

June 19, 1954

Letter, Francesca Donner Rhee to Mrs. Van Fleet

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Summary:

Personal letter to the wife of James Van Fleet.

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June 19, 1954

My dear Mrs. Van Fleet:

I was so pleased to receive your very kind letter from Taipei. I must apologize for not answering it sooner, but I naturally thought that you would return to Korea with the Ambassador. My husband and I are very disappointed that because of the heavy schedule of the party, you decided to return to California for the time being.

We had prepared the former Visitors' Bureau, in which you stayed for a few days, for use by you and the Ambassador, and, as you know, it is also large enough to house the aides and personnel which the Ambassador will have with him. We made this as comfortable as possible and also set up an office suite at the Bando for conferences to be held there instead of in the army compound.

Colonel McConnell told me that his family is with you and we wish you could bring them out for a visit. I know you would enjoy being here with them, even when the Ambassador and his party are absent in other places. We would like you to make your home here and believe me it would be a great pleasure to have you and I would love to take care of you.

We are in Chinhae where the Anti-Communist Conference has just ended. We regret ~~to~~ having to be absent from Seoul when the Ambassador and his party arrived. However, ~~they are~~ ^{the Ambassador} coming down to see us in a couple of days' time, and the President is looking forward to taking ~~them~~ ^{the} fishing. You know I am just a poor fisherman's wife who waits at home, as I have no patience to sit for hours on end waiting for the fish to bite, but I do enjoy the change down here and feel much rested.

I feel certain that the good California climate has cured your cold and do hope you are well.

With my love to you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. James A Van Fleet

V.F.

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