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SECTION 001 OF 002

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

TEXT (b)(3):10 USC 424
SUBJ: IIR 424 CONDITIONS IN BEIJING UNDER MARTIAL LAW AS OF 10 AUGUST 1989 (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGEN(E. REPORT CLASSIFIED ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ NOFORN. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 890810.

REQS: (U) (b)(3):10 USC 424

(b)(1),1.4 (c)

SUMMARY: ~~(C)~~ THIS REPORT PROVIDES INFORMATION ON THE MILITARY, POLITICAL, AND SECURITY CONDITIONS IN BEIJING DURING JULY-AUGUST 1989.

TEXT: 1. (U) CONDITIONS IN BEIJING IN AUGUST 1989 UNDER MARTIAL LAW --

A. ~~(C)~~ ON THE SURFACE, BEIJING APPEARS VERY CALM. SHATTERED GLASS WINDOWS IN BUILDINGS HAVE ALL BEEN REPLACED, BUT IN THE AREA OF FOREIGN DIPLOMATS' APARTMENT HOUSES, ONE CAN STILL SEE MARKS ON THE STREETS LEFT BY TANKS.

B. ~~(C)~~ THE 6 KILOMETER STRETCH OF ROAD THAT FRONTS TIANANMEN SQUARE IS CLOSED TO PEDESTRIANS DURING THE DAY, BUT IS OPEN TO BICYCLES AND CARS. FOREIGN VISITORS WISHING TO VISIT THE SQUARE MUST OBTAIN PERMISSION IN ADVANCE.

C. ~~(C)~~ A CURFEW IS IN EFFECT FROM 2130 HOURS. IF TRAVEL OCCURS DURING CURFEW, PEDESTRIANS MUST SHOW IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND SUBMIT THEIR BAGS FOR INSPECTION AT CHECKPOINTS. VEHICLES ARE ALSO STOPPED AND SEARCHED. THESE SEARCHES ARE STRICTLY ENFORCED IN THE AREA BETWEEN TIANANMEN SQUARE AND CHANGAN STREET.

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D. ~~(C)~~ [REDACTED] NOTED THAT THE BEIJING FANDIAN (HOTEL), HAD HARDLY ANY OVERNIGHT GUESTS; AND THE DINING ROOM WAS DESERTED. CHINESE WHO RETURNED TO BEIJING FROM XI'AN (b)(3):10 USC 424

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[REDACTED] SAID THERE WERE ONLY A FEW OVERNIGHT GUESTS AT THE HOTEL IN XI'AN.

2. (U) MARTIAL LAW FORCES --

A. ~~(C)~~ OVERALL, THE MARTIAL LAW FORCES GUARDING THE SQUARE LOOKED SHARP. THE TROOPS GUARDING THE PEOPLE'S HERO MEMORIAL STOOD AT RIGID ATTENTION. NEATLY DRESSED MARTIAL LAW TROOPS STOOD GUARD AT KEY LOCATIONS SUCH AS FUXINGMEN AND JIANGUOMEN. THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME IN RECENT YEARS THAT [REDACTED] HAS SEEN SUCH WELL DISCIPLINED PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY (PLA) SOLDIERS.

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B. ~~(C)~~ HOWEVER, OTHER MARTIAL LAW FORCES, NOT IN TIANANMEN SQUARE, WERE SEEN IN GROUPS OF THREE OR FOUR. THEY WERE CHATTING OR SMOKING, SLOVENLY DRESSED, AND APPEARED TO LACK DISCIPLINE.

C. ~~(C)~~ MARTIAL LAW FORCES WERE IN THE REVOLUTION MEMORIAL HALL AND THE MILITARY MUSEUM. (b)(1),(b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i),1.4 (c)

ALL HIGH RISE BUILDINGS IN THE VICINITY OF TIANANMEN SQUARE ARE STILL OCCUPIED BY MARTIAL LAW FORCES. ONLY THE FUXING MEMORIAL HALL REMAINS OPEN TO FOREIGN VISITORS.

D. ~~(C)~~ (b)(1),(b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i),1.4 (c) ALSO SAID THAT MILITARY UNITS ENFORCING MARTIAL LAW IN BEIJING HAD BEEN ROTATED MANY TIMES.

