

September 22, 1957
**L.H.K. Report No. 5 from Lincoln Hoon Kim to
Francesca Rhee**

Citation:

"L.H.K. Report No. 5 from Lincoln Hoon Kim to Francesca Rhee", September 22, 1957, Wilson Center Digital Archive, B-339-061, 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/123371>

Summary:

Minister Kim briefs Mrs. Rhee on the budget expense of the Korean legation.

Credits:

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

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

L. H. K. No.5
Manila

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September 22, 1957

Your Honorable Madam,

I wish to thank Your Honorable for the letters no.58 and 59 which I received during the week and I further hope and pray that Your Honorable and His Excellency are continuously keeping well and enjoying good health.

We are so happy to learn the President of Vietnam is now visiting our country and we deeply hope that his visit will prove to be most important one and the greater encouragement for the free world strong tie against the communist.

I am submitting the list of the breakdown expenses items of our budget operation here for Your Honorable's information. Especially the building rent in Manila is notably high in comparing with other countries. The reason is, as noted from the authorities here, the population has been continuously concentrating to the city since the Second World War but the housing program after the war had been not so speedily followed up according to the demand. In other words the city is still facing the building and the house shortages. Also the inflation problem here is still so great, thus the commodity price here is very ~~high~~ ^{high} in comparing with other countries. Some other Legations and Embassys really pay more rents for having occupying two buildings one for the office and the other for the residence. In regard to the chance of buying a building, I am now working on and collecting some dependable informations on land value and the price of the houses for sale. In the future when I am well informed of it, I shall report the matter to Your Honorable.

About organizing such organization as Philippines-Korea Society, I am now working on it with some friends here that I have been knowing them before and in due time I shall be very happy to inform it to Your Honorable about the development of it.

During the week on Monday I was invited by the Acting Minister of Mexico here to his country's 147th National Day reception. On Tuesday I paid my courtesy visit to the Secretary of Education here and expressed thanks for the Department's assistance to our Korean students in various universities and colleges here. On Thursday we invited the Korean Fishery research group who arrived here a few days ago, to an evening meal at our home. They all left here for Thailand on the next day. On Friday I made a courtesy call to the Belgian Minister who has just returned from his four months visit to his home country. During the week my wife also made her courtesy call to the wives of the top Officers of the government and the Diplomatic missions here and they ARE the wife of chief protocol, Foreign Secretary, Chinese Ambassador, Vietnamese Minister, Thai-Ambassador, Spanish Ambassador, French Ambassador and the Swiss Minister.

For Your Honorable's information, I am reporting a few notable news here as follows:

- I. It has been noted that the Philippines government will shortly receive a loan of \$29-million from the World-Bank for a

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hydroelectric and a fertilizer project.

2. Indonesian former vice-President Dr. Hatta and his group stopped over Manila one day on his way to visit Red-China for industrial development. He paid a short courtesy call to the Foreign Affairs Secretary here. Also the Indonesian Foreign Minister Subandrio who passed through here on his way to the U.N. declared that his country will never become a communist satellite.
3. Philippines government approved plans for the immediate construction of the P 105-million MARIKINA DAM project with the aid of Japanese technicians and with the use of a \$50-million loan from the Export-Import Bank of Japan. It is said the Japan loan could be checked off from the annual payments Japan is making to the Philippines under the reparations agreement.
4. The attitude of the government here toward the recent political development in Thailand, for time being, is closely watching the further development together with the investigation of the situation in analyzing the close reports from the Philippines Ambassador and the Seato representatives in Thailand.

With all good wishes and sincere regards and high esteem,

Your Honorable's loyal servant,

