

July 30, 1956
Letter, Young Kee Kim to Chung Whan Cho

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Summary:

Young Kee Kim briefs President Rhee on the reshuffling of the Philippines' foreign service personnel in Tokyo, India, Seoul, and Burma.

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Dear Mr. Minister:

The reshuffling of the Philippine foreign service personnel is under way with the appointment of Felino Heri as first Philippine ambassador to Tokyo. Minister Jose P. Imeprial, current chief of the Philippine Mission in Tokyo, is being groomed to succeed Ambassador Roberto Regala in Australia. Regala was originally considered as first ambassador to Italy, but Catholic opposition may prevent his appointment for his being a Protestant.

Philippine Minister Tomas de Castro, who was originally mentioned to the post of minister to India, will be assigned to the UN Mission. The Indian post was declined by De Castro. Dr. Melquiades J. Gamboa, who had been the Philippine Chargé d'Affaires at Washington for many years, is considered to be the minister to India. Minister Jose D. Ingles of the UN Mission will be sent to Germany as the first Philippine minister. Minister Cosme P. Garcia is reportedly being groomed as De Castro's successor in Seoul.

All the routine official communications to Formin are written in Korean and the English report to the Minister is rather confidential in nature. Any leakage of its contents tracing the Korean Legation in Manila as the source of origin, if and when reported in the Korean press, will be embarrassing to the mission chief and it reflects the integrity of the confidential source.

With the construction of irrigation projects financed by the sale of P123 million bonds issued, the increase of rice production is expected; and the importation of eighty to one hundred thousand tons of rice will no longer be needed every year. It is estimated that 80,000 tons of rice is required to supplement local output this year.

The Philippines has extended its "agreement" to the appointment of new Indonesian and Spanish ambassadors. The new Indonesian envoy will be Nazir Datu Pemuntjak, former ambassador to France, who will succeed Ambassador Alexander Maramis who left early in 1953. The Spanish envoy will be Francisco Javier Conde Garcia who will replace incumbent Ambassador Fermin Sanz Orrio, who is expected to retire soon.

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The exchange of diplomatic representatives between the Philippines and Burma has been agreed upon by accrediting their respective ambassadors to Thailand with residence in Bangkok. Burmese Ambassador to Thailand U. Pe Kin will be appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Philippines, while Philippine Ambassador Manuel A. Adeva will serve as ambassador to Thailand and concurrently Minister Plenipotentiary to Burma.

Dr. and Mrs. Maximino Bueno went to Bangkok where Dr. Bueno will assume the duty of Minister-counsellor of the Philippine Embassy and at the same time he will devote full time to the task of Philippine representative to the SEATO headquarters.

I have been informed by Mr. William F. Dickson, Chief of Agricultural Division, I.C.A., Manila, that an invitation has been extended to Mr. Woon Kap Chung, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, and Mr. C. H. Kim, President of the Agricultural Bank, to visit the Philippines for the purpose of observing the agricultural credit program being implemented here. The period of their visit would be about 10 days, sometime in September. I presume the Korean officials will be coming here at the expense of the local I.C.A., being the host.

Sincerely yours,

Young Kee Kim
YOUNG KEE KIM

Minister of Agriculture informs that he cannot accept this invitation since his work at ~~home~~ the Ministry does not permit him even one day's absence from the Ministry. He is going to write a letter to Manila asking **The Honorable Chung Whan Cho, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Seoul, Korea.** to accept another man from the Ministry instead of him. Mr. C. H. Kim of Agriculture Bank is going to accept the invitation.

Copy for the President.