



**August 24, 1957**  
**Letter from Choi Duk Shin to the President**  
**(Syngman Rhee)**

**Citation:**

"Letter from Choi Duk Shin to the President (Syngman Rhee)", August 24, 1957, Wilson Center Digital Archive, B-331-007, The Korean Legation in Vietnam, Reports from the Korean Mission to the United Nations and Republic of Korea Embassies and Legations, Syngman Rhee Institute, Yonsei University.  
<https://digitalarchive.umd.edu/document/120936>

**Summary:**

Choi Duk Shin writes about the proposed Vietnamese economic mission to South Korea and the nomination of a Minister Plenipotentiary to Seoul.

**Credits:**

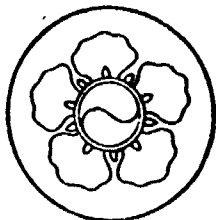
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**Contents:**

Original Scan



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Saigon, August 24, 1957

OUR REFERENCE :

YOUR REFERENCE :

Excellency :

I have the honor to bring to Your Excellency's knowledge the two following informations :

1. The sending of a Vietnamese economic mission to Korea.

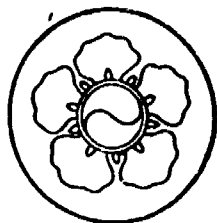
After long months of study, the Government of Vietnam has recently decided to send an economic mission to Korea. This mission will leave Saigon for Seoul toward the end of this month or early September and will be led by Mr. Tang Van Chi, Secretary General of the National Economy Department. Mr. Tang Van Chi recently headed a Vietnamese Trade Mission to France, representing the Minister of National Economy Nguyen Ngoc Tho. His title of Secretary General has the same rank as Vice Minister in our Government.

According to the Economy Department here, the mission will be composed of 15 persons, and will include, besides Mr. Tang Van Chi, 14 representatives of various fields of trade and industry in Vietnam.

The mission will have a three-fold motive :

- a/ To make preliminary consultations which would lead to the preparation of a trade treaty between Korea and Vietnam;
- b/ To inspect the different installations of Korea's commerce and industry;
- c/ To have an on-the-spot survey of Korean agriculture and fishing resources susceptible to be imported into Vietnam.

In compliance with the Economy Department's desire, this information is to be kept confidential until official announcement.



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2. The nomination of a Minister Plenipotentiary to Seoul.

The nomination of an envoy plenipotentiary to Seoul is presently a matter of concern to the Government of Vietnam. The Republic of Vietnam wishes to send a competent representative, knowing English well, to represent their Government. However, persons of this stamp are few and mostly all of them already have a function. Following the talks I had recently with Foreign Minister Vu Van Mau, I believe that the delay in appointing a Minister to Seoul is due only to shortage of personnel and is not derived from any political reason.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Choi Duk Shin  
Minister to Vietnam.

His Excellency  
Dr. Chung Whan Cho  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Republic of Korea  
S E O U L

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