

## **February 28, 1955**

### **Letter, Harold Lady to Syngman Rhee**

#### **Citation:**

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#### **Summary:**

Harold Lady writes concerning the UN clearance procedure which requires travelers to stop in Tokyo before entering Korea. This has a detrimental affect on Korea National Airlines.

#### **Credits:**

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Memo No. 26

February 28, 1955

Dear President Rhee:

Subject: U.N. Clearance Requirement Damages Business of Korea National Airlines

The advisor to the Korea National Airlines informs me that its flights from Hong Kong to Korea are carrying considerably less than capacity loads of passengers. He stated that one of the chief reasons for this situation is that most travellers coming to Korea from the west fly from Hong Kong to Seoul by way of Tokyo on competing airlines despite the increased time and expense involved.

It is believed that the reason for this is, in most instances, that they feel they must go to Tokyo in order to obtain U.N. permission to visit Korea. I do not understand why this requirement should still be in effect. I was informed by Mrs. Shipley of the U.S. Passport Office in Washington that it was not necessary for me to obtain U.N. clearance to come to Korea if I had a Korean visa. However, when I made a courtesy call on the UN Command in Tokyo they informed me that I could not go to Korea, despite my Korean visa, unless I had UN clearance, which, incidentally, they promptly granted.

I do not know whether the UN clearance procedure still serves a useful purpose. This is intended merely to bring to your attention one unfortunate result of it on the theory that it is good policy to support the Korea National Airlines in every way possible.

If it is necessary to continue the UN clearance procedure, would it be possible to change it in such a way as to not force all travellers to Korea to visit Tokyo.

*Harold*  
Harold Wendell Lady

*Approved*

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