



Department of State

TELEGRAM

51642

PR

CONFIDENTIAL

AN: DB00247-1011

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SEOUL 063900Z 200845Z

PAGE 01
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 PC-01 CCO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 XCAE-00 INRE-00 PH-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-16 OC-06 SY-05 SYE-00
DCT-02 AID-07 FEMA-02 ONB-01 ANAE-00 ACDA-02 A-02
OPR-02 /095

114076 200852Z /15

0 200831Z MAY 80

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR TRB Date 9/13/93

FM ANEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO ANEMBASSY TOKYO
SA CINCUNC KS
CHJUSMAG SEOUL KS
COMUSKOREA SEOUL KS//BJ-IS

EXEMPTION CASE
() EXCISE
() DENY
() DELETE Non-Responsive Info
FOIA Exemptions PA Exemptions

MR Cases Only:
EO Citations
() CLASSIFY as () Sor () C OADR
() DOWNGRADE TS to () Sor () C OADR

TS authority to

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 06390

E.O. 12065: GDS 05/20/86 (CLARK, WILLIAM) OR-P

TAGS: PINS KS

SUBJECT: SEOUL SITREP, 1645, MAY 20

1. (C) CALM CONTINUES IN SEOUL. TWO DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE OCCURRED IN THE LAST 24 HOURS, BOTH SMALL AND BOTH DISPERSED QUICKLY. ONE, PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, OCCURRED EVENING OF MAY 19 AT SEOUL STATION; THE OTHER, MIDAFTER-NOON ON THE 20TH, AT A MOVIE THEATER ABOUT FIVE BLOCKS EAST OF THE PLAZA HOTEL. WE HAVE NO CASUALTY OR ARREST FIGURES.

2. (C) CHUNGANG ILBO, ONE OF SEOUL'S MAJOR DAILIES, WAS SHORTHANDED MAY 20. ONE OF ITS REPORTERS IS A VICE PRESIDENT OF THE KOREA JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION AND THE CHUNGANG STAFF HEARD MAY 19 THAT HE WAS BEING SOUGHT BY POLICE. THE STAFF DECLARED A SIT-IN UNTIL THE MAN RETURNED SAFE FROM DETENTION OR HIDING. MARTIAL LAW CONFIDENTIAL

5/20/80

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AUTHORITIES NOTIFIED: PAPER THAT SIT-IN ILLEGAL: AND MUST

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STOP. MANAGEMENT WARNED REPORTERS OF AUTHORITIES' RESOLVE TO TERMINATE SIT-IN AND REPORTERS AND OTHER STAFF LEFT IN EARLY MORNING OF MAY 20. THEY HAVE NOT RETURNED AND MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL ARE WORKING ALONE TO PUT OUT PAPER--A TASK THEY MAY NOT BE ABLE TO CONTINUE VERY MUCH LONGER. THIS PRESENTS PAPER WITH A DILEMMA, SINCE MANAGEMENT UNDERSTANDING IS THAT IT WOULD BE ILLEGAL UNDER MARTIAL LAW FOR PAPER TO SUSPEND PUBLICATION.

3. (LOU) TIGHT CENSORSHIP HAS CREATED A DEMAND FOR RELIABLE NEWS. ICA REPORTS MANY CALLS ASKING WHAT POSITION U.S. TAKES, AND, IN SEUL, MANY CALLERS INQUIRING ABOUT VOA FREQUENCIES.

4. (C) KHANGJU: POLICE REPORT FOLLOWING CASUALTIES FROM LATE MONDAY/EARLY TUESDAY: FOUR POLICEMEN AND TWO SOLDIERS SERIOUSLY INJURED, FOUR POLICE BOXES BURNED. NO REPORT ON CIVILIAN CASUALTIES. AS OF 1645 MAY 20, BPAO KHANGJU REPORTS A CROWD OF SEVERAL THOUSAND CITIZENS, INCLUDING STUDENTS, GATHERING AROUND THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING. POLICE ARE GUARDING THE BUILDING AND SPRAYING TEAR GAS BUT NO PHYSICAL CLASH WITH CROWD IS REPORTED. TROOPS ARE STANDING BY. THE ARMY UNITS INVOLVED IN YESTERDAY'S ALLEGED BRUTALITY ARE REPORTEDLY IN A HOLDING AREA AWAY FROM THE MAIN PART OF TOWN.

5. (C) WE ARE RAISING WITH ROKG QUESTION OF HOW AUTHORITIES ARE TREATING ALL TYPES OF PRISONERS PICKED UP SINCE MAY 17. GLEYSTEEN

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