

UNCLASSIFIED
CONFIDENTIAL
EXDIS

0-3

DOCUMENT ID: 26077108
INQNO: DOC12D 00079648
DOCNO: TEL 014051; 89
PRODUCER: BEIJING
AGENCY: STATE
DOCTYPE: IN
DOR: 19890521
TOR: 124423
DOCPREC: O
ORIGDATE: 198905211530
MHFNO: 89 2879925
DOCCLASS: C
CAVEATS: EXDIS

Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.
() Release (X) Excise () Deny () Declassify
Date 11/30/99 Exemption b1

DECAPTIONED

CDS
C 02068BEIJIN 14051 211615ZSCO 89-2879925 F
MIDB

S
UPID

08/ /

CONFIDENTIAL

FRP: , 2, , , 5, , ,

ADV ODO, IID, NSO 1645Z

STATE



89 2879925 SCO

PAGE 001
TOR: 211615Z MAY 89

NC 2879925
BEIJIN 14051

HEADER
OO RUEAIIB
ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH
TOU9386
OO RUEHC
DE RUEHBJ #4051 1411530
ZNY CCCCC ZZH ZZK
O 211530Z MAY 89 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8951
BT

CONTROLS
CONFIDENTIAL BEIJING 14051

EXDIS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

EXDIS

EXDIS

FOR ACTING AS CLARK AND AMB WILLIAMS FROM AMB LILLEY

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TEXT

TAGS: PGOV, ASEC, CH

SUBJECT: PLA READY TO STRIKE

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. AFTER BACKING AND FILLING LAST NIGHT AND TRYING TO THREATEN AND INTIMIDATE THE DEMONSTRATORS, WHICH WAS NOT WORKING, THE PLA NOW APPEARS READY TO STRIKE EARLY MORNING OF MAY 22. THE ANNOUNCEMENT ON CCTV AT SEVEN O'CLOCK THIS EVENING (SUNDAY, MAY 21) TOLD THE PEOPLE THE PLA WAS COMING IN TO DEFEND THEM AND CLEAN THINGS UP. WE NOW HAVE RELIABLE INFORMATION THAT 113 APC ARE AT MARCO POLO BRIDGE, THE 43RD AIRBORNE FROM KAIFENG, THE 24TH ARMY AND THE 27TH ARMY AS WELL AS THE 6TH TANK DIVISION ARE PREPARED TO MOVE IN ON TIANANMEN FROM THE NORTHWEST, SOUTHWEST, EAST AND WEST. THEY ARE NOW PREDICTED TO LAUNCH IN ABOUT TWO HOURS AND COULD BE DOWNTOWN EARLY IN THE MORNING OF MONDAY, MAY 22.

3. THERE ARE MASSES OF PEOPLE POURING OUT OF CENTER BEIJING IN TRUCKS, ON BICYCLES, AND ON FOOT, TO MEET THE INCOMING TROOPS. THE PEOPLE KNOW THEY ARE COMING AND WILL TRY TO INFLUENCE THEM NOT TO COME.

4. A CONFRONTATION RESULTING IN BLOODSHED IS PROBABLE AT THIS POINT. I HAVE CONTACTED MFA TO REGISTER MY CONCERNS. I HAVE ASKED TO SPEAK TO LIU HUAQIU, BUT WE HAVE NOT MADE CONTACT YET. THE DUTY OFFICER HAS TOLD US HE CANNOT GET THROUGH TO LIU. EARLIER A/DCM HAD EXPRESSED OUR CONCERNS TO MFA AND HAD BEEN TOLD THIS WAS AN INTERNAL MATTER AND NONE OF OUR CONCERN.

5. AS A MATTER OF POLICY, THE UNITED STATES SHOULD CONSIDER NOW TAKING MEASURES TO DISTANCE OURSELVES FROM THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES WHO APPEAR TO BE GETTING READY TO CRACK DOWN ON THEIR OWN PEOPLE. ALL SIGNS INDICATE THIS IS A POPULAR UPRISING SUPPORTING BASIC PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY. THE MOVEMENT HAS BEEN NON-VIOLENT, BUT PASSIONATE. WE HAVE WAN LI COMING TO THE USA ON MAY 22 AM AND THREE U.S NAVAL SHIPS NOW IN SHANGHAI. THE SHIPS WILL QUIETLY LEAVE, WE HOPE, IN THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 22. WAN LI IS SCHEDULED TO BE IN THE USA FOR TEN DAYS. [

IF THE PRC CANCELLED WAN LI'S

EXDIS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

EXDIS

TRIP THIS WOULD PROBABLY BE THE BEST OUTCOME. IF THE TROOPS HIT CENTER BEIJING IN FIVE HOURS, I SUGGEST WE LET THE PRC EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON KNOW THAT WE BELIEVE THE TRIP SHOULD BE CANCELLED. ALSO, WE SHOULD TAKE A HARD LOOK AT GENERAL VUONO'S TRIP HERE IN TWO WEEKS. FINALLY, I SUGGEST AN IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE STATEMENT REITERATING OUR STRONG CONVICTION THAT VIOLENCE SHOULD NOT BE USED TO DEAL WITH THIS CURRENT SITUATION.

6. THIS CURRENT PRC GOVERNMENT IS NOT A STRONG ONE; IT MAY NOT LAST LONG; DESPITE ITS ABILITY TO SUPPRESS AN UPRISING. WHAT IS HAPPENING HERE IN OPPOSITION TO THE AUTHORITIES HAS A PERMANENCE ABOUT IT. IT IS NOT GOING TO GO AWAY --

B1

7. THESE ARE PRELIMINARY THOUGHTS IN THE HEAT OF A CRISIS. WE MAY POSSIBLY SEE A THREATENING SITUATION DISSIPATE WITH COMPROMISE AND SOME CONCILIATION. I HOPE THIS HAPPENS. THE SIGNS ARE NOT FAVORABLE. THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES SEEM TO BELIEVE IT CAN HAPPEN TONIGHT AND THE STUDENTS ARE PREPARED FOR ANYTHING.

LILLEY

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL

EXDIS
CONFIDENTIAL