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June 27, 1955

Letter, Syngman Rhee to J. W. Staggers

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Summary:

Syngman Rhee assures Staggers of his trust in him.

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English

Contents:

Original Scan



June 27, 1955

Dear John:

Harold and family are here and I am glad they seem to be getting along nicely. While I am in need of his service, I am trying to do all I can to help him, in consideration on my part for the happiness of Eleanor, one of your two dear daughters, as he knows I am allowing him something more than I would to others in the ordinary circumstance. As long as they are happy and he does his job, he will continue to enjoy the privileges he is enjoying now.

This is an answer to your kind note, reassuring me of your friendship and your continued support in our fight for the principle for which you and Jay have been helping me so many years. Now that I am here as President of the Republic we are fighting more bitterly than ever. This Republic is only one half of our peninsula, which the Communists are trying to force into their domination. The Soviets are determined to add this peninsula to their dominion, and Red China has occupied the north, and are in the process of making it their own territory. Japan to the east is feverishly working to take Korea back as its property. And the United States, which is known as the defender of the democratic form of government, is now joining with the Soviets in allowing Japan to join with Communists for coexistence. As a matter of fact, we are isolated and they are treating us as a nuisance.

Under this circumstance, we need friends and thank God we have many friends who are by helping us helping their own cause of freedom. But these friends are not in a policy-making position and they seem to be more or less helpless. So you see we are left cold in this global struggle and we do not know which way to turn.

However, we believe the Almighty God will not forsake us and we are ready to fight any nation or nations to the end for our survival.

A. Ta 99 euv.



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I wish to know what I can do to help you in some way. Financially I am as poor as I always have been. I have no money of my own and I am not allowed to use Government funds for my own benefit. All I can do for you is give you an opportunity to make some money in a way that is justifiable. This is what I have had in mind in my answers to your other letters, and I hope you will understand. There is no question of the loyalty of your friendship nor your interest in the cause of Korean independence. We will keep on fighting together until we win the victory.

With best wishes for your happiness and success,

Cordially yours,