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Letter, Young Kee Kim to Chung Whan Cho

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Summary:

Young Kee Kim briefs Minister Cho on the trade protocol signed between Taiwan and the Philippines, Philippines' delegation to the ECAFE subcommittee on industry and trade, and scholarship for two Korean students provided by the Philippines University.

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October 19, 1956

Dear Mr. Minister:

The Philippines and Nationalist China signed a trade protocol which provides an annual trade volume of two million pesos (₱2,000,000) each way. The trade protocol, which would put trade between the two countries, list 25 products subject to revision periodically. Topping the list of Philippine products are abaca, copra, lumber and mineral ores. On the other side, textiles, chemicals like chlorine and hydrochloric acid comprise the major articles of the trade.

Undersecretary of Commerce and Industry Perfecto E. Laguo, concurrently chairman of the Philippine Committee on ECAFE Matters, will head the delegation to the second session of the ECAFE subcommittee on industry and trade to be held from October 29 to November of this year in Tokyo. Other delegates are Consul Romeo Busuego and Mario Marcos of the Central Bank, who are both in Tokyo, and Juan Carlos who will represent the Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines. Originally, Mrs. Laguo was going to accompany her husband but she cancelled her trip to Korea because of cold climate. Mr. Laguo plans to stay for three days in Korea to survey the possibility of expanding the trade between the two countries. Mr. Laguo is a staunch friend of Korea.

The Philippine imports from Argentina for the first eight months of this year amounted to \$2,029,063, which is more than twice the amount of last year's \$1,343,250, for the same period. Since 1946, the trade between the two countries favored Argentina with a yearly average of approximately three million pesos.

Members of the House committee on foreign affairs, started an investigation of the charges on alleged inefficiency and lack of coordination in the home office. The charges are attributed to members of foreign affairs who returned from abroad after so many criticisms were made against the foreign affairs officials. Representative Miguel Cuenco, (Nacionalista) committee chairman, said that diplomatic representatives abroad had complained of the delay of the home office in answering urgent communications.

Mr. Juan M. Hormillosa, who was second secretary and consul at the Philippine Legation at Buenos Aires at Argentina, has been reassigned to the Philippine Legation in Seoul. He will be leaving for his new post sometime in November.

Three Moslem envoys arrived here to attend the second annual Moslem conference held at Dansalan City. They are Ali Fahmial Anroussi, Egyptian Ambassador to Indonesia; Choudry Khaliquzzaman, Pakistan envoy to Indonesia and the Philippines; and Abdul Muttalim Amin, Iraq Minister to Indonesia. The Egyptian envoy said his government will seek negotia-

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tion with the Philippines for the raising of Consulate to Legation status to promote the cultural and economic relations between the two countries. Minister Amin of Iraq also said his country is planning to set up a diplomatic mission in Manila soon.

M. Kim

I am informed by the University of the Philippines of its decision regarding the awarding to two Korean students scholarships in the field of Humanities and Social Science for the school term beginning June 1, 1957 to March 31, 1958. The application blanks are herewith attached for those who are qualified to be admitted by the Philippine University. I would suggest that two alternates be chosen in case the candidates are unable to come due to unforeseen circumstances. As one scholarship recipient failed to come here on time, one less Korean student took advantage of fully paid scholarship.

Social obligation is a problem. We give formal dinners once or twice a month and stretch the representation fund to meet other entertainment needs. Having been here two years and ten months, we have developed a large circle of acquaintances who invite us to their parties; sometimes night attendance to these parties physically wear us out. Entertaining is regarded as a prime source of contact for the diplomats. Giving and attending luncheons, dinners and parties is one of their duties. Sometimes, it is boring. In Manila, there are twenty missions representing different nations. Our country is friendly to these nations, excluding India, Indonesia and Japan. Military, commercial and cultural attaches give their cocktail parties either by turn or on their special occasions. Often, diplomats are requested to attend many official functions at which many European Mission Chiefs fail to participate. As for me, I faithfully attend the functions to get acquainted with the people and at the same time show the respect of my country. Taking interest in their community affairs is aptly appreciated by the host nation. For this reason, Louisa and I get to know many people on friendly terms telling them about Korea and our problems.

Vice Consul Do Soon Chung, having associated with the Filipinos and members of the diplomatic corps is getting along nicely in the Manila social circle. He has learned a lot while meeting and talking to the people. On October 13, his talk on trade between Korea and the Philippines was broadcast over the Station DZBB. That was the first occasion the Korean Consul spoke about the prospect of trade expansion between the two countries. Enclosed herewith is a copy of his speech "Foreign Trade Aircast" for your perusal.

Sincerely yours,

Young Kee Kim
YOUNG KEE KIM

Acting Foreign Minister Chung Whan Cho
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Seoul, Korea

Copy sent to President Syngman Rhee.

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