

E849

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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

- MR Cases Only: \_\_\_\_\_
- EO Citations \_\_\_\_\_
- TS authority to: \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) CLASSIFY as ( ) S or ( ) C OADR
- ( ) DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) S or ( ) C OADR

280

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79STATE 279773

ADP592  
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 279773  
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-00 EUR-12 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-06 H-02  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 IO-15 HA-05 OC-06  
SY-05 SYE-00 MCT-02 /097 R

DRAFTED BY EA:R W SULLIVAN:JCM  
APPROVED BY EA:R W SULLIVAN

-----050760 262043Z /17

Z O 262043Z OCT 79 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL FLASH  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 279773

MANILA FOR HOLBROOKE

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SOPN, KS, US

SUBJECT: STATE DEPARTMENT STATEMENT ON DEVELOPMENTS IN KOREA

1. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS POSTED AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT AT 4:30 P.M. WASHINGTON TIME OCTOBER 26. MAJOR WIRE SERVICES WERE ALSO NOTIFIED.

2. BEGIN TEXT

WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED OF THE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. THE UNITED STATES REGARDS THE MATTER AS AN UNCLASSIFIED UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 279773

INTERNAL ONE FOR THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND URGES RESTRAINT ON THE PART OF ALL.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ALSO WISHES TO MAKE CLEAR THAT IT WILL REACT STRONGLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS TREATY OBLIGATIONS TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO ANY EXTERNAL ATTEMPT TO EXPLOIT THE SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

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Day of assassination

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EXCISE

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TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79STATE 280422

ADP 195  
SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 280422  
ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 SS0-00 CCO-00 ANAE-00 /030 R

DRAFTED BY EA/RA:PMCLEVELAND  
APPROVED BY EA/RA:PMCLEVELAND  
S/S-O :JESECKER

-----055297 271046Z /17

O 271023Z OCT 79 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

SECRET STATE 280422

EXDIS; KUALA LUMPUR FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE

E.O. 12065 RDS 10/27/1990(SULLIVAN, ROGER W.)

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: KOREAN UPDATE  
1. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF OUR KNOWLEDGE AS OF 0500 WASHINGTON TIME:  
2. EMBASSY SEOUL REPORTS CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE DEATH OF KOREAN PRESIDENT PARK CHUNG HEE ARE STILL UNCLEAR. AT A DINNER PARTY LAST NIGHT PRESIDENT PARK APPARENTLY ATTEMPTED TO INTERVENE IN AN ARGUMENT BETWEEN KCIA DIRECTOR KIM CHAE KYU AND HEAD OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PROTECTIVE FORCE CHA CHI CHOL. ACTING PRESIDENT CHOE TOLD GLEYSTEN AND THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT HAS PUBLICLY INDICATED THAT KCIA DIRECTOR KIM FIRED SHOT THAT KILLED PRESIDENT PARK

THE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO INDICATE PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY THAT SHOOTING WAS ACCIDENTAL, BUT WE CANNOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF PREMEDITATION. KIM CHAE KYU IS  
SECRET  
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PAGE 02 STATE 280422

BEING INTERROGATED. INDICATE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO KCIA ARE ALSO BEING TAKEN INTO CUSTODY. ROKA DEFENSE SECURITY COMMAND HAVE TAKEN OVER MANY KCIA ACTIVITIES, IS PUTTING ITS PEOPLE IN KCIA OFFICES, AND HAS LIMITED TRAVEL OF KCIA AND PPF OFFICIALS.

3. EMBASSY SEOUL CONTINUES TO REPORT THAT SITUATION ON SURFACE REMAINS CALM. PREMIER CHOE APPEARS TO HAVE FULL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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PA Exemptions

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

MR Cases Only:  
EO Citations  
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( ) DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) S or ( ) C OADR

oct 27

EXDIS REVIEW  
Cat. A - Caption removed; transferred to O/FADRC  
Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC with additional access controlled by S/S  
Cat. C - Caption and content removed by S/S  
Reviewed by EK  
Date 4-22-93

294

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B I A S  
S / S  
External classif

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SECRET, OADR

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SECRET, OADR

SUPPORT OF THE CABINET AND THE MILITARY, AND POWER HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED IN FULL ACCORDANCE WITH KOREAN LAW. GREAT MANY MILITARY AND CIVILIAN LEADERS HAVE ISSUED STATEMENTS PLEDGING LOYALTY AND URGING PUBLIC TO REMAIN CALM, CARRY ON BUSINESS AS USUAL, AND GIVE THEIR SUPPORT TO THE NEW ACTING PRESIDENT. AIRPORTS AT SEOUL AND PUSAN, CLOSED FOLLOWING SHOOTING, REOPENED MORNING OCTOBER 27.

