

October 8, 1956
**Report No. 98 from Young Kee Kim to Syngman
Rhee**

Citation:

"Report No. 98 from Young Kee Kim to Syngman Rhee", October 8, 1956, Wilson Center Digital Archive, B-337-043, The Korean Legation in the Philippines, 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/123182>

Summary:

Young Kee Kim briefs President Rhee on the visit of Former Premier and Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett of Israel and the talk with Vice President Garcia on Korea-Japan relations.

Credits:

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

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

Report No. 98 ✓

LEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
MANILA, PHILIPPINES

October 8, 1956

Dear Mr. President:

In my previous report, I enclosed a copy of Senator Claro M. Recto's speech wherein he urged his government to overhaul national economic policies; and it is worthwhile for the policy-makers of our national economic council to digest the contents of Recto's speech. To improve the economy of the country, Recto recommended the following: 1) the industrialization program of the government must include heavy industries, basic metals, power and fuel, machine tools, machinery and chemicals; 2) when and if no private enterprise is willing to take the risk or does not have the necessary capital, the government must assume the risk of new enterprise; and 3) the government must gear its industrialization plans for the acceptance of foreign capital in the form of capital goods, not capital as investment owned by foreign investors.

Former Premier and Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett of Israel was here for several days enroute to Tokyo where he will consult with government and business leaders to promote trade and cultural relations between the two countries. Israel, being encircled by hostile Arab nations (Moslem), she seeks to cultivate friendly relations with the non-Moslem Asian nations. He told me that he hopes to visit Korea in the near future. He said that 25% of Israel's population is engaged in agriculture, and the rest, in industry. I met German Consul General Designate Hertz at an informal dinner party given by German Minister Von Furstenburg, and I think he seems very much impressed with the struggle of the Korean people in their fight to regain independence. As Korea and Germany suffer the curse of unnatural division of their countries, any solution of reunification of either country by political means or otherwise will lead the country to seek the same solution. He has great admiration of your leadership in the crusade against Communism. He said he enjoyed reading the book "Syngman Rhee, the Man Behind the Myth" by Oliver.

sec. [On the question of strained relations between Korea and Japan, I had a discussion with Vice President Carlos P. Garcia at an informal gathering, and I am inclined to think that he would be interested to mediate in our behalf to reopen the Korea-Japan peace negotiation that had been dragged and bogged down. I explained to him that the cause of certain stumbling block is the unreasonable demand of Japan on the claim of 85% property and Kubota's provoking statement on the legality of our government. It was a casual conversation on the Korea-Japan peace negotiation, and I shall not go any further in detailed discussion, unless specific instructions are received from you. In my personal opinion, since America failed to mediate in the Korea-Japan dispute, the leadership of the Philippines might be persuaded to use their good offices to play a role of unbiased mediator.

77

- 2 -

Vice President Garcia told me that as soon as the PI-US military bases agreements are concluded, he plans to visit Taipeh, Korea and Japan. He would stay for about 2 or 3 days in each capital. The revision of the PI-US military bases negotiation which had been recessed pending the arrival of the U.S. chief negotiator Karl R. Bendetsen will reppen on October 15. One source disclosed that, at the time the Philippine and American negotiators agreed to recess the talks, the U.S. had already agreed: 1) to give up its extra-territorial jurisdiction over the bases as provided for under the present treaty and 2) to use North Atlantic treaty provisions as a point of reference in determining the extent of jurisdiction over criminal cases involving U.S. Armed Forces members. The U.S. panel was in an extremely difficult position because it had to reckon with the American public's sensitiveness to questions affecting the trial of American Armed Forces members in other countries. It is believed that the return of the U.S. panel chief Bendetsen will finalize the controversial jurisdiction issue which has been agreeably ironed out.

The Philippine Government has not definitely made up her mind as to what course to follow on the Suez crisis. President Magsaysay, members of the council of state and the national security council were briefed by Ambassador Guerrero who advised them that the danger of war arising from the Suez situation is remote. As the Philippines will automatically become a member of the UN security council next year as a result of sharing the seat in that body with Yugoslavia (1956), the position of the Philippines becomes important. For this reason Minister Tomas de Castro has been ordered to hurry his trip to New York before the UN session sets in motion right after the U.S. general election in November. As the De Castros are so busy, I have not been able to entertain them. They were in the province to stay with De Castro's family, and upon their return to Manila, they have been busily preparing for their trip to New York via Europe. They are scheduled to leave here on October 10.

Faithfully yours,

Young Kee Kim
YOUNG KEE KIM

His Excellency Syngman Rhee,
President of the Republic of Korea
Seoul, Korea.

Copy to Acting Foreign Minister Chung Whan Cho

78