

February 28, 1957
**Report No. 111 from Young Kee Kim to Syngman
Rhee**

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Summary:

Young Kee Kim briefs President Rhee on the political maneuvering going on in Congress.

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Report No. 111LEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
MANILA

February 28, 1957

Dear Mr. President:

The political maneuvering is going on strong in and out of Congress. Twelve congressmen and two governors formerly identified with the Democratic party pledged their unqualified support for the Magsaysay-Garcia ticket. Senator Fernando Lopez whose Democratic party is integrated with the Nacionalista party is no longer considered to be Vice President candidate teamed with Senator Recto. Nobody cares to run with Recto as his team-mate at the national elections. Now Mrs. Recto comes to the front campaigning for her husband's bid for the next presidency. Brilliant and shrewd Recto never lost in any political race and one never can tell what fortune Recto might hold.

Vice President Carlos P. Garcia revealed that his government instructed Ambassador Felixberto Serrano, Philippine delegate to the UNO, to abstain from voting on the Afro-Asian resolution calling for the UN sanction against Israel, to oppose the inclusion in the SEATO agenda of the Kashmir dispute and to offer good offices to Netherlands and Indonesia in the mediation of West Irian question culminated by a dispute in ownership which Indonesia claimed to hold.

Vice President Garcia is scheduled to leave Manila on March 8 for Canberra, Australia, to attend the SEATO Council of ministers to be held from March 12 to 15. Philippine Brig. Gen. Alfred Santos of the Philippine Armed Forces went to Bangkok to set up the military planning of SEATO. The general said the admission of Malaya, Formosa, and South Vietnam is only a question of time. I cannot vouch where he got the idea that the three mentioned states would be admitted into the SEATO membership even though they are in the fringe of SEATO area. England and Pakistan recognized Red China.

The management of the Universal theatre invited us to see the preview of BATTLE HYMN, a movie which we enjoyed. In fact, we read the book before the show for the legation bought the book BATTLE HYMN by Dean Hess. The copy which is being kindly ordered by the Office of the President will be an addition to the chancery library. It would be a good idea to symbolize the spirit of helping our orphans by issuing commemorative stamps on an appropriate occasion.

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7cc: pro to
Kun Lee 5/3
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Having been in Manila more than three years, I would like, if permission is granted, to take leave of one month to go away to some other place for a complete change of environment and climate. Summer begins from April and the weather will be getting hot. Raymond will be out of school during the summer vacation from April to May and he will be going along with us for a vacation trip perhaps to Saigon, Bangkok, and Hongkong. We are physically and mentally worn out and we need rest in the wake of the hot spell in the summer.

As the pouch fails to arrive here on time, I regret to inform you that your Samil speech, after corrections be made on your cable instruction, cannot be released for press. Tomorrow being March First, the press release should be in the hands of the publishers not later than the morning of February 28. However, your Samil speech, after corrections, will be published at a later date.

Your obedient servant,

Young Kee Kim.
YOUNG KEE KIM

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

Copy sent to Minister Chung Whan Cho, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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