4. IN ADDITION TO ISSUING STATEMENT OF CONDOLENCE, NDP OPPOSITION LEADER KIM YOUNG SAM REPORTED TO HAVE TOLD NDP MEMBERS TO ~~SIT~~ BACK AND CONTINUE MONITORING SITUATION FOR NEXT FEW DAYS (WNINTEL) CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

*absence of grief*

SECRET, OADR



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR

TRB Date. 9/13/93

E935

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 FOIA Exemptions \_\_\_\_\_  
 PA Exemptions \_\_\_\_\_

MR Cases Only:  
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TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79SEOUL 017327

ADP511  
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01            SEOUL 17327    180636Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 PM-06 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00  
INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /051 W

R 140800Z NOV 79  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2301

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 17327

E.O. 12065 GDS 11/14/85 (GLEYSTEN, W.H.) DR-M  
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, KS  
SUBJECT: SURPRISINGLY FEW MOURN PARK CHUNG-HEE

1. (C) LIKE OTHERS, WE HAVE BEEN STRUCK BY THE ABSENCE OF OBSERVABLE GRIEF OVER THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT PARK. ALTHOUGH FEW PEOPLE HAVE SHOWN DISRESPECT AND MANY HAVE PRAISED HIS CONTRIBUTION TO KOREA'S PLACE IN THE SUN, PARK'S DEATH HAS NOT BEEN ACCOMPANIED BY THE KIND OF EMOTIONAL OUTPOURING THAT ONE MIGHT HAVE EXPECTED IN A CASE OF ASSASSINATION. THE OBVIOUS EXPLANATION, WHICH IS OFFERED BY KOREANS WHEN ASKED, IS THAT PRESIDENT PARK HAD SERVED TO THE POINT WHERE HIS INCREASINGLY AUTHORITARIAN POLITICAL POLICIES WERE BEGINNING TO OBSCURE HIS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS. PEOPLE WERE TIRED OF EIGHTEEN YEARS OF ONE-MAN RULE AND IN A SENSE SEEM RELIEVED THAT PARK HAS LEFT THE SCENE BEFORE MORE SERIOUS DAMAGE WAS DONE.

2. (LGL) ~~AS~~ TAXI DRIVER PUT IT TO ME RATHER APTLY THE OTHER DAY. WHEN ASKED WHAT HE THOUGHT OF ACTING PRESIDENT CHOI'S SPEECH OF NOVEMBER 10 REGARDING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT, HE REPLIED THAT IT WAS A GOOD SPEECH AND THAT MOST OF HIS FRIENDS FELT THE SAME WAY. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE FELT SORRY FOR PRESIDENT PARK BECAUSE HE HAD COME TO SUCH A CRUEL END. YET IN A WAY HE HAD IT COMING TO

CONFIDENTIAL  
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PAGE 02            SEOUL 17327    180636Z

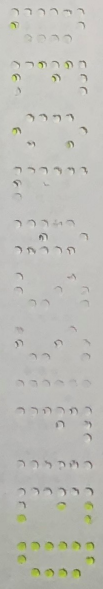
HIM BECAUSE HE WAS "TOO MUCH OF A DICTATOR FOR TOO LONG". THE TAXI DRIVER POINTED OUT THAT EVEN THOUGH EVERYONE KNEW KIM CHAE KYU WAS THE ASSASSIN, HARDLY ANY MALIGNED KIM WHO HAD RID THE COUNTRY OF A DICTATOR. THE DRIVER ADDED PROUDLY THAT IT WAS FORTUNATE THE GRIM EVENTS OF OCTOBER 26 TOOK PLACE IN A COUNTRY WHICH WAS AS MATURE AS KOREA. HAD IT HAPPENED IN THE PHILIPPINES OR MEXICO, THE RESULTS WOULD HAVE BEEN A NATIONAL DISASTER.

GLEYSTEN

*absence of grief*

*2 AM*

SECRET OADR





# SECRET, OADR EXCISE

E855

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79SEOUL 016336

ADPO63  
SECRET

PAGE 01      SEOUL 16336 01 OF 02 270221Z  
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /031 W  
-----052735 270231Z /73

Z 270200Z OCT 79 ZFF-4  
FM AMEMBASSY, SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 1841  
SECDEF WASHDC FLASH  
WHITEHOUSE WASHDC FLASH  
CIA WASHDC FLASH  
INFO/  
AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

SECRET SECTION 01 OF 02 SEOUL 16336

EXDIS

E.O. 12065:6DS 110/27/85 (GLEYSTEN, W.H.) OR-M  
TAGS: PGDV, PINT, KS  
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON ACTING PRESIDENT

1. (S) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. I CALLED ON ACTING PRESIDENT CHOI KYU-HA AT HIS RESI-  
DENCE AT 0900 OCTOBER 27. I EXPRESSED MY CONDOLENCES OVER  
THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT PARK WHICH HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED ON  
THE RADIO JUST SHORTLY BEFORE.

3. ACTING PRESIDENT PROVIDED FOLLOWING REVIEW OF EVENTS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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

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FOIA Exemptions B1  
PA Exemptions \_\_\_\_\_

MR Cases Only:  
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B1 A3  
Catal. Classified  
S/S*

EXDIS REVIEW  
(A) Caption removed;  
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Cat. B. Transferred to O/FADRC  
with additional access  
controlled by S/S  
Cat. C. Caption and custody  
retained by S/S  
Reviewed by: Elijah Kelly Jr.  
Date: 4-22-93 19

*Gleysten told of  
P/A around  
2 AM*

*B1 A3*

SECRET, OADR



SECRET, OADR

284

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79SEOUL 016336

B1A3

HE SAID THE CABINET MET AT 11:15 P.M. AND AFTER DEBATE DECIDED UPON MARTIAL LAW FOR ALL OF KOREA EXCEPT CHEJU-DO. HE MADE CLEAR INCLUSION OF CHEJU-DO WAS TO AVOID TOTAL MARTIAL LAW WHICH WOULD REQUIRE MILITARY CONTROL AND TO ALLOW CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT TO REMAIN IN COMMAND.

