

**August 27, 1956**

**Message from President Syngman Rhee to Arsknio  
N. Luz, Publisher of the Evening News, Manila,  
Philippines**

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**Summary:**

A congratulatory message sent by President Rhee to Evening News on its 11th anniversary, highlighting friendship and common goal shared by Korea and Philippines.

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27 August 1956

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT SYNGMAN RHEE  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO MR. ARSENIO N. LUZ,  
PUBLISHER OF THE EVENING NEWS, MANILA, PHILIPPINES

There are many bonds between the people of Korea and the people of the Philippines, ties which are bringing the two Republics ever closer in a world which needs understanding, cooperation and brotherly love if it is to overcome forces of aggression, actuated by selfishness and evil.

While Filipinos look back little more than four hundred years historically, and Koreans trace their origin 4,289 years, the significance of the last decade eclipses in importance most previous periods in both countries. Certainly within the last score of years the mutual experiences have brought Korea and the Philippines into a juxtaposition that did not exist earlier. We both have felt Japan's lash, and are equally determined never to bow to another nation again.

Our peoples value freedom and appreciate the part the United States has played in our respective histories. Yet our gratitude does not blind us to our separate responsibilities. We keep informed on current events and developments, evaluate trends and reach independent conclusions. That they generally coincide with the findings of our American friends is altogether logical, since none of us is an aggressor nor ambitious to dominate others or otherwise exert selfish power. But when there are differences it is a tribute to the democratic system that the right to disagree is respected. Our powerful friend who taught us both the attributes of self-government exercises tolerance and self-restraint totally lacking among countries having no respect for human rights and the dignity of man.

I congratulate The Evening News on its 11th anniversary, and take this opportunity of assuring the people of the Philippines that the people of Korea stand foursquare beside them in aims, ideals, belief in self-government and opposition to Communism and other forms of aggression. May The Evening News uphold the highest tenets of journalism and civic responsibility and enjoy unnumbered years of influence in a thriving, vigorous republic.