

**May 30, 1956**  
**Report No. 84 from Young Kee Kim to Syngman  
Rhee**

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<https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/123242>

**Summary:**

Young Kee Kim briefs President Rhee on the US atomic survey team's intention to establish a nuclear research center. He also describes the barter agreement and war reparations bill between Philippines and Japan.

**Credits:**

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Original Scan

Report No. 84 *Lee***LEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**  
MANILA, PHILIPPINES

May 30, 1956

Dear Mr. President:

I realize that your yearning desire to retire to private life was sacrificed by your being drafted by the popular votes for another term of four years to serve our nation as President of the Republic. The will of the people has been vindicated at the presidential election which carried an overwhelming majority in your favor. I offer you my sincerest congratulations for the victory you won at the election, and I wish to reaffirm my continuous loyalty and faithful service to you and your administration.

Dr. Maximino Bueno, who is now on leave from the Philippine Foreign Service, has been offered a special assignment to the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization headquarters in Bangkok, and I am told that Dr. Bueno has not decided whether to accept the post or not. At present, there is a Filipino Secretariat at the SEATO headquarters with the rank of personal minister, and Dr. Bueno does not want to degrade himself in accepting the Bangkok job without proper rank.

The US atomic survey team of ten American scientists is in Manila to survey the field and to consult with the Philippine government with a view of establishing a nuclear research center near the University of the Philippines. According to their plan, the research center will train 200 Filipino and other Asian scientists to spread the knowledge of nuclear science and its peaceful uses to the industrial development. Ten or more American scientists will comprise the teaching staff.

The Philippine and Japan barter agreement which expires on May 31 will be extended for another three months, pending the ratification of the San Francisco Peace Treaty and the exchange of diplomatic representatives. Now, the Japanese war indemnity reparations bill was approved by the Japanese lower house by 227 to 134, and it was rushed to the house of councillors for approval. With time running out, the Japanese house of councillors will pass the bill sanctioning the Hato-yama government to carry out the provisions of the bill. If the upper house fails to approve the bill within 30 days, it will stand good as if it were passed by the upper house.

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The Philippine government will call a special session of Congress to ratify the reparations bill, the San Francisco Peace Treaty and the fiscal budget which has not been thrashed out by both houses due to discrepancy in the amount.

Faithfully yours,

*Young Kee Kim.*  
YOUNG KEE KIM

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

Copy to Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs