

E1660

1075

TEXT OF TELEGRAM BOSEUDL 006522

ADP531
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL, OADR

PAGE 01 SEUL 06522 221019Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 CCD-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-07 PC-01 DC-06 OPR-02
A-02 SY-05 SYE-00 FEMA-02 HA-05 DCT-02 OMB-01
AGDA-12 IO-14 ANAE-00 OCS-06 CA-01 /116 W
-----130937 221028Z /15

O 221005Z MAY 80
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6508
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
SA CINCUNC KS
CHJUSOAC SEOUL KS
COMUSKOREA SEOUL KS//BJ-IS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEUL 06522

E.O. 12065: GDS 05/22/86 (CLARK, WILLIAM) OR-P
TAGS: ASEC PINS KS
SUBJECT: KOREA SITREP, 1800, MAY 22, 1980

REF: SEUL 6432

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. CALM CONTINUES IN SEOUL AND MOST MAJOR CITIES. TROOP
UNITS OBSERVED YESTERDAY IN DOWNTOWN PUSAN (REFTEL) ARE NO
LONGER IN EVIDENCE. TROOPS WHO WERE ENCAMPED ON THE YONSEI
UNIVERSITY CAMPUS IN SEOUL HAVE PULLED OUT, LEAVING ONLY
GUARD FORCE, AND RUMOR HAS IT THEY HAVE GONE TO KWANGJU.

3. KWANGJU: PRIOR TO THE MILITARY PULL OUT, A SEOUL
BROADCAST, MONITORED 8:00 P.M. YESTERDAY, MAY 21, BY FBIS,
SAYS DEMONSTRATORS IN KWANGJU "INCREASED TO 150,000 TODAY
AND FINALLY BECAME RIOTERS." THE "RIOTERS" WERE SAID TO
HAVE SEIZED 238 VEHICLES, ABOUT 3,500 FIREARMS, AND 46,400
ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION. LOOTING AND SHOOTING INCIDENTS WERE
CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEUL 06522 221019Z

DESCRIBED, WITH THE OBSERVATION THAT "KWANGJU CITY (HAS)
TURNED COMPLETELY INTO A SCENE OF HORRORS." NO CASUALTY
FIGURES WERE GIVEN. PARATROOPERS WERE SAID TO BE DEFENDING
AGAINST RIOTERS WHO WERE FIRING TWO AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FROM
THE ROOF OF CHONNAM MEDICAL COLLEGE. RIOTERS WERE REPORTED
FIRING ON HELICOPTERS OVERHEAD.

4. AS OF 2:00 A.M. MAY 22, ARMY TROOPS IN KWANGJU WERE
ORDERED TO PULL BACK FROM THE CITY AND TO FIRE ONLY IF

CONFIDENTIAL, OADR

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

() RELEASE () DECLASSIFY
 EXCISE DECLASSIFY
 () DENY IN PART
 () DELETE Non-Responsive Info
 FOIA Exemptions B1
 PA Exemptions _____

MR Cases Only: _____
 EO Citations _____
TWAINSON TS authority to
 CLASSIFY as () S or C OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C OADR

EXCISE

Kwangju

*5/22
Gleysten report
SWC in dtg*

*5/21
8pm
7AM in US*

*scene of
horrors*

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

*BIAS
Excel Clearing*

FIRE UPON, AND THEN TO AIM FOR THE LOWER HALF OF THE BODY. POLICE HAVE ALSO WITHDRAWN. A FURTHER ARMY REPORT, AS OF LATE MORNING MAY 22, WAS THAT CHECKPOINTS HAVE BEEN SET UP AT THE OUTSKIRTS OF KWANGJU WHERE CITIZENS MAY TURN IN CAPTURED FIREARMS, AND THAT "SOME" (NO FIGURES) WEAPONS HAD BEEN TURNED IN. THOSE TURNING IN ARMS REPORTEDLY TOLD TROOPS THAT "OTHERS" HAD FORCED THEM TO ACCEPT THE WEAPONS. DISORDERS IN THE CITY CONTINUE BUT, AS OF 6:00 P.M. MAY 22, THERE WERE SOME INDICATIONS THEY MIGHT BE COOLING DOWN SOMEWHAT.

5. ~~OUTSIDE~~ KWANGJU, DISORDERS REMAIN CONFINED TO SOUTH CHOLLA PROVINCE. PLACES AFFECTED ARE MOKP'O (REFTEL), SURROUNDED BY TROOPS; NAJU (REFTEL); Hwasun, SOUTH OF KWANGJU; AND SUNCH'ON, ABOUT 40 MILES FROM KWANGJU IN THE DIRECTION OF MASAN.

6. [

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

B/A5

.....] THAT THE GOVERNMENT WANTED TO BE RESTRAINED BUT THAT ANY NORTHWARD MOVEMENT OF DISTURBANCES WOULD MAKE THIS VERY DIFFICULT. WE HAVE ALSO HAD REPORTS THAT VICE GOVERNOR IS MEETING WITH A SMALL GROUP OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES. TONGA RADIO IN SEOUL REPORTS NEW PRIME MINISTER IS ADDRESSING 20,000 KWANGJU RESIDENTS, BUT WE HAVE NO FURTHER CONFIRMATION.

7. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED A REPORT THAT A FEW OF THE MISSIONARIES WHO WERE IN KWANGJU HAVE RETURNED TO TAEJON. THEY DID THIS BY PUTTING AN AMERICAN FLAG ON THEIR CAR AND DRIVING OUT OF THE CITY. THEY REPORT THEY WERE CHEERED ON THEIR WAY OUT. THE OTHER MISSIONARIES HAVE ELECTED TO REMAIN FOR THE PRESENT.

8. COMMENT: DESIRE FOR RESTRAINT AT PRESENT SEEMS SINCERE ON PART OF ROK ARMY LEADERS: CONTAINMENT RATHER THAN SUPPRESSION IS THE STRATEGY FOR THE PRESENT, AND THE RETENTION OF THE HOME AND DEFENSE MINISTERS IN THE NEW CABINET SUGGESTS IT MAY CONTINUE. LIMITED FIRING ORDER GIVEN TO TROOPS IN KWANGJU STRENGTHENS THIS IMPRESSION. CONCERN WITH NORTHWARD MOVEMENT IS APPARENTLY EQUALLY GENUINE: NORTH OF KWANGJU LIES CHOLLA PUKTO PROVINCE, WHICH SHARES WITH KWANGJU AND CHOLLA NAMDO A SOMEWHAT

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

REBELLIOUS TRADITION AS WELL AS A DEEP ATTACHMENT TO KIM DAE JUNG. WE HAVE REPORTS THAT TENSION IS HIGH IN CH'ONJU, CAPITOL OF CHOLLA PUKTO. GOVERNMENT MAY HOPE TO PERSUADE KIM DAE JUNG'S FOLLOWERS TO COOPERATE IN PREVENTING DISORDERS IN THIS AREA. IF PEACEFUL METHODS FAIL, GOVERNMENT HAS 20TH INFANTRY DIVISION, PLUS AIRBORNE AND SPECIAL FORCES UNITS, ON ALERT IN CHOLLA NAMDO. GLEYSTEN



CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

. . . .

. . . .