6. I INFORMED THE ACTING PRESIDENT THAT I HAD BEEN ADVISED OF UNSPECIFIED TROUBLE AT ABOUT MIDNIGHT AND HAD SUBSEQUENTLY LEARNED THE DETAILS AT AROUND 2:00 A.M. I COMPLEMENTED HIM ON THE MANNER IN WHICH THE GOVERN-

MENT HAD HANDLED THIS MATTER SO FAR AND HAD KEPT US AWARE OF EVENTS AS THEY PROGRESSED. I REVIEWED OUR CONTACTS

SECRET  
SECRET

PAGE 03      SEOUL 16336 01 OF 02 270221Z

WITH WASHINGTON AND GAVE HIM THE GIST OF OUR EXCELLENT STATEMENT (WE HAD EARLIER PROVIDED COPIES OF THE STATEMENT TO RCM AND IT TOGETHER WITH THE KOREAN TRANSLATION ARRIVED AT EXACTLY THIS POINT IN OUR CONVERSATION). I TOLD HIM THAT PEOPLE IN WASHINGTON WERE STUNNED BY THE EVENTS AND THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE IN HIS EFFORTS TO LEAD THE CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT THROUGH THIS DIFFICULT PERIOD.

7. ACTING PRESIDENT SAID THAT HE WOULD SHORTLY ADDRESS THE PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC AND THAT HIS REMARKS WERE ALREADY IN DRAFT. HE WOULD BASICALLY ASK FOR CALM AND PROPER BEHAVIOR IN ORDER THAT THE PROPER SECURITY COULD BE MAINTAINED. HE WOULD ALSO BE KEEPING A CLOSE EYE ON THE ACTIVITIES OF NORTH KOREA. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE CABINET HAD DECIDED ON A NINE-DAY MOURNING PERIOD AND THEY WERE CURRENTLY THINKING OF HOLDING A STATE FUNERAL ON NOVEMBER 3. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IS STUDYING THE QUESTION OF INVITING FOREIGN DELEGATIONS TO ATTEND.

8. [

B1A3 SECRET, OADR

9. I TOLD THE ACTING PRESIDENT I REALIZED THE DIFFICULT-



**SECRET, OADR**

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79SEOUL 016336

TIES HE FACED AND URGED THAT HE DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE DURING THIS PERIOD TO EVOKE A SPIRIT OF CONCILIATION WITHIN THE COUNTRY. I TOLD HIM I WAS PLEASED TO HAVE LEARNED FROM HIS MILITARY THAT "THE CABINET SUPPORTS THE ACTING PRESIDENT AND THE MILITARY SUPPORTS THE CABINET".

10. ACTING PRESIDENT SAID THE MILITARY APPEARED UNITED

**SECRET**

NNNN

EXCISE REVIEW  
Checked received  
Transmitted to OADR  
with all relevant information  
4-22-93

**SECRET, OADR**

SECRET, OADR



SECRET, OADR

284

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79SEOUL 016336

ADPO58  
SECRET

PAGE 01      SEOUL 16336 02 OF 02 270224Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SSO-00 CCD-00 /026 W  
-----052745 270228Z /62

Z 270200Z OCT 79 ZFF-4  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO HTUEH/SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 1842  
SECDEF WASHDC FLASH  
WHITEHOUSE WASHDC FLASH  
CIA WASHDC FLASH  
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

SECRET SECTION 02 OF 02 SEOUL 16336

EXDIS  
AND WAS AWARE THAT THIS WAS AN EXTREMELY CRITICAL TIME FOR  
THE REPUBLIC. HE ADDED THE DEFENSE MINISTER AND THE  
CHIEFS OF STAFF HAVE ALL PLEDGED THEIR SUPPORT TO THE  
GOVERNMENT.

11. IN CONCLUSION THE ACTING PRESIDENT EXPRESSED HIS  
INTENTION TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH ME DURING THE COMING  
DAYS EITHER PERSONALLY OR THROUGH THE FOREIGN MINISTER

WHO WAS ALSO PRESENT AT THE CONVERSATION. HE PLEDGED TO  
DO HIS BEST TO MAINTAIN ORDER AND TO APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE  
TO UNITE IN THIS TIME OF TROUBLE.

12. COMMENT: APART FROM WEARINESS AND GREAT DISTRESS  
OVER THE PRESIDENT'S DEATH, CHOI IS TRANSPARENTLY  
CONCERNED ABOUT THE WEIGHT OF THE BURDEN SUDDENLY THRUST  
UPON HIM. I SPOKE TO HIM QUITE FRANKLY ABOUT THE  
IMPORTANCE OF THE MILITARY AND THE NEED FOR MILITARY  
COHESION, AND MY COMMENTS CLEARLY REFLECTED HIS THOUGHTS.

SECRET  
SECRET

PAGE 02      SEDUL 16336 02 OF 02 270224Z

WITH CHOI AND WITH ALL OFFICIALS WITH AZOM WE HAVE BEEN  
IN CONTACT THESE PAST FEW HOURS WE ARE GOING OUT OF OUR  
WAY TO URGE THAT THEY TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO HEAL SOME  
OF THE POLITICAL WOUNDS INFLECTED IN THE ROK DURING  
THE PAST FEW MONTHS. GLEYSTZYN

EXDIS REVIEW  
Cat. A - Caption removed:  
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Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC  
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Cat. C - Caption and custody  
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SECRET, OADR

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TRB Date 9/13/93

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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- FOIA Exemptions \_\_\_\_\_
- PA Exemptions \_\_\_\_\_
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EO Citations \_\_\_\_\_

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TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79SEOUL 016353

