

**May 3, 1955**  
**Letter, Harold Lady to Syngman Rhee**

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**Summary:**

Harold Lady suggests speeding up negotiations for a treaty of friendship, commerce and navigation with the United States.

**Credits:**

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Memo No. 49

May 3, 1955

Dear President Rhee:

Subject: Treaty of Friendship, Commerce & Navigation with the U.S.

It is suggested that this would be an opportune time to enter into a treaty of friendship, commerce and navigation with the United States. Such a treaty would require ratification by the U.S. Senate which will, in the near future, also vote on the size and nature of the programs for American economic and military aid for Korea.

The Senate would probably be favorably impressed by the fact that Korea has signed such a treaty, and this would tend to offset what some Senators consider a weakness in the Korean request for economic aid - failure of the Korean Government to indicate that it places any reliance on foreign investment as a means of achieving economic advancement.

Viewed from the negative side, there may be danger that, when most non-Communist countries have a treaty of friendship, commerce and navigation with the United States, Korea's failure to sign such a treaty may bring it unfavorable attention.

There is reason to believe that, if negotiations are not greatly accelerated, the treaty will not be signed until long after the American Congress has voted on next year's aid programs for Korea.

*Harold*  
Harold Wendell Lady

*Jahn*