

April 30, 1956
**Report No. 81 from Young Kee Kim to Syngman
Rhee**

Citation:

"Report No. 81 from Young Kee Kim to Syngman Rhee", April 30, 1956, Wilson Center Digital Archive, B-337-128, 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/123252>

Summary:

Young Kee Kim briefs President Rhee on the US allied air forces gathering and the PI-JP reparations agreement, which is to be signed.

Credits:

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

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

Report No. 81 *Free***LEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**
MANILA, PHILIPPINES

April 30, 1956

Dear Mr. President:

General Lawrence S. Kuter, U.S. Far East Air Force Commander, will be host to ten air force commanders of allied nations at Baguio from May 3 to 6, 1956. He said the meet, having no political and military implications, is a social, mostly talk and golf. Commanders who have so far accepted include Australian Air Marshall Sir John McCauley; Philippine Brigadier General Pelagio A. Cruz; General Won Shu Ming, Nationalist China; Korean Lt. General Chung Yul Kim; Vietnamese Lt. Colonel Tran Van Ho; Air Marshall Sir Francis J. Freesanger of Singapore; Air Commander A. D. Messenger of Hongkong; French Colonel J. M. Pierre, Saigon and Thailand Air Marshall Raddhagui.

The U.S. Air Force will be represented by Lt General Roger Ramey, 5th Air Force; Maj. General Sory Smith, Honolulu; Brigadier General William Lee, 13th Air Force at Clark Field, near Manila, and Brigadier General Ben Davis, U.S. 13th Air Task Force in Formosa. Japan, whose air force is in the organization stage, will not be represented. This is the first time the air commanders, many of them living up to 5,000 miles apart, will meet here ostensibly for a trial maneuver in case of emergency.

American ambassador designate Albert F. Nufer, whose nomination was accepted by the Philippine government, will come here in the middle of June. James Langley, who was favored by the Philippines, remarked in his press release published by the New Hampshire, that "no U.S. ambassador is selected by a foreign country."

Jap Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu said that the Jap government intends to invite a Filipino goodwill mission to Japan after the signing of the PI-Jap reparations agreement. Both countries are anxious to expedite the conclusion of knotty reparations settlement by ratifying the same before the adjournment of the Philippine Congress and the Japanese Diet. If Vice President Carlos P. Garcia accepts the Jap invitation, his itinerary will eventually include Korea and Taipei, the countries he intended to visit last year. However, it is still premature to foretell.

President Magsaysay announced the formation of the Philippine panel of plenipotentiary negotiators who would meet the Jap counterparts next month for the signing of the proposed PI-Jap loans and reparations draft agreement. The Philippine negotiators will be

- 2 -

composed of Senators Francisco Delgado, Jose P. Laurel, Lorenzo Tañada and Gil J. Puyat; Representatives Miguel Cuenco, Arturo M. Tolentino and Cornelio Villareal; Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno and National Economic Planning Director Caesar Z. Lanuza.

The five Jap delegates for the formal signing will be Tasunoke Takasaki, Economic Planning Board Chief Takizo Matsumoto, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Mamoru Nagano, Liberal-Democratic Party chief policy-maker Miko Mizuta and Aiichiro Fujimoto, Chief Negotiator, now in Manila. The draft agreement was initialed by the respective technical experts awaiting for the formal signing, upon the arrival of the Jap plenipotentiary negotiators.

The anti-Americanism issue which was kept alive in the present session of Congress, now appears to subside with news of the arrival at Manila of the new U.S. ambassador, Mr. Albert F. Nufer, and another controversial issue rocks both chambers in uproar.

The Filipino nationalism is to be taught by the inclusion in the school curriculum as compulsory subjects, two novels written by Jose Rizal, the Filipino martyr and patriot. The two books, "Noli Me Tangere" (Social Cancer) and "El Filibusterismo" (The Reign of Creed) are considered as "bibles" of Filipino nationalism. Although Rizal himself was a devout Catholic, he nevertheless condemned evil practices of priests and those Filipinos who professed to be good Christians yet subservient to Spanish overlords and Catholic hierarchy. While Congress considers a bill making compulsory the reading of these two books of Rizal in all private and public schools of the country, the Catholic hierarchy is opposed to the bill, declaring that some 600 schools would rather close the doors than teach the books which are against the teachings, beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church. The issue is between the State and the Catholic hierarchy, which embraces 80% of the entire population.

Faithfully yours,

Young Kee Kim
YOUNG KEE KIM

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

Copy to Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Chung Whan Cho.

252