

April 19, 1956
Letter, Young Kee Kim to Chung Whan Cho

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Summary:

Young Kee Kim briefs Minister Cho on the amendment of the Naturalization Law and PI-China relations in terms of business and trade.

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April 19, 1956

Dear Minister Cho:

Since no Korean delegate came to attend the Third Conference of the Asian Confederation of Medical Associations and the First Congress of Cardiology of Asia and Oceania, I attended the opening ceremony which was jointly held here yesterday, and I was informed by Dr. Rodolfo P. Gonzalez that the Korean Medical Association will be admitted as a charter member of the Confederation because the first Confederation conference had been attended by a Korean physician, Dr. Pyong Tai Lee, in 1954. Eleven nations are represented at the Confederation and I am glad that Korea has not been left out.

The Philippines and Columbia will exchange diplomatic representatives by establishing legations at the capitals of the respective countries. Mr. Ulrich von Schweiniz, German Counsellor in charge of trade, arrived here to join the German Legation which has been established here several months ago.

An amendment of the Naturalization Law is proposed in Congress to simplify the present Naturalization Law that bars many qualified aliens to become Filipino citizens. It is aimed to help 200,000 Chinese aliens who desire to become naturalized Filipino citizens. The type of petitioners involved in the proposed amendment are those (1) born in the Philippines, (2) who have not gone to the country or countries of origin of both parents, (3) who have had college education, and (4) who have received an annual income of P6,000 per annum during the two years preceding the promulgation of final court judgment.

The problem of the Chinese aliens who have considerable financial interest in the Philippines cannot be equitably solved without giving them a reasonable opportunity to become Filipino citizens. No aliens, except U.S. nationals, are allowed to own real property or engage in retail business, since it is forbidden by law.

A security problem involving Chinese Communist infiltration into the Philippines is causing great alarm along the sea coast, and the National Defense sought special precautionary measures to curb the influx of suspicious alien characters.

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The Federation of Chinese Chambers of Commerce pledged full support to President Magsaysay's policy of stamping out Communist subversion and corruption in the Government. The Federation represents 200 local Chinese business groups in the Philippines.

Philippine-Chinese relations has been deteriorated over the alleged refusal by the Taipei Government of some 2400 over-stayed Chinese nationals to enter Taipei without first securing from the Philippine Government a re-entry permit. The Philippine Government is pressing for an early solution of the six year old problem of over-stayed Chinese who came here following the evacuation from Red China. It is said that majority of the over-stayed Chinese who brought with them a certain sum of 20 million US dollars are engaged in legitimate business and have caused no social problem.

The English language "China News" published in Taipei commented that part of 2400 over-stayed Chinese who have no means to support themselves be repatriated and those who have established business be granted permission for an extended stay in the Philippines.

Sincerely yours,


YOUNG KEE KIM

Incl:

Copy of the Summary Report of the ECAFE Conference

The Honorable Chung Whan Cho,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Seoul, Korea.

Copy for the President