

March 20, 1954

**Letter, Maxwell D. Taylor to Baek Du-jin, the Prime
Minister of ROK**

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Summary:

General Maxwell D. Taylor reports on the coordination of emergency relief in response to a fire in Pusan.

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HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH UNITED STATES ARMY
Office of the Commanding General
APO 301 c/o FM. San Francisco, California

20 Mar 1954

The Honorable Paik Too Chin
Prime Minister
Republic of Korea

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

In your letter of 10 March, you inquire into the details of the assistance being rendered in connection with the Pusan fire disaster.

The efforts to restore the damage in Pusan has been a coordinated operation involving the U. S. Army, ECAC, UNRA, the Economic Coordinator, the American-Korean Foundation, and the local civil authorities. The role of the U. S. Army has been to provide emergency relief and to coordinate the plans of other agencies. I am happy to say that the emergency relief phase has been substantially completed and that the development of a rehabilitation plan is proceeding satisfactorily. I am attaching hereto, a sheet to show the extent of some of our accomplishments.

In order to understand the number and extent of the activities for the benefit of Pusan, I would recommend that you visit the city and receive a briefing on the ground by the interested agencies. As I indicated above, the Army's part of the work though presently predominant will progressively diminish, leaving an important long range rehabilitation program to be executed by the relief agencies and the Korean civil authorities. I am sure that General Whitcomb will be most happy to assemble the interested parties and give you a thorough explanation of the plans and progress.

Sincerely yours,

s/t/ MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
General, U. S. Army
Commanding



outline of Emergency Assistance ^Provided and Plans for Relief and
 Rehabilitation of Pusan

1. Emergency Relief.
 - a. 15,900 refugees housed, fed, and given medical attention
 - b. 600,000 rations issued. (Value of Ration -- \$220,991)
 - c. 38,000 blankets issued.
 - d. 350 tent kits erected.
2. Rehabilitation Measures Underway or Being Planned, and % completed.
 - a. Perimeter road, 24%
 - b. Widening of Port Road, 100% (planning)
 - c. Drainage of Lake Success, Fill, 17%, drainage structure, 32%
 - d. Repair of Song Do Road, 30%
 - e. Commercial quonsets, 74%
 - f. Concrete block and tile plant, 90%
 - g. Construction Min Dong Road, 25%
 - h. Family housing, 17% (1st 100 units)
 - i. Rehabilitation of Women's Welfare Association Building, 75%
 (planning)
 - j. Municipal facilities, 55% (planning)
 - k. Roads and drainage in Tong Nae housing area, 40%
 - l. Roads and drainage in fire area, 5%
 - m. Roads and drainage in Yong Do housing area, 17%
 - n. Residential housing Yong Do, 32%
 - o. Temporary tent housing Yong Do, 95%
 - p. 47 business quonsets