3. ~~(C)~~ POSSIBLE TERRORIST THREATS TO HIGH RANKING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS --

A. ~~(C)~~ NONE OF THE SNIPERS THAT FIRED AT MARTIAL LAW TROOPS IN THE VICINITY OF THE FOREIGN DIPLOMAT APARTMENT HOUSES DURING THE TIANANMEN INCIDENT HAVE BEEN APPREHENDED. A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF RIFLES, AMMUNITION, AND GUN POWDER WERE SEIZED BY CIVILIANS DURING THE TIANANMEN INCIDENT, RAISING GOVERNMENT CONCERNS OF POSSIBLE TERRORIST ATTACKS AGAINST CHINESE LEADERS.

B. ~~(C)~~ AS A SECURITY PRECAUTION, LEADERS RARELY LEAVE THEIR HOMES NOW. IN THE PAST, IT WAS POSSIBLE TO GUESS WHO WAS ATTENDING AN IMPORTANT CONFERENCE BY CHECKING THE MERCEDES BENZ CARS PARKED OUTSIDE THE CONFERENCE LOCATIONS. ALMOST ALL VEHICLES USED BY THE LEADERS WERE ISSUED NEW VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES AS AN ADDED SECURITY PRECAUTION.

C. ~~(C)~~ STRINGENT ROAD BLOCKS AND TIGHTER SECURITY IN HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS ARE ALSO DESIGNED TO COPE WITH THE INCREASED THREAT OF POSSIBLE TERRORIST ATTACKS.

4. ~~(C)~~ STUDENT ARRESTS CONTINUE - AT PRESENT, SUSPECTS, WHO ARE ALSO STUDENTS, ARE STILL BEING HUNTED IN BEIJING. THE ARRESTED STUDENTS ARE BEING CONFINED IN VARIOUS LOCAL PRISONS. AS A RESULT, THE GOVERNMENT HAS MORE ARRESTED STUDENTS THAN THEY HAVE PRISON SPACE. WITHIN THE TOP LEVEL OF THE PARTY, THERE ARE TWO PREVAILING VIEWS REGARDING THE SEARCH FOR STUDENTS - ONE IS TO CALL OFF THE SEARCH IMMEDIATELY, THE OTHER IS TO CONTINUE THE SEARCH TO THE VERY END.

5. ~~(C)~~ MARTIAL LAW TO CONTINUE - CHINESE PEOPLE ARE SAYING THAT MARTIAL LAW WILL NOT BE LIFTED UNTIL FEBRUARY 1990, ONE MONTH PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE ASIAN GAMES. HOWEVER, THERE ALSO ARE VERY PESSIMISTIC VIEWS AMONG OTHER CHINESE PEOPLE THAT THERE MIGHT BE OTHER CIVIL DISTURBANCES IN BEIJING IN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY 1990.

THE MAJORITY OF (b)(1),1.4 (c) THAT (b)(1),(b)(3):50 USC 403-1 (i),1.4 (c) MET SAID THEY WOULD NOT DISMISS THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING ANOTHER CIVIL DISTURBANCE IN BEIJING BECAUSE THERE EXIST STRONG, HARD FEELINGS AMONG THE PEOPLE AGAINST THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT LEADERS. SHOULD THAT HAPPEN, MARTIAL LAW MEASURES MAY HAVE TO BE REINFORCED OR THE ASIAN GAME CANCELLED.

6. ~~(C)~~ EXIT PROCEDURES - PROCESSING OF EXITING PERSONS AT BEIJING INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT WAS ESPECIALLY STRICT FOR ANY CHINESE WHO HAPPENED TO LOOK LIKE A STUDENT OR AN INTELLECTUAL.

(b)(1),1.4 (c) EXIT CHECK AT THE AIRPORT WAS SIMPLE. HOWEVER, (b)(1),(b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i),1.4 (c) WHO ACCOMPANIED (b)(1),(b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i),1.4 (c) WERE

SUBJECTED TO EXTENSIVE CHECKS. (b)(1),(b)(3):50 USC 403-1(i),1.4 (c) RECEIVED THE IMPRESSION THAT NEW INSTRUCTIONS HAD BEEN ISSUED TO THE SECURITY OFFICIALS REGARDING EXIT PROCEDURES. MOREOVER, HE SUSPECTED THAT THE AIRPORT OFFICIALS HE DEALT WITH WERE NOT REGULAR AIRPORT PERSONNEL, BUT RATHER, WERE PROBABLY FROM THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SECURITY OR THE MARTIAL LAW COMMAND.

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