

~~Top Secret~~

~~NOFORN-NOCONTRACT-~~

SOUTH KOREA: Aftermath of Rangoon Bombing

[REDACTED]

South Korean officials are convinced that the North Koreans are behind the bombing and that President Chun was the principal target. Seoul declared a state of emergency following the incident.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] There is no evidence to support South Korean claims of P'yongyang's involvement. Some circumstantial evidence—such as Chun apparently being the target rather than Burmese officials—points to that conclusion. Nonetheless, Burmese insurgents or recently purged Burmese security officials intent on embarrassing the government could be responsible. [REDACTED]

For the moment, Chun faces the task of finding new cabinet officers and senior economic advisers to replace the respected professionals killed in the incident. Particularly serious losses are Chun's able Foreign Minister, Lee Bum Suk, and senior economic adviser Kim Jae Ik, whose skillful guidance of Seoul's economic policy was a major source of international confidence in the country's economy. [REDACTED]

JUL 2000

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[REDACTED]

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