

**March 22, 1957**  
**CDS Report No. 38 from Choi Duk Shin to the  
President (Syngman Rhee)**

**Citation:**

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**Summary:**

Choi Duk Shin reports on his trip to Laos, the return of the Korean stowaways to South Korea, and recent South Vietnamese affairs.

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March 22, 1957

CONFIDENTIAL.

CDS REPORT NO.038

Excellency,

I have the honour to submit my Weekly Report No.038 after the return to Saigon today from my trip to Laos. The report will cover the following points:

1. Receipt of Instructions
2. Trip to Laos
3. Proposed trip and itinerary
4. Stowaways will leave March 23
5. Vietnamese Delegation leaves to attend funeral of late President Magsaysay of The Philippines

1. Receipt of Instructions.

In the last pouch I received Instruction Paper No.49 which enclosed THE KOREA CORRESPONDENT No.73 and also Instruction Paper No. 50 which is in acknowledgment of my Report No.035.

2. Trip to Laos.

As indicated in my telegram to FORMIN I made my trip to Laos during the period of March 18 through March 22. Because of my late return from Laos only this afternoon, I really cannot complete my special report on my trip to Laos.

I do, however, report to Your Excellency with great pleasure that my trip to Laos was a worthwhile one. As my telegram from Laos stated:

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"KORPITAL SEOUL

ARRIVED LAOS EIGHTEENTH PD WE CALLED PRIME MINISTER  
SAME DAY PD WARMLY RECEIVED WITH FULL OF SCHEDULE  
STOP SP ONE"

We were received cordially and courteously by the Laotian Government and had a very busy time talking with quite a few influential high ranking persons. I am attaching with this report an excerpt from my diary and I assure Your Excellency that I will send the special report which will be marked as "KOLISA A-57 SP Report No.2: Trip to Laos" in the next pouch.

3. Proposed trip and itinerary.

My assistants in my goodwill tour, Mr. Chang and Captain Lee, arrived on the evening of March 15. They brought to me the following messages:

- Plaksh*
- a. that I am permitted to visit Formosa on the return home. This message was confirmed in Your Excellency's Instruction No.50;
  - b. that I should include Pakistan and Borneo in my itinerary.

I attach with this report my nearly confirmed itinerary. This has been made up following a check of the various airlines and all necessary travel informations.

Concerning my trip to Cambodia and as indicated to Your Excellency in Report No.035 I had hoped to make this trip before March 25. However, the Cambodian Minister in Saigon advises me that it would be better if I made this trip after March 27. Apparently, this is because of the fact that the Polish Premier will be in Cambodia and will not leave before March 27. I, therefore, plan to make my trip to Cambodia in the period of

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March 28 through March 31. This will precede my further trip on April 1.

I realize that this entire tour has been delayed due to the delay in arrival of my assistants. The complete trip will last a month and an half because of travel conditions and extent of the distances between countries to be visited.

I will endeavour to the best of my ability to complete this proposed trip as quickly as possible and to report to Your Excellency.

In order to simplify telegraphic communications with FORMIN I shall use a standard form to indicate my arrival in and departure from the various countries giving the name of the cities.

4. Stowaways will leave March 23.

Two officers of our National Police arrived on March 17. Because of the fact they are travelling back to Seoul on our national airlines KNA from Hongkong and the Hongkong authority will not permit them to remain in Hongkong more than one night, and, further, because our KNA flight from Hongkong to Seoul is scheduled only for every Sunday, the two officers are required to stay in Saigon until Saturday. They will take the two stowaways with them and depart Saigon tomorrow, Saturday, March 23. They will arrive home on Sunday evening, March 24.

In order that the two police officers should pass the days with useful work, this Legation made arrangements with the Vietnamese National police for our police officers to make a brief study of police matters. I believe these two police officers had a useful and worthwhile study of these matters during their five days stay while awaiting a suitable airline schedule.

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5. Vietnamese Delegation leaves to attend funeral of late President Magsaysay of The Philippines.

An official government delegation led by the Vice-President of Vietnam and composed of the Foreign Minister, the Chief of General Staff of the Vietnam Armed Forces and the Director of Cabinet of Foreign Ministry, went on March 21 to Manila to attend the funeral of the late President Ramon MAGSAYSAY which is taking place today March 22, 1957.

There will be a Requiem Mass said tomorrow in the early morning in the Saigon cathedral which I will attend and I shall then go to the Philippine Legation to sign the book to express my personal sorrow.

With the sentiments of deepest loyalty and highest esteem.

Respectfully,

*Choi Duk Shin*

Choi, Duk Shin  
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary  
Republic of Korea to Vietnam

His Excellency  
President of Republic of Korea.

Attachments.

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