

August 2, 1957

**Letter No. 82 from the President (Syngman Rhee) to
Minister Duk Shin Choi**

Citation:

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Summary:

President Rhee clarifies previous message pertaining to South Korea's involvement in the Colombo conference.

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Number 82

To: Minister Duk Shin Choi

From: The President

Thank you for your Weekly Report No. 049 dated July 26th, Special Report No. 13 of the 25th and a copy of your letter to Mr. Reinhardt and for the enclosures received with them.

As you were not able to decode our cable No. 4 properly I am quoting you the correct text:

"KOLISA SAIGON 23 JULY 1957
REFER YOUR LETTER 47 COLOMBO CONFERENCE AND
MY REPLY 77 LAST PARAGRAPH PD GLADLY ACCEPT
INVITATION DEEPLY APPRECIATIVE IF THEY WILL
PROPOSE FULL MEMBERSHIP PD IF NOT WHAT COUNTRY
IS SUGGESTED TO PROPOSE SUCH MEMBERSHIP PD
CABLE REPLY FOUR KORPITAL"

I have asked the Foreign Minister to contact the British Ambassador, Mr. Evans, and discuss the matter of our admission to the Colombo pact with him. I appreciate your good report on this Plan and on hand of the report I am sure the Foreign Minister can talk convincingly to Ambassador Evans.

With regard to the exchange of trade missions between the Vietnamese government and ours, you may explain to them that nothing has been decided yet and the information you received was only guesswork on the part of the papers. As soon as a definite decision is reached we will let you know immediately but we are glad to know they have expressed their desire to welcome our mission.

I am very glad the Chinese newspapers are realizing the danger of Japanese expansion. You have to keep on pounding that American policy must be changed because it is America which is making Japan bigger and more powerful than she ever was before. Economically the Japs can put any and everyone under their control.



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As you may know, the Formosan government has not raised any objection to Kishi's development plan for Asia which is financed by U.S.

Thank you also for sending me the translated texts of editorials from the Chinese papers in Hong Kong and Saigon.

Yesterday it was announced that President Ngo *will* be visiting India; this is most unfortunate for us. I am sure he should be told how India acted toward Korea and his government should also know of the brutal treatment of our ex-POWs by Indian guards, that those who wanted to go to south Korea were rejected while the ones who preferred the north were permitted to leave.

For your information a north Korea-India cultural association was recently founded.

Thank you for the information on Russell Wright. It is important to watch the man and see what he can achieve. The ICA also brought over a very good man from America but the result was absolutely nil.

As the pouch has to leave soon I shall have to close. I do appreciate your very good reports and want you to keep up the good work.

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