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Department of State INCOMING TELEGRAM

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SECRET NOD175

PAGE 01 SEUL 19442 310222Z
ACTION NODS-00

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INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SEUL
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Reviewed by: <i>Sam Boyer</i>
Date: <i>10 Nov 79</i>

SECRET SEUL 19442

E.O. 12065:RDS-3 12/28/89 (GLEYSTEN, W.M.) OR-M
TAGS: PGDY, PINT, MURG, KS, US
SUBJECT: SECOND LOOK AT DECEMBER 12 INCIDENT

REF: SEUL 19792 ✓

- (LOU) IN VIEW OF FACT THERE IS A LINE MISSING IN PARA 3 REFTEL, THE WHOLE PARA IS BEING REPEATED FOR AMENDMENT:
- (S) I DO NOT KNOW HOW PERMANENT THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS ARE. IF THE NEW LEADERS HANDLE THEMSELVES WITH MODERATION, THERE MAY BE NO VIOLENT REPERCUSSIONS. NEVERTHELESS, I REMAIN UNEASY, BECAUSE A SERIOUS NEW ELEMENT OF INSTABILITY HAS BEEN INTRODUCED INTO THE KOREAN SITUATION AND VERY DANGEROUS PRECEDENTS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE ROK ARMY. THE GENERAL MOOD OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE HAS BEEN TO HUNKER DOWN AND WAIT FOR THE SITUATION TO SORT ITSELF OUT. WIDESPREAD FEAR AND UNEASE HAVE BEEN PARTLY OFFSET BY THE LACK OF ANY CHALLENGE SO FAR TO THE NEW AUTHORITIES AND BY CHOI'S WILLINGNESS IN HIS INAUGURAL SPEECH TO ANNOUNCE A TIMETABLE FOR POLITICAL REFORM. CHOI SEEMS TO BE OPERATING ON THE OPTIMISTIC ASSUMPTION THAT HE CAN LIVE WITH THE NEW COMBINATION WITHOUT BECOMING A PUPPET OR LOSING THE RESPECT OF THE PEOPLE. THE POLITICAL PARTIES ARE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT HAS HAPPENED

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/PPC/CIR TRB Date: 9/13/93

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TO THEIR PROSPECTS; THE DRP IS SLIGHTLY LESS WORRIED THAN THE NDP. GLEYSTEN

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