

PO90 003-2258

SECRET, OADR *56*

154

-3 MAY 80Z 17 33

000758

Department of State

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

SECRET NOD993



PAGE 01 STATE 117573
ORIGIN NODS-00

BC

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 /300 R

DRAFTED BY EA/KIR G RICH:AG
APPROVED BY EA:R CH HOLBROOKE
EA:IM H ARMACOST
S/S:RSEITZ

NODIS REVIEW

Cat. A - Caption removed, transferred to OADRC

Cat. B - Transferred to OADRC with additional access controlled by SIS

-----125835: 031659Z MAY 80 study retained by SIS

Reviewed by: *ER* Elijah Kelly Jr

Date: *4-28-93* 19__

P 031624Z MAY 80 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

SECRET STATE 117573

COPY 01 OF 13 COPIES

NODIS CHEROKEE

5/3/80

STILWELL

E.O. 12065: ROS-3 AND 4, 5/2/00 (HOLBROOKE, RICHARD)

TAGS: MARR, PINT, KS, US

EXCISE

SUBJECT: SELF-DECEPTION BY THE ROK MILITARY

US Hawks going around the state dept

1. (S) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. WE HAVE A NUMBER OF INDICATIONS THAT A PROCESS IS AGAIN UNDERWAY IN WHICH THE ROK MILITARY, WHEN FACED WITH UNPLEASANT POLICY NEWS FROM THE USG'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES TURNS TO "FRIENDS" AMONG THE ACTIVE AND RETIRED U.S. MILITARY AND PERSUADES ITSELF THAT THE COMPATIBLE RESPONSES IT THUS HEARS REPRESENT THE "REAL" U.S. POLICY, AND THAT THEREFORE THE VIEWS VOICED BY THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR (AND CINCUNC AND THE STATE DEPT) CAN BE DISCOUNTED.

3. WE ARE INFORMED THAT FORMER GENERAL CHOI KYONG-NOK (WHO HAS JUST RETURNED TO SEOUL AND WITH WHOM YOU HAVE JUST HAD

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF STATE IS/FPC/CDR *TRB* Date. *9/13/93*

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

MR Cases Only:
EO Citations
TWA, insworn TS authority to:
 CLASSIFY as S or C OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to S or C OADR

SECRET, OADR

NON-SECRET-NO



SECRET, OADR

Department of State

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

SECRET

PAGE 02

STATE 117573

Who is Johnny Sohn?

LUNCH) AND GENERAL JOHNNY SOHN HERE HAVE ALREADY BEEN GLEANING SUCH SOUNDINGS AND HAVE CONVEYED SUCH VIEWS TO GENERAL CHUN.

4. TO A DEGREE THIS PROCESS IS INEVITABLE AND AS OLD AS THE US-ROK POSTWAR RELATIONSHIP. HOWEVER, WE WILL WORK WITH YOU TO BLUNT ITS IMPACT, AND TRY BOTH TO ENSURE THAT USG POLICY MESSAGES ARE HEARD LOUDLY AND CLEARLY AND THAT YOU AND GENERAL WICKHAM ARE FULLY BACKED AT CRITICAL JUNCTURES.

5. AN IMMEDIATE CONCERN IS A TRIP TO KOREA WHICH WE UNDERSTAND GENERAL STILWELL WILL MAKE IN THE NEXT TEN DAYS. WE WILL TRY TO TALK TO STILWELL BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE, BUT WE ARE INFORMED THAT HE HAS ALREADY DISCOUNTED PRESENT US POLICY TO THE TWO KOREAN GENERALS MENTIONED ABOVE, AND HAS LED THEM TO INTERPRET PRESENT POLICY JUST AS A "STATE DEPT" PLOY WHICH CAN BE BYPASSED OR TURNED AROUND.

6. STILWELL'S TRIP TO KOREA IS BEING ARRANGED ENTIRELY THROUGH GENERAL SOHN, AND WE PRESUME GENERAL CHUN HAS A HAND THEREIN.

B1A3

7. IN ADDITION TO OUR EFFORT TO TALK WITH STILWELL HERE, I HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE CONTACT WITH HIM THERE AND THAT EITHER YOU OR GENERAL WICKHAM WILL BE ABLE TO PERSUADE HIM OF THE FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE OF OUR PRESENT POSTURE AND THE PARALLEL IMPORTANCE THAT THE ROK MILITARY NOT RECEIVE CONFLICTING INTERPRETATIONS FROM WHICH THEY WILL TYPICALLY CHOOSE THE MOST CONGENIAL. NEWSOM

SECRET

Wickham knew what Stilwell was doing

SECRET, OADR

SECRET