

1955**Letter, to Dr. Hongkee Karl, Director of the Office of
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Summary:

Request for comment on a report that the Japanese Prime Minister proposed meeting with Syngman Rhee and establishing diplomatic relations with South Korea.

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Dr. Hongkee Karl, Director OFI

(From AFP Seoul Bureau)

We would like to have your comment on the following report:

TOKYO (AFP)---- Japanese Prime Minister Hatoyama said today that he decided to meet with ROK President Syngman Rhee if possible in an attempt for an early establishment of the normal diplomatic relations between the two nations which had been deadlocked for years.

In an swer to the Kyodo News Agency during his election campaign tour at Fukushima today, the Japanese Prime Minister said that he will soon instruct his Foreign Office to take necessary steps to arrange for the conference with President Syngman Rhee.

Hatoyama said that the establishment of amicable relations with ~~Japan~~ Korea is necessary, along with the attempted normalization of relations with Soviet Russia. He said he also is contemplating of meeting with Philippines President Ramon Magsaysay to open the current deadlock with that nation.

The Japanese Prime Minister however did not propose to have another Korea-Japan conference which broke up in late 1953.

The Prime Minister did not make it clear when and where he wished to meet with the ROK President. item