

October 23, 1956

Letter No. 18 from Syngman Rhee to Young Kee Kim

Citation:

"Letter No. 18 from Syngman Rhee to Young Kee Kim", October 23, 1956, Wilson Center Digital Archive, B-337-037, 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:

Syngman Rhee comments on scholarship for the Korean students in the University of Philippines, Minister de Castro's resignation, and circulation of Korean Survey in Manila.

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Syngman Rhee Institute, Yonsei University

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

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To Minister Young Kee Kim

From the President

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your report No. 98, and copy letters to Minister Cho of 19 and 20 October. A copy of the letter to you from the Executive Secretary of the University of the Philippines advising that two scholarships for students from Korea are open in the field of Humanities and Social Sciences, has been forwarded to the Ministry of Education for action.

I was interested to read your remarks about Minister de Castro's resignation. It is a great pity that such an able representative as he found it necessary to resign on account of political differences. As a diplomat, he made more friends for his country than any other foreign representative here and a great deal of credit should be due to him on that account, despite his alleged ambitions.

I am pleased to have the information in regard to the US-PI negotiations for revision of the military bases and jurisdictional rights, etc. In case the United Nations Command moves to Korea it will be necessary for us to also have some agreement sooner or later, so your advice was helpful.

In noting that Japan has failed to keep its pledge to deliver goods and services to the Philippines, I can only say that it is to be expected that Japan will never live up to any of her agreements. It is for this reason we are doubly careful in our dealings with Japan. We know too that the minute we establish diplomatic relations, it will be the end to all the restoration and other claims we have against Japan, and that we have to have these matters settled first, otherwise we will never have the claims clarified.

The Korean Survey is receiving wide circulation from Manila and I am pleased to note that it extends beyond Manila itself to readers in Burma, India, etc. I am surprised, however to note that you state the Korean Correspondent is mimeographed for circulation each fortnight as I understood this was stopped some time ago. I shall ask the Office of Public Information if it has any literature available on Korean art and business statistics and if so, to forward it on to you.

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