

June 15, 1954

**Asian Peoples' Anti-Communist Conference,
Provisional Summary Record of the Opening Session**

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Summary:

Delegates from South Korea, China, Macao, the Philippines, and the Ryukyu Islands discuss the anti-communist struggle in the Asia Pacific.

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PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE OPENING SESSION

Held at Admiral's Quarters, Chinhae, Korea
on Tuesday, 15 June 1954, at 9.30 a.m.

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1. One minute of silent prayer for all freedom-loving peoples who have fought and died in the fight against international-Communism.
2. Address of Welcome: His Excellency, President Syngman Rhee, Republic of Korea.
3. Responses to the President by the spokesman of each national delegation, in alphabetical order.
4. Thanks for the remarks of the spokesman of each national delegation, by His Excellency, President Syngman Rhee.
5. Congratulatory message from the Korean National Assembly.

Chairman: Mr. Young P. Lee, The Republic of Korea.

Any corrections to this record should be submitted in duplicate in the official language within twenty-four hours to the Secretariat, House No. 817, Admiral's Quarters. Corrections should bear the appropriate symbol number and be enclosed in an envelope marked "URGENT".

AS THIS RECORD WAS DISTRIBUTED AT 16.00 HOURS ON 15 JUNE 1954, THE TIME-LIMIT FOR CORRECTIONS WILL BE 16.00 HOURS ON 16 JUNE 1954.

The opening session was called to order by Chairman Young P. Lee, Chief Delegate of the Republic of Korea.

All the attendees rose up to one minute of silent prayer for all freedom-loving peoples who have fought and died in the fight against international Communism.

Mr. Lee introduced President Syngman Rhee of the Republic of Korea, who received a standing ovation from the Delegates, guests, and press corps. (Text of Mr. Lee's introductory remarks have been distributed as a separate document).

President Syngman Rhee welcomed the delegates and spoke of the Free Asian fight against Communism. (The text of President Rhee's address has been distributed as a separate document.) The President then spoke extemporaneously to the spectators and press corps, urging them to help Free Asia achieve the objectives of the Conference by refraining from any interference with the work of the Delegations. The President emphasized that the Delegates and the Conference have nothing to conceal, but must have a chance to work quietly and diligently.

Mr. Lee introduced spokesmen for each Delegation, in alphabetical order, for responses to the remarks of President Rhee.

The first speaker was Mr. Ku Chin Kang, Chief Delegate of China. He said his delegation was honored to be present and to listen to such an inspiring speech. Paying his respects to the anti-Communist determination of the President and the Korean people, he declared that he believes this Conference represents a fine beginning for an anti-Communist front of Asian peoples. He pointed out that since World War II, Asia has been the battleground in the fight against the Communists. The fate of Asia hangs in the balance, he declared, but there is new hope for the peoples of Asia. He added that China was going to offer its frank and true views for discussion at the Conference. (The text of Mr. Ku's remarks will be distributed later.)

The second speaker was Mr. Yap Tin Sing, Chief Delegate of Hongkong and Macao. He expressed gratitude for the great speech of President Rhee, and saluted the anti-Communist war efforts of the President, the ROK Army, and the Korean people. The Conference feels the great responsibility imposed upon it, he said, and the success or failure of the meeting will determine the future of Asia. He expressed confidence the Conference will result in an anti-Communist Asian Alliance, and eventually in an Asian Federation. Mr. Yap said he hoped the Conference would adopt resolutions urging the Free World to outlaw all Communist organizations, and all actions of the Geneva Conference.

The third speaker was Miss Michaela Montemayor, Delegate of the Philippines. She pointed out that since 1951 the Philippines has been sending troops to help in Korea's fight against Communism. The ties between the two countries are therefore very close, she said, and Korea's cause is the same as that of the Philippines. The menace of Communism is very great, but it can be overcome through the united efforts of free people, she added. She concluded with the wish that Korea may have many more years of fruitful leadership from that great friend and patriot, President Rhee.

The fourth speaker was Tsai Chang, Chief Delegate of Ryukyu. He said that Korea today represents the crystallization of the freedom fight of President Rhee, the Korean Army and people. Ryukyu suffered slavery under the Japanese for 80 years, until the end of World War II, he said. Now Ryukyu is determined to become free and independent, and to establish a state that can determine its own destiny. To do so, he said, Ryukyu will draw on the experiences and processes of Korea. Ryukyu is also interested in establishing an anti-Communist Alliance. Mr. Tsai said that to sit and look on indifferently would be to commit suicide and invite extinction.

The fifth speaker was Mr. B. Chuang, Chief Delegate of Thailand. He expressed appreciation for the warm welcome of the Republic of Korea and of President Rhee. The Thai people and government are entirely anti-Communist—100 per cent, he declared. That is why Thai troops were sent to Korea to fight against Communism. He asserted that the two main problems of the Conference are (1) How to set up the organization, and (2) How to make it large and strong.

The sixth and last speaker was Mr. Nguyen Van Tam, Chief Delegate of Vietnam. He declared that measures against Communism must be taken now, because the imperialistic ambitions of the Communist world are without limit. He pointed out that the pattern of aggression had taken China, and then been directed against Korea and Vietnam. Whose turn will it be tomorrow? he asked. We cannot wait and see our friends fall into peril one by one, he said. The reason for the Communist victories to date can be found in our failure to unite. This Conference marks a change, he continued, because compromise with Communism is unthinkable. He concluded with the statement that the Communist aim to dominate the world and to throttle liberty will never be altered.

Enthusiastic applause greeted the responses of each Delegation spokesman.

President Rhee then expressed thanks for the remarks of the spokesmen. He said he was especially happy to have Mr. Nguyen Van Tam, the former Premier of Vietnam, at the Conference. The President pointed out that the Vietnam and Indo-Chinese situation is critical, and that Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia have the full sympathy of Korea. He said the Koreans will do all they can to help, and repeated the ROK offer to send two or three divisions to Indo-China. We must keep in mind that we are one for all and all for one, he said. Unless we all get together, we shall be destroyed, he declared. "I know this Conference, small as it is, will be a great and mighty force in the anti-Communist crusade. The people of Asia are ready to extend themselves for their own

interests in the affairs of Asia. We are tired of being trampled by mighty military powers. We are not going to be a football in world affairs." The President pointed out that the Communists are our own People, and asked why we must fight them. Because, he answered, Soviet Russia seeks domination of the whole world. He said we are not anti-Communist, but pro-Democratic. When the peoples of Asia stand together, he asserted, we shall triumph. "I thank God we have this mighty start here. God bless you all. From now on I'll keep away from you, but my heart is with you. Anytime you want to know anything that I can tell you, please let me know."

The President was applauded again, and left the Conference.

Mr. Whang Sung Soo of the ROK Delegation read a congratulatory message from the Korean National Assembly, and called attention to other messages of congratulation.

The Opening Session then was adjourned by Mr. Lee at 11:15 a.m.