

May 13, 1955 Letter, Harold Lady to Syngman Rhee

Citation:

"Letter, Harold Lady to Syngman Rhee", May 13, 1955, Wilson Center Digital Archive, B-018-014, Official Correspondences, President Rhee's Correspondences, Syngman Rhee Institute, Yonsei University.

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Summary:

Harold Lady sends a draft of a letter from the Minister of National Defense to General Taylor regarding direct forces support.

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Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

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22

May 13, 1955

Dear President Rhee:

Subject: <u>May 10 Draft of a Letter from the Minister of National</u> Defense to General Taylor Regarding Direct Forces Support

I have not edited the attached draft. However, two changes, which I have indicated in pencil, are considered of vital importance:

1) Deletion of the last sentence in the fourth paragraph. There is no reason to assume that the cost of food in Korea will increase during fiscal year 1956 to the point that it will upset the military subsistence budget. Even if this were a serious danger, which I do not consider it to be, it would not be good policy to suggest to General Taylor that the hwan budget planned for 1956 will be wrecked by inflation.

2) Insertion on page two of: "to indicate the extent to which this amount falls short of meeting our basic needs." This is intended to clarify the fact that, instead of \$180,000,000, the Korean Defense Forces need H#95,000,000,000 plus \$454,000,000 from the United States in fiscal year 1956.

The figures presented in the draft appear to be in order, and it is my understanding that they are supported by detailed estimates in the files of the Ministry of National Defense.

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Harold Wendell Lady