

December 22, 1955

**Letter, Kim Yong-shik of the Korean Mission in Japan
to President Syngman Rhee**

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Summary:

Talk with Major General Parks, General Lemnitzer on Korea-US relationship, Japanese politics, Japanese foreign relations

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REPUBLIC OF KOREA

KOREAN MISSION IN JAPAN

Tokyo, December 22, 1955

Excellency:

I. I talked with Major General Harlan C. Parks, Chief UN Delegate to the Military Armistice Commission, at a dinner yesterday (Dec. 21). He told me that since the Korean Government ordered to discontinue people's demonstrations, the US side started taking action leading to the abolition of NNSC and their withdrawal from Korea and he hoped that some concrete action would be taken shortly in this regard.

II. I had a luncheon with General and Mrs. Lemnitzer this noon at the residence of Lt. General Elmer Rogers, his Chief of Staff. Gen. Lemnitzer told me that he was planning a visit to Seoul before the year-end.

III. As I reported last week, the Socialist Party of Japan introduced a non-confidence bill against Foreign Minister Shigemitsu for the reason that he had failed to predict the outcome of Japan's application for UN membership correctly and also to settle the problems pending with Korea. However, the bill was voted down.

On the other hand it was revealed here that Japanese Ambassador to Washington Iguchi had a meeting with Asst. Secretary of State Walter Robertson this week. According to confidential information reaching this office the Chinese Embassies in Tokyo and Washington drew the attention of the US Government to the frequent visit to Communist China by Japanese people and Japanese Government policy toward Red China, etc. The State Department, therefore, requested the Japanese Government for clarification of Japanese policy toward Red China earlier.

Iguchi is believed to have explained to Mr. Robertson that from economic standpoint Japan could not entirely

disregard/

His Excellency
President Syngman Rhee

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disregard her trade with Red China and wanted US understanding on it. The Japanese side also requested the US to keep in close touch with the Japanese Government in regard to the policy toward Red China. It is also likely that Iguchi assured that the Japanese side would cooperate with the US.

IV. The Chinese Embassy sources here now seem to realize that future Japanese-Chinese relations would become very delicate now that Japan's application for UN membership was denied as the result of the Nationalist Government's veto on Outer Mongolian application.

Some Chinese officials here voiced an opinion that their Government should have followed the pattern of our diplomacy vis-a-vis Japan, because it was the best way to combat Japan's duplicity. (The Chinese Government has been taking lenient policy toward Japanese policy toward Red China, however, now realizes Japanese character of duplicity.)

V. It is generally believed that the Russo-Japanese talks in London would not be concluded so easily, even if resumed early next year. This can be said, especially because old-Liberal factions of the present Liberal-Democrat Party (who see no urgent necessity for its early realization) will voice opinions strongly against hasty normalization of the Russo-Japanese relations.

VI. Philippine Minister Jose Imperial met Japanese Prime Minister Hatoyama during the past week and asked him that the Japanese Government take swift action to comply with its previous commitment in regard to the reparations issue.

Hatoyama is reported to have promised to send one representative to Manila soon for early settlement of the reparations problem. However, present indications are that no early settlement of the problem is likely.

With sentiments of loyalty and esteem, I remain,

Most respectfully,

Chung Hwa