

March 15, 1954

Letter, General Maxwell D. Taylor to Syngman Rhee

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Summary:

General Maxwell D. Taylor explains that new authorization is required to provide services to American employees of the Korean government.

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15 March 1954

His Excellency Mr. Syngman Rhee
President of the Republic of Korea
Kyung Mu Dai

Dear Mr. President:

Replying to your letter of March 12, I have had an examination made of the facilities being furnished the American employees whom you mentioned. I find that the interruption of some of their privileges arose from the action of the Army Staff designed to regularize their status which has heretofore existed on an informal basis. This headquarters is required to obtain authority from the Commander-in-Chief, Far East, to authorize use of the postal system and finance services to individuals who are not serving with or employed by the U. S. Army. It is compliance with this requirement which has raised the recent questions.

In order to assure that your American employees are not inconvenienced by a delay in processing their papers, I am granting an interim clearance at once to assure them against any interruption of these privileges. Although, strictly speaking, they have no claim to the logistics support of the U. S. Army, I have always taken the position that the Eighth Army should be a good neighbor to American citizens who are serving the Government of the Republic of Korea. However, as wartime conditions disappear and normalcy returns to Seoul, I would anticipate that all civilians in Seoul would soon be able to live on the Korean economy.

In order to assure that your American employees have no further troubles, I am asking Colonel Critz, my Assistant Chief of Staff, G-1, to contact them and verify that their problems have been satisfactorily adjusted.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely,

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
General, U. S. Army
Commanding

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