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TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUHQHQA/COMIPAC HONOLULU HI//IPAC/IC IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEATIA/CIA WASHDC//DDO-INT-RO IMMEDIATE
INFO RUAGOTC/CDR501MIGP SEOUL KS PRIORITY
RUAGAAA/COMUSKORFA SEOUL KS//BJ-IS-H PRIORITY
RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
BT

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DIA FOR: DC-1A/CCF, DC-4, DC-4A, JSI-3C, OR-20, OR-2C1.

SUBJ: IR [REDACTED] (U)

THIS IS AN INFO REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTEL.

1. (U) CTRY: REPUBLIC OF KOREA (KS)
2. (U) TITLE: POK UPDATE (U)
3. (U) DATE OF INFO: 800518

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6. (U) SOURCE: [REDACTED]

7. [REDACTED] SUMMARY: THIS REPORT TRANSMITS INFORMATION ABOUT PRESENT MARTIAL LAW DECREE, STUDENT LEADERS' ARREST, AND MILITARY PRESENCE IN SEOUL.

8A. (U) DETAILS:

(1) [REDACTED] FOLLOWING AN EMERGENCY CABINET SESSION DURING THE EVENING OF 17 MAY, THE ROK GOVERNMENT MOVED TO STRENGTHEN MARTIAL LAW BY DECLARING "EXTRAORDINARY" MARTIAL LAW, EFF 2400 HOURS (17MAY). THE TEXT OF THE MARTIAL LAW DECREE WAS FORWARDED VIA SEPARATE IR (SEE IR [REDACTED]). THIS WAS APPARENTLY A FOLLOW-ON TO PRIME MINISTER ((SHIN)) HYON-HWACK'S STATEMENT THURSDAY NIGHT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT REMAIN IDLE IF THE STUDENTS CONTINUED TO DISRUPT THE PUBLIC ORDER.

(2) [REDACTED] APPROXIMATELY 18 STUDENT LEADERS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED, ALONG WITH ((KIM)) JONG PIL AND ((KIM)) TAE CHUNG. COLLEGE CAMPUSES ARE CLOSED.

(3) [REDACTED] DOWNTOWN SEOUL AS OF 0830, 18 MAY (SUNDAY) WAS QUIET. SEVERAL APCS, FIAT ARMORED CARS (5614) AND TROOPS IN FULL-FIELD GEAR WERE PRESENT AT MOST GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, TO INCLUDE THE CAPITAL, SEOUL CITY HALL, AND GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDINGS. TROOPS AND APCS WERE ALSO NOTED AT BANKS AND NEWSPAPER BUILDINGS. THE UNIVERSITY ENTRANCES ARE BLOCKED AND OCCUPIED BY TROOPS. THE SITUATION REGARDING TROOP DEPLOYMENTS APPEARS SIMILAR TO THE OCTOBER 1972 MARTIAL LAW WHEN THE UNIVERSITIES WERE CLOSED. A SPOT CHECK OF NEARBY UNIVERSITIES INDICATES THAT CAPITAL SECURITY COMMAND FORCES ARE INVOLVED. IT IS ALSO PROBABLE THAT SPECIAL WARFARE COMMAND FORCES ARE INVOLVED, ALTHOUGH THIS HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED BY VISUAL OBSERVATION AT THIS TIME.

(4) [REDACTED] STUDENTS MAY BE GATHERING AT SEOUL STATION. THERE IS AN ABNORMALLY LARGE, YOUTHFUL AND BAGGAGE-LESS CROWD AT THAT LOCATION.

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30. [REDACTED] PRESIDENT ((CHQII)) KYU HAH
RETURNED FROM HIS MIDDLE EAST VISIT FRIDAY NIGHT; IT IS
UNCLEAR WHAT INFLUENCE HE HAD, IF ANY, IN THIS DECISION,
WHICH APPEARS TO BE A CLEAR SIGNAL THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS
DECIDED TO STAND FIRM. TWO SOURCES HAVE INDICATED THAT
CONTINGENCY PLANS EXIST TO CONTINUE STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS
IN THE EVENT THE CAMPUSES WERE CLOSED. THE NEXT FEW DAYS,
OR PERHAPS HOURS, WILL DETERMINE THE STUDENT REACTION, IF
ANY. AT ANY RATE, THE GOVERNMENT, UNDER PRESSURE FROM THE
MILITARY, HAS MADE THEIR MOVE AND THE BALL IS NOW IN THE
STUDENT'S COURT.

- 0. (U) PROJ NO: N/A
- 10. (U) COLL MGMT CODES: NONE
- 11. (U) SPEC INST: DIRC-NO.
- 12. (U) PPEO BY: [REDACTED]
- 13. (U) APP BY: [REDACTED]
- 14. (U) REQ EVAL: NO; REL TO: NONE.
- 15. (U) ENCL: N/A
- 16. (U) DIST BY (PIG): N/A

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