

December 17, 1956
**Report No. 101 from Young Kee Kim to Chung Whan
Cho**

Citation:

"Report No. 101 from Young Kee Kim to Chung Whan Cho", December 17, 1956, Wilson Center Digital Archive, B-337-003, The Korean Legation in the Philippines, Reports from the Korean Mission to the United Nations and Republic of Korea Embassies and Legations, Syngman Rhee Institute, Yonsei University.
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Summary:

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

Credits:

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Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

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Dear Mr. Minister:

The Budget Commission approved outlays of the Foreign Affairs Department for six proposed diplomatic and consular establishments in the fiscal year July 1957 - June 30, 1958. The proposed new posts are in Burma, Ceylon, Egypt and three other places in Europe. The foreign affairs requested for more funds to carry on the rotation of foreign service personnel whose maximum tour of duty is four years. The Department of Foreign Affairs requested the President to increase the 1957 appropriation to 12 million pesos which would almost double the present expenditure. Main item of the budget increase is the additional compensation for the foreign service personnel living abroad.

I received a communication from Mr. Soon Yong Leo, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Seoul Country Club, stating that two professional golf players and amateur golfers will come here to participate in the international open golf championship tournament which will be held in the early part of January next year. Mr. Walter S. Robertson, Assistant Secretary of State with his wife and two assistants arrived here on December 13, and stayed overnight.

At breakfast the following morning, Robertson assured the President that 20 million dollar atoms-for-peace project will soon be started in Manila. In regard to the irritant military bases controversy, Magaysay said that a long fixed term of 99 year lease for the military bases is impractical, and he reiterated his stand in favor of retaining the U.S. bases in the Philippines as long as they are demanded through mutual security reasons. I met the Robertson party at the Manila International Airport. Your cable reminder of Robertson's visit to Manila and Seoul is appreciated.

At the request of Minister Cosme P. Garcia, the Philippine Armed Forces designated Major Mario Kimsong, a Korean war veteran as military attache to the Philippine Legation in Seoul. He and his wife with three children will be going to Seoul soon. During the visit of General Il Kwon Chung, Vice Consul Chung escorted the general as military attache of the Korean Legation here.

Christmas cheer packages will be distributed next week to seventy five Filipino veterans of the Korean war now convalescing at the V. Luna Army Hospital. This is the third year the Filipino veterans of the Korean war will be visited with Christmas cheer and goodwill from the people of Korea. The packages contain cigarettes, candies and cookies.

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At my suggestion, General Chung visited the veterans of the Korean war at the V. Luna Army Hospital, and they all appreciated the general's kind gesture in remembering them. There are about six thousand officers and men of five batatalion combat teams who fought in the Korean war from 1950 to 1954.

Sincerely yours,

Young Kee Kim
YOUNG KEE KIM

Dr. Chung Whan Cho,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Seoul, Korea.

Copy sent to President Syngman Rhee.

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