

July 10, 1957

**Letter No. 75 from the President (Syngman Rhee) to
Minister Duk Shin Choi**

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Summary:

President Rhee briefly responds to Choi Duk Shin's previous report, discussing interest in trading Vietnamese goods.

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To : Minister Duk Shin Choi
From: The President
No. : 75

Thank you for your report No. 46 dated July 4 and also for the 2 reports marked SECRET which were submitted by Col. Lee.

I read with great interest about the Vietnamese good will mission to Malaya and also about the participation by Vietnam in different conferences.

I would like you to find out if Russell Wright who was employed to help and advise the Vietnamese handicraft is considered a good man and if he has really made a contribution to the handicraft production for the purpose of export. As you undoubtedly know, we do need someone to help our people. Not all Americans are able to adjust themselves to foreign production facilities and therefore I wonder if the Vietnamese people's opinion of the man was a favorable one. Please find out quietly and let me know.

Minister Duc paid me a courtesy call and explained that he will be away for a few weeks and will return. According to newspaper reports and information from private sources he was engaged to the secretary of the German Consul-General here two days before his departure.

I do appreciate your information pertaining to the American ambassador's new directive that February 12th will be celebrated as America's national holiday.

I have read your recommendation to promote Lt. Col. Teak Keun Lee. Personally I have nothing to do in such matters and shall refer it to the Defense Minister for his consideration.