

July 9, 1956
**Report No. 88 from Young Kee Kim to Syngman
Rhee**

Citation:

"Report No. 88 from Young Kee Kim to Syngman Rhee", July 9, 1956, Wilson Center Digital Archive, B-337-103, 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 President Rhee on Vice President Nixon's visit to Philippines at the 10th Anniversary of the Philippine Independence, upcoming negotiation on PI-US military base, and Minister Kim's conversation with Nixon.

Credits:

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

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

Report No. 88

LEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
MANILA, PHILIPPINES

July 9, 1956

Dear Mr. President:

The three day visit of United States Vice President Richard M. Nixon at the Tenth Anniversary of the Philippine Independence helped strengthen Philippine-American relations. Immediately after his arrival, Vice President Nixon conferred with President Magsaysay and issued a joint communique in Washington and in Manila announcing that the U.S. recognized Philippine sovereignty and title over all military and naval bases in the Philippines.

This announcement cleared the way for the forthcoming negotiation between the Philippines and the United States over military bases that had been irritating the Filipino sentiments, and once this cause is removed, an atmosphere of amicable friendship between the two nations shall be restored.

The future formal military negotiations will be based on three general principles that were endorsed by President Magsaysay and the U.S. Vice President: 1) the necessity of strengthening military bases in this country to bolster the common defense of the two countries as well as that of the free world in this area; 2) the Philippine government contributes additional lands for military bases and the U.S. will turn over to the Philippines base areas that are no longer needed. The U.S. contributes such as personnel, equipment and physical facilities; 3) the U.S. expressly reaffirms full recognition over the Philippine sovereignty on the bases and the U.S. will transfer and turn over to the Philippines all title papers and claims held by the U.S., except those areas which may now or will be used by the U.S. for its diplomatic and consular establishments.

With the arrival of newly appointed U.S. Ambassador Albert F. Nufer, specific revision of the 1947 military base agreement will be taken up by Vice President Carlos P. Garcia.

I met Vice President Nixon on several occasions; and when I asked him if he would visit Korea on this trip, he answered that he will not be able to visit with you this time due to lack of time; however, he will visit Korea on his next trip. He did not mention the invitation that had been extended to him.

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For the Office of the President, I enclose herewith a copy of the speeches delivered by President Magsaysay and Vice President Nixon at the Independence ceremonies on July 4th and a copy of the foreign policy speech of Vice President and concurrently Foreign Secretary Carlos P. Garcia.

Opponents of the Japanese reparations agreement headed by Senator Lorenzo Tañada consumed eleven days expounding all the defects of the terms of agreement of which the thorny part is a provision that failed to mention the quantity and quality of capital goods the Philippines could expect from Japan. Senator Claro M. Recto challenged the senators who are members of the plenipotentiary panel on the reparations question to abstain from voting on the proposed ratification of the Japanese reparations agreement. It is said that they were told to either approve or reject the agreement and were not given the right to scrutinize the provisions. The Senate will take up the final voting in a few days.

On July 3, I had the honor to transmit, through the Department of Foreign Affairs, a radiogram message of felicitation from Your Excellency to President Ramon Magsaysay on the occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of the Philippines. I attended a state dinner at Malacañang given by President and Mrs. Ramon Magsaysay in honor of U.S. Vice President and Mrs. Richard M. Nixon on the Fourth of July. Senate and House leaders, Cabinet members, Supreme Court Chief Justice and members of the diplomatic corps were invited.

I wish to inform Your Excellency that I received a confidential Korean communication from Presidential Secretary Bon Joon Koo in reference to the possibility of concluding a military pact among certain free Asian nations, and its contents have been carefully noted.

A press release of recent date from Taipei stated that anti-Communist organizations in Malaya, Pakistan, Greece and Turkey applied for membership to join the Asian Peoples' Anti-Communist League, and in that connection, Dr. Jose Hernandez of Manila inquired further information from the Seoul Liaison Office.

Faithfully yours,

Young Kee Kim
YOUNG KEE KIM

His Excellency Syngman Rhee,
President of the Republic of Korea,
Seoul.

Copy to Acting Foreign Minister Chung Whan Cho

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