ADPOB2  
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEUL 16353 01 OF 02 270945Z  
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SSD-00 ANAE-00 /031 W  
-----055027 270952Z /11

O 270926Z OCT 79  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1848  
SECDEF WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE  
WHITEHOUSE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE  
CIA WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 SEUL 16353

EXDIS

SITREP 3  
KUALA LUMPUR PASS EA ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE

E.O. 12065: GDS 10/27/85 (GLEYSTEN, W.H.) OR-M  
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, KS  
SUBJECT: ROK SITUATION REPORT OCTOBER 27 1430 HOURS

REF: SEUL 16346

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT)
2. SUMMARY SITUATION REMAINS CALM. PRESIDENT PARK CHUNG HEE'S DEATH HAS LEFT ROK POPULATION IN SHOCK. CITIZENS, HOWEVER, ARE PROCEEDING WITH USUAL ACTIVITIES. MARTIAL LAW PRESENCE IN SEOUL AND OUTLYING CITIES MINIMAL. OPPOSITION FIGURES SUGGEST COOPERATION WITH RULING PARTIES AND KIM YONG-SAM HAS EXPRESSED REGRET TINGED WITH HINT THAT HE HAD EXPECTED SOMETHING OF THIS NATURE. THERE HAS BEEN GREAT CONFIDENTIAL  
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEUL 16353 01 OF 02 270945Z

INTEREST IN U.S. REACTION AND SUPPORT, TOGETHER WITH SUGGESTION FROM MANY THAT NOW IS THE TIME TO MOVE TOWARDS DEMOCRACY. THERE IS ALSO SOME SUSPICION THAT U.S. MUST HAVE SOMEHOW BEEN INVOLVED. END SUMMARY.

3. PRESIDENT PARK'S DEATH HAS OBVIOUSLY LEFT THE ROK POPULATION IN A STATE OF SHOCK, BOTH BECAUSE OF ITS UNEXPECTEDNESS AND ITS DEMEANING NATURE. SUSPICIONS OF CONSPIRACIES STILL CIRCULATE DUE IN PART TO THE SUDDENNESS

EXDIS REVIEW

Cat. A - Caption removed; transferred to O/FADRC

Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC with additional access controlled by S/S

Cat. C - Caption and custody retained by S/S *SK*

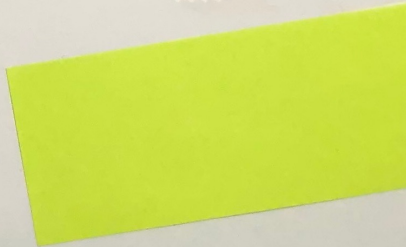
Reviewed by: Elijah Kelly Jr.

Date: 4-22-93 19\_\_

10/27/79

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S/S





AND IMPROBABILITY OF THE EVENT. TO COUNTER THESE, THE MINISTER OF CULTURE AND INFORMATION HAS FORMALLY DENIED ANY PLOT.

4. NEWSPAPERS PUT UP HAND-PRINTED POSTERS ON WALLS AROUND THE CITY AND ISSUED SPECIAL EDITIONS. ALL REGULAR BROADCASTING HAS BEEN PRE-EMPTED BY MUSIC. MEDIA NEWS DEALS FACTUALLY AND ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY WITH THE CURRENT SITUATION, NOTING DETAILS OF PARK'S DEATH, THE MARTIAL LAW DECLARATION, ACCESSION OF CHOI KYU-HA TO THE ACTING PRESIDENCY, AND THE WASHINGTON STATEMENT OF SUPPORT.

5. THE DAILY LIVES OF THE CITIZENS, HOWEVER, APPEAR TO BE PROCEEDING NORMALLY. SEOUL TRAFFIC IS HEAVY, AS USUAL. STORES REMAIN OPEN, AND THE STREETS ARE FILLED WITH PEOPLE. THE PRESENCE OF MARTIAL LAW FORCES IN SEOUL AND IN OUTLYING CITIES SEEMS TO BE MINIMAL. SOLDIERS ARE STATIONED AT ROKG BUILDINGS, NEWSPAPER COMPANIES, BROADCAST STATIONS, SOME BANKS, AND A FEW INTERSECTIONS. THE NUMBER OF MILITARY VEHICLES IN SIGHT IS SMALL, ALTHOUGH THERE ARE TANKS NEAR MAIN GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES AND BLUE HOUSE. THESE ARE INSIDE THE GATES AND, THUS, NOT OVERLY VISIBLE. OUR BRANCH PAO'S IN KYONGJU AND TAEGU REPORT A SIMILAR SITUATION WITH ACTIVITY NEAR NORMAL.

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CONFIDENTIAL

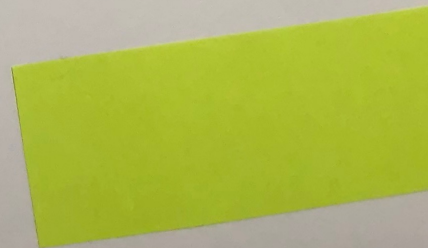
PAGE 03      SEOUL 16353 01 OF 02 270945Z

6. OUR INITIAL CONTACTS WITH OPPOSITION LEADERS INDICATE THAT THEY ARE NO LESS UPSET BY THE NEWS THAN THE GENERAL POPULATION. ASSEMBLYMEN FROM BOTH FACTIONS OF OPPOSITION NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY SUGGEST ASSEMBLYMEN SHOULD RETURN TO THE ASSEMBLY TO WORK TOGETHER WITH THE RULING DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN PARTY. IN ADDITION, OPPOSITION PRESIDENT KIM YONG-SAM HAS ISSUED A STATEMENT REGRETTING THE NATIONAL MISFORTUNE, BUT WITH SOME HINT THAT SUCH EVENTS HAD NOT BEEN UNEXPECTED. EMBOFF VISITING RULING PARTY STRUCK BY FUNERAL-LIKE ATMOSPHERE. DRP AND YUJONGHOE HAVE CALLED A MORATORIUM ON POLITICAL ACTIVITY FOR THE TIME BEING.

