ONE IN TEHRAN WITH WHOM WE CAN DEAL WHO IS A COMPETENT INTERLOCUTOR. THE SECRETARY NOTED THAT THIS IS THEREFORE THE MOST FRUSTRATING PROBLEM HE HAS EVER FACED.

B/AS

7. THE USG HAS USED GREAT RESTRAINT. WE HAVE UTILIZED ALL AVAILABLE INTERNATIONAL ORGANS. NEVERTHELESS, WE HAVE BEEN DISAPPOINTED TIME AFTER TIME. THE TIME HAS NOW COME TO PUT INTO PLACE IN SOLIDARITY WITH OUR ALLIES SUBSTANTIVE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS WHICH HAVE A BITE. THE EC NINE WILL BE DISCUSSING ON APRIL 22 WHETHER TO TAKE COLLECTIVE MEASURES AGAINST IRAN. IF THERE IS NO COMMUNITY AGREEMENT, THEN INDIVIDUAL EC MEMBERS WILL BE FREE TO TAKE INDEPENDENT ACTION. IT IS IMPORTANT FOR ALL OF OUR FRIENDS TO REALIZE THAT THIS PROBLEM IS INCREASINGLY FRUSTRATING AND DIFFICULT FOR THE UNITED STATES AND THAT

SECRET  
SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 100417

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE REACHING THE END OF THEIR ROPE.

8. FOREIGN MINISTER PARK SAID HE SHARED THE FRUSTRATION AND PROFOUND DISAPPOINTMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OVER THE FAILURE OF IRANIAN GOVERNMENT TO TAKE FORTHRIGHT ACTION IN SPITE OF U.S. PATIENCE FOR SO MANY MONTHS. HE ASKED THE SECRETARY FOR AN ESTIMATE OF THE CHANCE FOR SUCCESS OF DIPLOMATIC PRESSURE AND ECONOMIC SANCTIONS.

9. THE SECRETARY SAID WE BELIEVE THOSE IN IRAN OUTSIDE THE CONSERVATIVE CLERICAL ELEMENT OF THE POLITICAL STRUCTURE WANT THE HOSTAGE ISSUE TO BE RESOLVED SOON SO THE GOVERNMENT CAN TURN TO URGENT ISSUES SUCH AS THE ECONOMY AND INCIPIENT SEPARATISM. CONTINUATION OF PRESENT TRENDS COULD LEAD TO FRAGMENTATION OF THE COUNTRY AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SOVIET EXPLOITATION. HOWEVER, THE

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RIGHT-WING CLERICAL GROUPS DO NOT AGREE WITH THE NEED TO TURN TO THESE OTHER PRIORITIES. WE FORESEE A HEIGHTENED STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE CLERICAL AND SECULAR GROUPS IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. MEANWHILE, WE MUST KEEP UP ECONOMIC, DIPLOMATIC, AND POLITICAL PRESSURE. WE BELIEVE IT IS HAVING AN EFFECT.

10.  

BIAS

  THE SECRETARY POINTED OUT THAT IF THERE IS NOT STRONG COLLECTIVE ACTION WHICH WILL HAVE AN IMPACT ON IRAN, THE UNITED STATES WILL HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE TO  
SECRET  
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PAGE 05 STATE 100417

UNILATERAL ACTIONS WHICH WE WOULD RATHER NOT TAKE.

11. PARK SAID THAT THE ROK IS CURRENTLY DEPENDENT UPON IRAN FOR 75,000 BPD OF OIL, ABOUT 12 PERCENT OF TOTAL CONSUMPTION.  

*ROK was getting 12% of its oil from Iran*

BIAS

  THE SECRETARY STATED THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS ASKED EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TO RECALL THEIR AMBASSADORS AND THEY HAVE DONE SO. IF THE SITUATION DOES NOT IMPROVE BY MID-MAY, WE ARE ASKING THAT THEY

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PROCEED TO BREAK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

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