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SUBJECT: S. KOREA Int Sit
Oct '79

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FM F C O 091230Z OCT 83
TO IMMEDIATE SEOUL
TELEGRAM NUMBER 157 OF 9 OCTOBER

**PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T 147/83**

YOURTEL 189: RANGOON EXPLOSION

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGES HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR DELIVERY.
PLEASE PASS THEM ON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

A. FROM THE QUEEN TO PRESIDENT CHUN:
QUOTE

I WAS SHOCKED TO HEAR THE NEWS OF THE DEATH OF MEMBERS
OF YOUR EXCELLENCY'S GOVERNMENT. PLEASE ACCEPT MY
CONDOLENCES ON KOREA'S GREAT LOSS. UNQUOTE

B. FROM MRS THATCHER TO THE KOREAN PRIME MINISTER
QUOTE

WE HAVE HEARD THE NEWS OF THE EXPLOSION AT THE RANGOON
WAR MEMORIAL WITH SHOCK. PLEASE ACCEPT MY DEEPEST
SYMPATHY ON THE DEATHS OF YOUR CABINET COLLEAGUES AND
OTHER DISTINGUISHED KOREANS. OUR THOUGHTS ARE WITH YOU
AT THIS TRAGIC TIME. UNQUOTE

C. PERSONAL MESSAGE TO LEE BUM SUK'S WIDOW FROM MYSELF
QUOTE

HAVING MET YOUR HUSBAND SO RECENTLY IN NEW YORK, I WAS
PARTICULARLY SHOCKED TO LEARN OF YOUR TRAGIC
BEREAVEMENT. PLEASE ACCEPT MY SINCERE CONDOLENCES.
KOREA HAS LOST A DISTINGUISHED STATESMAN AND BRITAIN
HAS LOST A FRIEND. UNQUOTE

2. YOU MAY PUBLISH THE TEXTS OF THE FIRST TWO MESSAGES
ABOVE ONCE THEY HAVE BEEN DELIVERED, AND THE FACT OF MY

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PERSONAL MESSAGE.

3. GRATEFUL FOR THE NAME OF LEE BUM SUK'S WIDOW SO THAT I MAY SEND A SIGNED ORIGINAL. GRATEFUL ALSO FOR NEWS OF THE FUNERAL AND YOUR RECOMMENDATION ABOUT BRITISH REPRESENTATION.

4. NEWS DEPARTMENT ARE TAKING THE FOLLOWING LINE WITH THE PRESS.

QUOTE

APPALLED TO HEAR THIS NEWS. HEARTS GO OUT TO PEOPLE OF KOREA, WHO HAVE SUFFERED SUCH A TRAGIC LOSS. ONLY HOPE THOSE RESPONSIBLE WILL BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE.

(IF ASKED): CANNOT IMAGINE WHO COULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH AN OUTRAGE. UNQUOTE

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