7. ROK MEDIA AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAVE SHOWN GREAT INTEREST IN U.S. REACTION AND SUPPORT. OCTOBER 27 AFTER-NOON NEWSPAPERS REPORTED THE U.S. STATEMENT AND THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON THE ROK SITUATION. KOREANS HAVE EXPRESSED TO EMBOFFS BOTH THEIR GRATITUDE FOR THE AFFIRMATION OF U.S. SUPPORT AND THE SPEED WITH WHICH IT CAME. MANY CONTACTS HAVE ALSO TURNED TO THE EMBASSY IN THE HOPE WE COULD PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION THAN THE MEDIA REPORTS. SOME HAVE ALSO SUGGESTED TO US PRIVATELY THAT NOW IS THE TIME TO MOVE TOWARD DEMOCRACY AND URGED, EITHER IMPLICITLY OR EXPLICITLY, THAT WE PLAY A ROLE. SOME HAVE ECHOED FOREIGN PRESS SUSPICION THAT THE U.S. MUST HAVE HAD SOME INVOLVEMENT IN THE AFFAIR, AS EVIDENCED BY THE QUICK U.S. RESPONSE. THIS IS HEIGHTENED BY THE STRANGE CIRCUMSTANCES

Handwritten notes and stamps, including a date stamp "4-22-79" and a signature "E. J. Kelly".

Vertical column of small characters, possibly a barcode or tracking code.





E857

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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

RELEASE  DECLASSIFY  
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 DELETE Non-Responsive Info  
FOIA Exemptions \_\_\_\_\_  
PA Exemptions \_\_\_\_\_

MR Cases Only: \_\_\_\_\_  
EO Citations \_\_\_\_\_  
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TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79SEOUL 016346

ADP415  
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEUL 16346 270459Z  
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 SSD-00 CCO-00 ANAE-00 /031 W  
-----053534 270512Z /17

O 270438Z OCT 79  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1844  
SECDEF WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE  
WHITEHOUSE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE  
CIA WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 16346

EXDIS  
SITREP 2

SINGAPORE PASS EA ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE

EO 12065: GDS 10/27/85 (GLEYSTEN, W.H.) OR-M  
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, KS  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT PARK "INCAPACITATED" (DEAD)--  
PRIME MINISTER TAKES OVER, MARTIAL LAW DECLARED

1. (C) THINGS REMAIN QUIET AS OF TWELVE O'CLOCK NOON IN  
SEOUL AND, WE ARE ASSURED, IN THE COUNTRY AS A WHOLE.  
BUSINESS IS PROCEEDING IN MORE OR LESS NORMAL MANNER,  
BUT THOSE WITH WHOM WE HAVE TALKED HAVE EXPRESSED DEEP  
SHOCK AT THE TRAGIC EVENTS OF LAST NIGHT. FROM 9:30 A.M.  
ON THERE HAVE BEEN SERIES OF PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY ACTING  
PRESIDENT, DEPUTY PRIMIN (ECONOMIC) AND MINISTER OF  
NATIONAL DEFENSE.

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PAGE 02 SEUL 16346 270459Z

2. (U) ACTING PRESIDENT STRESSED EXTREME SHOCK OVER  
PRESIDENT PARK'S DEATH. HE CONFIRMED THAT PRESIDENT DIED  
FRIDAY NIGHT OF A BULLET FIRED BY SOUTH KOREAN CENTRAL  
INTELLIGENCE AGENCY DIRECTOR KIM CHAE KYU DURING AN  
ARGUMENT BETWEEN KIM AND THE PRESIDENT'S CHIEF BODY-  
GUARD, CHA CHI CHOL. ACTING PRESIDENT URGED THE PEOPLE  
TO UNITE AND TO TRUST THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ARMY. HE  
SAID HIS GOVERNMENT'S FOREIGN POLICY WOULD REMAIN UN-  
CHANGED AND WOULD CONTINUE THE FRIENDLY TIES BETWEEN

EXDIS REVIEW  
Cat. A - Caption removed;  
transferred to O/FADRC  
Cat. B - Transferred to O/FADRC  
with additional access  
controlled by S/S  
Cat. C - Caption and custody  
retained by S/S EK  
Reviewed by: Elijah Kelly Jr.  
Date: 4-22-93, 19\_\_

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TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79SEOUL 016346

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SEOUL AND NATIONS WITH WHICH IT HAD DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. HE NOTED WARMLY THE PROMPT AND POSITIVE ACTION OF THE UNITED STATES. HE CALLED ON THE MILITARY INVOLVED IN MARTIAL LAW TO REMAIN CALM AND REPEATEDLY STRESSED THE NEED TO MAINTAIN DOMESTIC LAW AND ORDER AND NATIONAL DEFENSE FROM EXTERNAL FORCES (FBIS WILL CARRY FULL TEXT).

