

July 1957

Draft Letter to Minister Duk Shin Choi

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Summary:

President Rhee writes a draft to Choi discussing the possibility of establishing an information center within the Legation in Saigon.

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Dear Minister Choi,

Reference is made to your Weekly Report No. 45 submitted to His Excellency the President, dated June 27, 1957, partially concerning enlargement of publicity activities by your mission.

I appreciate for your continued and untiring efforts in issuing "Korea-Vietnam News Round-up." I am highly counting on your future concentrations in this field.

Your remark about the reaction of the Japanese mission in Saigon does not surprise us too much, because we are already familiar with their meanness. We have more reason now to increase our publicity activities to inform our friends in Vietnam and other neighboring countries of our true and justifiable stand; we are maintaining against Japan.

In this connection, I welcome, in principle, your suggestions of establishing an information center under your direction. I regret to inform you, however, that this cannot be done immediately only because of the budgetary reason. Please be assured that we will give due considerations to your suggestions in due course of time. I would like to ask you to send a concrete plan about the matter, namely how to organize such center, the number of staff needed, and budget estimates for the center, which undoubtedly would enable us to give better considerations to this matter.

We were continuously giving thoughts to improve the quality of our information bulletin and will do so in the future. We always welcome constructive suggestions or recommendations for improving it. However, our editing policy is to introduce our nation's policy to our friends abroad. Therefore, priority should always be given to this effect in reproducing it by your Legation.



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With regard to the Seoul edition, I fully understand the difficulty you are facing with, budgetary or otherwise. Therefore, if it is too much for your office to continue two editions, you may not be requested to issue the Seoul edition in the future. In this case, we are expecting you to make your Weekly and other reports more detailed and precise so as to enable us to keep abreast thoroughly with the affairs in Vietnam and other neighboring countries.

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