

March 10, 1956

Letter, Young Kee Kim to Chung Whan Cho

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Summary:

Young Kee Kim briefs Minister Cho on the dinner served for the Korean delegates to the Anti-Communist League Conference and new Chinese ambassador.

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Dear Minister Cho:

I wish to thank you for the honor and privilege of being appointed chief of the Korean Delegation to the ECAFE Conference in Bangalore, India and for the opportunity to have a two-week visit in Korea. A summary report of the ECAFE Conference will be submitted to you as soon as time is available. During my stay in Seoul, Mrs. Kim and I visited the army, navy and airforce bases, orphanages and hospitals and numerous factories. It was a source of inspiration for us to see these and to listen to the briefings, and we were able to grasp a fresh outlook on the present set-up of our national defense.

When the newly arrived Minister of Germany, Mr. F. I. von Furstenberg, called on me, he mentioned that his government would appoint a certain German Consul-General now in Los Angeles as first Minister of Germany to Korea. Mr. von Furstenberg, who was the German Consul-general in Chicago for the last three years, is an economist.

Won Seung Chung, one of the three delegates from the General Contractors' Association of Korea who attended the First Asian Contractors' Federation, was elected first Vice President of the Conference and Chairman of the Drafting Committee. We are proud of such able representation whose quality of leadership is duly respected by all.

A Korean dinner was served at the Legation residence for the Korean delegates to the 2nd Asian Peoples' Anti-Communist League Conference, pressmen, observers and the delegates from the General Contractors' Association. Invitations have been issued to over hundred persons to attend the cocktail party at the Legation residence in honor of the Korean delegation to the 2nd APACL Conference on Monday evening, March 12th. A dinner will be tendered by our Delegation at the Manila Hotel following the cocktail party. This is a return courtesy to other Delegations who entertained our delegates.

A black-tie dinner honoring the new Chinese Ambassador, Mr. Chen Chih-Mai, will be given at our residence where diplomatic mission chiefs and Filipino legislators have been invited. We have linen and silver-ware enough to entertain twenty people.

M. I. Kim

- 2 -

A Korean night program will be held at the Legation residence to show the Korean objects of art and handicraft to the public. A short speech on Korean culture will be given. If time is permitted, a Korean film will be shown. Korean delicacies will be served.

Mr. Minister, the burden of entertaining and planning solely falls on Mrs. Kim, whose time and service are rationed to meet community requests for participation in numerous social projects.

As I told you, there is no Korean woman who can assist her in carrying out her duties as the Minister's wife. Personally, I feel sorry for her being frustrated by over-work. We are all happy to do our part as long as we are physically able to do. You may realize what a strenuously busy life we go through. I wish you would explain in person to the President and Madame Rhee the conditions in Manila and request their sympathetic consideration in granting permission to Mrs. Do Soon Chung (wife of Vice Consul and Third Secretary) to come to Manila. If she comes here, she can assist Mrs. Kim in many ways. Her presence is needed not for our selfish purpose, but for the good of our diplomatic mission.

Mrs. Kim joins me in expressing our deep appreciation for your assistance in securing for the Legation many Korean objects of art and a money chest. The addition of the Korean furniture will surely brighten the living room and make it look like that of a Korean home.

Yours sincerely,

Young Kee Kim.
YOUNG KEE KIM

The Honorable Chung Whan Cho,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Seoul, Korea.

Copy for the President