3. (U) ECONOMIC MINISTER (DPM) ASSURED THE PEOPLE THAT ECONOMIC ACTIVITY WOULD CONTINUE UNCHANGED WITH BASIC CREDIT ARRANGEMENTS, EXPORT FACILITIES AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS OPERATING ON A NORMAL BASIS (FBIS WILL CARRY FULL TEXT).

4. (U) MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE ISSUED A STATEMENT SAYING THAT HE AND THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT UNDER THE ACTING PRESIDENT. (FBIS WILL CARRY FULL TEXT).

5. (C) WE HAVE RECEIVED EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION FOR PROMPT ISSUANCE OF STRONG U.S. STATEMENT REAFFIRMING SECURITY AND THE SUPPORT FOR THE ROK FROM THE ACTING PRESIDENT, FORNIN AND MILITARY CIRCLES. PRESIDENT'S LETTER OF CONDOLENCE HAS BEEN DELIVERED.

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PAGE 03 SEUL 16346 270459Z

6. (C) TO AVOID CONFUSION, ROK HAS ESTABLISHED DIRECT LINKS BETWEEN MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR, USFK PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER AND ICA. IN THIS MANNER, IT IS HOPED TO AVOID ANY POSSIBILITY OF MISINTERPRETATION OF STATEMENTS OR DIRECTIVES ISSUED BY THE MARTIAL LAW COMMANDER. WE ARE RECEIVING INTENSE BOMBARDMENT OF QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND ARE LIMITING OUR RESPONSE TO FACTUAL REPLIED BASED ON PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND DECLIN-  
ING SPECULATION. GLEYSTEN

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR

TRB Date. 9/13/93

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79STATE 280010

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FOIA Exemptions \_\_\_\_\_  
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PAGE 01 STATE 280010  
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 CPR-02 PA-02 SS-15 ICAE-00 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 SSC-01 ANAE-00 /032 R

DRAFTED BY TEXT AS RECEIVED FROM THE WHITE HOUSE  
APPROVED BY EA/K:R G RICH, JR.  
S/S-O:R STEVEN

-----052786 270242Z /20

O 270212Z OCT 79  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SEUL IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 280010

E.O. 12065 N/A

TAGS: PDIP, PRDC, KS, US

SUBJECT: CONDOLENCES ON DEATH OF PRESIDENT PARK

PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO ACTING  
PRESIDENT CHO KYU-HA FROM PRESIDENT CARTER.

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. ACTING PRESIDENT:

IT IS WITH A DEEP SENSE OF SHOCK AND SORROW THAT I HAVE  
LEARNED OF THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT PARK, CHUNG-HEE. PRESI-  
DENT PARK WAS A FIRM FRIEND OF AMERICA, A STAUNCH ALLY, AND  
AN ABLE LEADER. IN PARTICULAR, HIS ROLE IN KOREA'S RE-  
MARKABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN.

LET ME ASSURE YOU, AS YOU ASSUME YOUR DUTIES AS ACTING  
PRESIDENT, THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO STAND  
FIRMLY BEHIND ITS TREATY COMMITMENTS TO THE REPUBLIC OF  
KOREA. OUR THOUGHTS WILL BE WITH YOU AND THE KOREAN PEOPLE  
DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME. SINCERELY. CHRISTOPHER

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PAGE 02 STATE 280010

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS, FPG, CDR TRB Date. 9/13/93

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*[Handwritten mark]*

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79SEoul 016365

ADP205  
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PAGE 01      SEoul 16365 280514Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00  
 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-06 H-01 INR-10  
 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 OPR-02 SY-05 A-02 PC-01  
 AID-05 /078 W  
 -----060654 280519Z /12

O 280459Z OCT 79  
 FM AMEMBASSY SEoul  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1852  
 INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE  
 AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE  
 AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE  
 AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
 AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEoul 16365  
 KUALA LUMPUR FOR EA ASST SEC HOLBROOKE  
 CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

SITREP 4  
 EO 12065: GSM 10/28/85 (BLEHA, C.T.)  
 TAGS: PAIN, FKS  
 SUBJECT: SITUATION IN SEoul AS OF NOON, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28

1. (C) ENTIRE TEXT.
2. THE SITUATION IN SEoul REMAINS VERY MUCH AS IT WAS YESTERDAY. CALM WITH ACTIVITY NEARLY NORMAL. FLAGS ARE BEING FLOWN THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND ON TAXI CABS EITHER AT HALF STAFF OR WITH BLACK CREPE. ALTHOUGH IT IS SUNDAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES ARE OPEN FOR THEIR REGULAR WEEKDAY OFFICE HOURS AS ARE NEWSPAPER OFFICES. AN HOUR-AND-A HALF WALK AROUND THE CENTRAL SEoul AREA INDICATES THAT  
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PAGE 02      SEoul 16365 280514Z

THE CITY IS FUNCTIONING AS USUAL WITH ONLY A FEW TROOPS AND PLAINCLOTHESMEN IN EVIDENCE IN THE MAIN CAPITAL BUILDING/BLEUHOUSE AREA. BRANCH PAO'S REPORT SIMILAR CONDITIONS.

