

# July 2, 1954 Letter, Syngman Rhee to John W. Staggers

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#### Summary:

John Staggers reports on anti-Korean remarks by W. Kenneth Varcoe, Vice President of the American President Lines.

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43

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July 2, 1954

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Dear Mr. Staggers:

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I think you will be interested in knowing that Mr. W. Kenneth Varcoe, Vice President of the American President Lines, was in Korea recently and since his return to America he has made some uncomplimentary remarks about Korea. Among other things he reported that the President unreasonably wants to tear down the Capitol building simply because it was built by the Japs and replace it with a new building. He also is reported to have said that the Koreans eat mainly Kimchee, an objectionable dish which is soaked in garlic for six months.

It sounds very much as though Mr. Varcoe has been influenced by the pro-Japanese and it is indeed unfortunate that he has such an unfavorable impression of our country.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. John W. Staggers 508 Columbian Building Washington 1, D. C.