

**September 12, 1957**  
**CDS Report No. 57 from Choi Duk Shin to the  
President (Syngman Rhee)**

**Citation:**

"CDS Report No. 57 from Choi Duk Shin to the President (Syngman Rhee)", September 12, 1957, Wilson Center Digital Archive, B-332-002, 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/120961>

**Summary:**

Choi Duk Shin reports on the plans for the Colombo Plan Conference and Thailand's recent refusal of Japan's Asia Development Plan.

**Credits:**

This document was made possible with support from Syngman Rhee Institute, Yonsei University

**Original Language:**

English

**Contents:**

Original Scan

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CONFIDENTIAL

CDS Report No. 057

Excellency,

I have the honour to submit this weekly report No. 057  
as follows :

1. Receipt of Instructions
2. Colombo Plan Conference
3. Thailand refused to co-operate with Kishi's Asia  
Development Plan.
4. Social Activities.

1. Receipt of Instructions.

In the pouch of this week there were Instructions No.89 to 92.  
I appreciate all the instructions and informations which I received.

2. Colombo Plan Conference.

I agree with Ambassador Yang's idea to let Great Britain  
in co-sponsorship with Ceylon to propose our membership.  
I feel his reasoning for this suggestion is very sound.  
For the question of who-will-propose I believe that the  
Vietnamese Government will not insist to be the sponsor-  
nation. However, this coming Conference of Colombo Plan  
will be held in Saigon and consequently the Vietnamese Govern-  
ment is the host nation. The Vietnamese Government will  
extend an invitation to us to attend the forthcoming confe-  
rence in Saigon as an Observer; under the conditions that  
one, the Government of Republic of Korea is willing to be  
full-member and two, no objection will be raised by any

member-nation. My recommendations at this moment are as follows :

a. Taking the advantage of the visit of President Ngo Dinh Diem to our country to express our acceptance of his Government's good-will in inviting us as observer in the forthcoming Colombo Plan Conference, and in the meanwhile to inform them of the results of Ambassador Yang's findings concerning this matter.

b. Advise the British Government to be the sponsor and if possible ask her to have Ceylon to be co-sponsor.

In this connection I would like to report some informations on the forthcoming conference which I have learned here in Saigon.

The Conference will be composed of 3 stages :

- (1) Preparatory meeting of the experts from member states with 2 experts for each state. (September 30 to October 5.)
- (2) Meeting of officials. Each member state will send from 5 to 10 experts. (October 7-17).
- (3) Meeting of Ministers. It will last for 4 days. Each member state will be represented by its Foreign Affairs Minister (in the latter's absence, by Minister of Planning, Finances, or Economy). (October 21-25).

This schedule is published under reservation of later modification.

3. Thailand refused to cooperate with Kishi's Asia Development Plan.

There is a news item stating that Thailand Government has refused the Kishi's Asia Development Plan. I attach

this news item and also a rough translation as follows :



Bangkok (7 September).- Bangkok Post stated that the Thai Government has refused to participate in the Japanese proposed Asia Development Plan. According to this American businessman-owned newspaper, both the Economic Minister and the Finance Minister of Thai Government have opposed to participate in Japan's Plan. The Bangkok post has quoted the Economic Minister's statement saying that this plan will not bring any benefit to Thailand; the aim of this proposed plan is likely only for the extension of market of Japanese made goods".

4. Social Activities.

a. September 8. The American Ambassador offered a dinner in honor of Mr. Herter and Ambassador Richard. I was invited to this dinner.

b. September 9. The Thai Ambassador invited me at a showing of Thai films and buffet.

c. September 10. The Speaker and Vice-Speaker of National Assembly invited me at a cocktail on the occasion of the departure of the Vietnamese parliamentary delegation for Australia. The Speaker will head this delegation.

d. September 11. I invited Mr. Pratt at an informal luncheon. Mr. Pratt is to be assigned to Mr. Warn's office in our country next month.

e. September 12. I invited Mr. Anderson, the Deputy of U.S. Embassy to a luncheon. Several Vietnamese and

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American officials were invited to accompany him. Mr. Anderson is due to leave next week. During his serving in Saigon, he had helped our good-will missions very much, at the time we had no mission here in Saigon.

f. September 12. I was invited to a reception given by U.S. Ambassador in honor of the outgoing Deputy of U.S. Embassy, Mr. Anderson.

In closing I feel honoured to report to Your Excellency that we have already reached an agreement in the principle of the matter of Exchange of diplomatic envoys between Thailand and our Nation however, both Governments are confronting the same budgetary problem.

Since I have received Your Excellency's instruction No. 90 and also a letter from Foreign Minister advising me that we have no plans at present to set up any new diplomatic agency, I will close this matter as instructed.

With sentiments of deepest loyalty and highest esteem,

Respectfully,

*Choi Duk Shin*  
Choi Duk Shin  
Minister to Vietnam

His Excellency  
President of Republic of Korea

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