

December 27, 1956
**Report No. 102 from Young Kee Kim to Chung Whan
Cho**

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Summary:

Young Kee Kim briefs Minister Cho on the budget increase for the foreign service personnel.

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Dear Mr. Minister:

Mr. Paeng Woo Lee, Manila branch manager of Punghan Industrial Company, Limited, brought 27 cases of Korean apples for distribution as Christmas presents to business associates. Three cases of apples given to the Legation were divided among many baskets and delivered to some Missions' chiefs asking them to taste some Korean apples. I am glad that the shipment opened the way to further importation of Korean fruits to the Philippines.

The Philippines imported from Australia this year approximately 10,000 heads of cattle, 4000 tons of frozen beef, and one million pieces of canned cheese. On export items, the Philippines sold to Australia approximately P 1.5 million worth of timber and logs, and a half million worth of hemp.

The Philippines-Japan barter agreement which is due to expire at the end of this month has been extended to February 28, 1957. Japan wants the Philippines for the most favored nation treatment on cotton textile goods when the trade talks between the two nations open early next year. The volume of two-way trade is set at \$ 130 million per year. The unpaid trade balance by Japan to the Philippines stood at \$9 million. Japan imports mostly lumber, iron and steel, copper and hemp. Export items to the Philippines are cotton, textiles, metal products and machinery.

A loan agreement was concluded between the Philippines and the U.S. whereby the Philippines will import \$7 million worth of canned milk and \$3 million worth of raw cotton. The 10 million dollar loan will be financed from the fiscal year 1957 ICA dollar aid program. The peso proceed of the sale is to be used for the operation of the Industrial Guarantee and Loan Fund here. The Philippine government will deposit an equal amount in dollars for the essential machinery and equipment *importation*.

We entertained the Sook Myung Girls' basketball team, local residents, and Korean students on Christmas Eve, and the President's message was read to them. Our girls' team won two games which they played with local Chinese girls' teams on exhibition games. Hongkong and Japanese girls' teams have not arrived here because they encounter so much difficulty in obtaining their entry visas. For the Chinese nationals, the Foreign Office would not authorize its consuls to issue visas unless P1000,00 cash bonds are posted for each one of the team guaranteeing that everyone will depart before the expiration of the visas.

-2-

We print more Korean Survey magazines to meet the demand in circulation. I receive favorable comments from the recipients of the Korean Republic who said that the English daily is sent to their respective foreign offices for reference. Commercial attaches and consuls are more interested in the progress of industry and business opportunities in Korea. The two English publications serve well the cause for the promotion and understanding of Korea and her problems among the English-speaking people throughout the world. The diplomatic missions of the U.S., China, Japan, Vietnam, Indonesia, and Israel put out English periodicals. Mr. Hee Hyun Park, former Minister of Finance, who passed through here en route to Seoul remarked that while he was at the lobby of the Hotel Filipinas, he noticed the passing of the Korean Survey from one to another, and he was amazed to see how the guests at the hotel lobby took interest in reading the Survey. I am glad that the Philippines Herald published the article "Korea - Time for Action" which I sent to the editor for publication.

Mrs. Kim joins me in extending to you and Mrs. Cho our warmest greetings of the Season.

Yours truly,

Young Kee Kim
YOUNG KEE KIM

Dr. Chung Whan Cho
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
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Copy sent to His Excellency, President Syngman Rhee.