3. NOT SURPRISINGLY, THERE IS STILL CONSIDERABLE CONFUSION AND UNCERTAINTY OVER THE EVENTS THAT LED TO PRESIDENT PARK'S DEATH. PEOPLE ARE TRADING VERSIONS OF THOSE EVENTS, COMMENTING ON THE IMPLAUSIBILITY OF CERTAIN



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TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79SEOUL 016365

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ASPECTS AND SPECULATING TO FILL IN THE GAPS. THERE IS MUCH SKEPTICISM ABOUT QUOTE ACCIDENTAL END QUOTE SHOOTING OF PRESIDENT. AN OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION REPORT OF THE INCIDENT IS PROMISED FOR THE NEXT DAY OR SO.

4. THE RULING PARTIES HAVE MADE OFFICIAL STATEMENTS ON THE DEATH. THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN PARTY STATEMENT STRESSED NATIONAL UNITY, COOPERATION WITH THE MARTIAL LAW FORCES AND MAINTAINING THE PEOPLE'S STANDARD OF LIVING. THE APPOINTED YUJONGHOE PARTY ALSO WARNED NORTH KOREA. OPPOSITION NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY QUOTE STAFF MEMBERS END QUOTE MET TO ORDER FLAGS FLOWN AT HALF-MAST AT ALL PARTY OFFICES AND EXPRESS CONDOLENCES. NDP PRESIDENT KIM YONG-SAM, IN AN ADDITIONAL STATEMENT, REFERRED TO THE DEATH AS A QUOTE HEART-RENDING EVENT END QUOTE AND SAID HE PRAYED FOR PARK'S SOUL.

5. AS YESTERDAY, THE MEDIA IS FILLED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY WITH NEWS OF THE PRESIDENT'S DEATH AND RELATED EVENTS. UNDER BANNER HEADLINES, FRONT PAGES ARE DEVOTED TO NEWS OF THE DEATH AND MARTIAL LAW AND FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS. INSIDE PAGES REVIEW AT GREAT LENGTH IN TEXT AND PHOTOS PARK'S LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND REACTION FROM AROUND THE WORLD. THE U.S. STATEMENT AND PRESIDENT  
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*US Forces deployment from Japan - not mentioned publicly*

PAGE 03 SEUL 16365 280514Z

CARTER'S CONDOLENCE LETTER RECEIVE PROMINENT TREATMENT, AS DO JAPANESE STATEMENTS AND THE DECISION OF PM OHIRA TO ATTEND THE FUNERAL. TELEVISION, FOR THE MOST PART, IS GIVEN OVER TO FILM CLIPS OF PARK MEETING WITH KOREANS OF ALL WALKS OF LIFE, PRESIDING OVER OFFICIAL EVENTS, OR GREETING FOREIGN VISITORS SHOWN WITH SUBTITLES AND SOMBER BACKGROUND MUSIC.

6. UNLESS THE SITUATION CHANGES, WE DO NOT PLAN FURTHER SITREP REPORTS. GLEYSTEN

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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

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RELEASE  
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 FOIA Exemptions  
 PA Exemptions

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TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79STATE 281865

ADP373  
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PAGE 01 STATE 281865  
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00  
ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-06 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01  
SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 MC-02 /064 R

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APPROVED BY EK/J:JMCNAUGHTON

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O 281709Z OCT 79 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO NIACT IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 281865

E.O. 12065: GDS 10/28/85 (BLAKEMORE D.)

TAGS:MARR, JA, US

SUBJECT: US FORCE DEPLOYMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE ROK

REF: STATE 281155, TOKYO 19048.

1. IN RESPOSE TO QUESTIONS IN PARA 2 REFTEL (TOKYO) THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PROVIDED: USG DOES INTEND TO ANNOUNCE THESE MOVES PUBLICLY, A DOD MESSAGE ON PRESS GUIDANCE WILL BE OUT IN THE NEXT HOUR. IT WILL NOT CONTAIN ANY MENTION OF JAPAN. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, TO BE PASSED TO MOFA AT YOUR DISCRETION, SIX C-141 AIRCRAFT INVOLVED WILL STOP AT YOKOTA AFB FOR REFUELING DURING THE NEXT TEN HOURS. THESE SIX C-141S WILL NOT SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT WHICH TRANSIT THROUGH YOKOTA. THIS IS A NORMAL LOGISTIC REQUIREMENT CONSISTANT WITH SEVERAL HUNDRED USG C-141 AND C-5 AIRCRAFT STOP OVERS WHICH OCCUR AT YOKOTA EACH MONTH.

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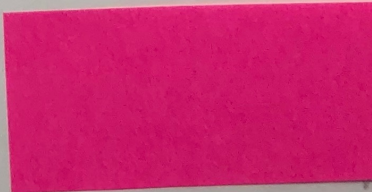
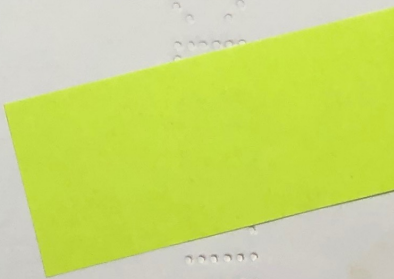
PAGE 02 STATE 281865

2. SINCE THE USG ANNOUNCEMENT WILL NOT MENTION JAPAN, THE GOJ MAY OR MAY NOT WANT TO MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT. THEY MAY DRAW ON THE USG ANNOUNCEMENT IF THEY DESIRE. VANCE

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*US Forces deployment from Japan - not mentioned publicly*



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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR

TRB Date: 9/13/93

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79SEOUL 016375

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FOIA Exemptions \_\_\_\_\_  
PA Exemptions \_\_\_\_\_

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 16375 290005Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 H-01 CPR-02 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
PA-01 SPH-01 DODE-00 SP-02 INR-10 INRE-00 CIAE-00  
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O 282340Z OCT 79  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1860  
INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 16375

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

KUALA LUMPUR FOR EA ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE

E.O. 12065 GDS 10/29/85 (MONJO, JOHN C.) OR-M  
TAGS: OVI, PINT, PEPE, KS  
SUBJECT: FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ROK PRESIDENT PARK

REF: SEOUL 16352 ✓

1. (C ENTIRE TEXT)

2. MOFA AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR GENERAL YU HAS ADVISED US THAT U.S. DELEGATION OF UP TO TEN MEMBERS WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR PRESIDENT PARK'S FUNERAL. USG AND GOJ HAVE BEEN SPECIFICALLY INVITED TO SEND HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATIONS; OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT DELEGATIONS OF FIVE TO SEVEN MEMBERS WOULD BE WELCOME. PRIME MINISTER OHIRA WILL LEAD JAPANESE DELEGATION.

3. AS NOTED REFTEL AT THIS EXTREMELY DELICATE TIME IN KOREA, GREAT IMPORTANCE IS BEING ATTACHED TO SYMBOLIC CONFIDENTIAL  
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PAGE 02 SEOUL 16375 290005Z

ACTIONS ON PART OF U.S. I THEREFORE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT VICE PRESIDENT HEAD OUR DELEGATION IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. I FURTHER RECOMMEND A STRONG, BALANCED DELEGATION ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES TO MAKE CLEAR BREADTH AND CONTINUITY OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR ROK. WE THINK IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE MILITARY BE WELL REPRESENTED BUT THAT THE DELEGATION NOT BE EXCESSIVELY MILITARY IN CAST, GIVEN THE PRESENT SITUATION.

✓



4. FROM HILL I SUGGEST SENATOR JAVITS AND CHAIRMAN ZABLOCKI, AS LEADERS FROM BOTH PARTIES WHO HAVE SHOWN CONTINUED INTEREST IN KOREA. (OTHERS WHO WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AS ALTERNATES INCLUDE SENATORS GLENN OR NUNN, AND CONGRESSMEN WOLFF, DERWINSKI, STRATTON, MURPHY AND ROBERT WILSON.) DICK HOLBROOKE PLUS EITHER PHIL HABIB OR DICK SNEIDER WOULD REPRESENT THE STATE SIDE OF THE HOUSE. I SUGGEST GENERAL VESSEY FROM THE MILITARY WITH GENERAL RIDGEWAY AS AN ALTERNATE. FROM PRIVATE LIFE I WOULD ADD FATHER HESBURGH OR SOME OTHER PERSON OF SIMILAR STATURE PLUS PRESIDENT OF THE U.S.-KOREAN ECONOMIC COUNCIL. ADDING MYSELF AND GENERAL WICKHAM THIS WOULD MAKE A TOTAL U.S. DELEGATION OF TEN. I WOULD HOPE THAT, FOR PURPOSES OF EXCHANGING VIEWS, BOB RICH AND NICK PLATT WOULD COME TOO, THOUGH NOT AS MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL DELEGATION UNLESS THE KOREANS INDICATE THE NUMBER CAN BE EXPANDED.

5. SINCE THE JAPANESE HAVE ALREADY RESPONDED, ROK IS PRESSING US FOR COMPOSITION OF U.S. DELEGATION -- IN PARTICULAR ITS LEADERSHIP. AN EARLY RESPONSE WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATED AND USEFUL. GLEYSTEN

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**CONFIDENTIAL, OADR**

**EXCISE**

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TEXT OF TELEGRAM 79SEOUL 015290

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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01  
ACTION EA-12

SEOUL 15290 100026Z

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 INRE-00 PM-06 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01  
SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 /056 W

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

MR Cases Only:  
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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1359  
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
SA CINCUNC KS  
CHJUSMAB SEOUL KS  
COMUSKOREA SEOUL KS//SJS

CONFIDENTIAL SEOUL 15290

E.O. 12065: XDS-1 10/09/89 (CLARK, WILLIAM) DR-P  
TAGS: PINS KS  
SUBJECT: ROKG ANNOUNCES CAPTURE OF SUBVERSIVE RING

1. (C) ENTIRE TEXT)

2. ON OCTOBER 9, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED CAPTURE OF 20 MEMBERS OF 74-MAN SUBVERSIVE RING. GROUP ACCUSED OF ORGANIZING UNDERGROUND NET TO OVERTHROW GOVERNMENT AND ESTABLISH "SOUTH KOREAN LIBERATION FRONT." POLICE CLAIM TO HAVE CONFISCATED CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF INCRIMINATING EVIDENCE SUCH AS COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, WEAPONS, PUBLICATIONS, TAPE OF WORDS OF KIM IL-SUNG, AND FLAGS OF NEW FRONT. GROUP ALSO ACCUSED OF HAVING ENGAGED IN ROBBERIES TO FINANCE OPERATIONS.

3. RING LEADER YI CHAE-MUN AND A NUMBER OF THE OTHER 20 TAKEN HAD HAD BRUSHES WITH THE LAW IN PAST IN CONNECTION WITH ALLEGED SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES, YI BEING TIED WITH PEOPLES REVOLUTIONARY PARTY AND DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE OF STUDENTS AND YOUTH.  
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5. AT THE MOMENT WE DO NOT KNOW IF THIS CASE WILL HAVE HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS. WE DO NOTE THAT YI CHAE-MUN

PAGE NO. 1

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