

December 29, 1955 Report No. 69 from Young Kee Kim to Syngman Rhee

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Summary:

Young Kee Kim briefs President Rhee on the economic problems concerning Filipino leaders and publication of the treaties of friendship between Philippines, India, Cuba, and Greece.

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Report No. 69

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LEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

December 29, 1955

Dear Mr. President:

The Christmas festivity is over and preparations for the New Year celebration are on the way, and the whole nation awaits to celebrate Rizal Day on December 30 and New Year's Day. All the politicians talk of the coming meet of Congress in January.

Economic problems occupy most of the attention of Philippine national leaders who are concerned on how to cope with the rising cost of the Government with less painful addition on taxes. The Chief Executive had created his own committee of experts to study the tax problem, and he directed the committee to report to him their recommendations. Although Mr. Magsaysay stiffened against new tax burdens, he favored the intensification of tax collection throughout the archipelago. Immediate tax reforms which Mr. Nagsaysay advocates would embrace equitable distribution of tax burdens, more efficient and effective tax collecting and the prevention of tax evasion.

Chinese Ambassador Chen Chih-mai, in presenting his letters of credence to President Magsaysay, praised the Philippine Government's achievement of suppressing Communist subversion under his inspired leadership. Immediate touchy problems of the new Chinese Ambassador are the supervision of Chinese language schools, the over-stayed Chinese evacuees from Mainland China and the joint control of Chinese suspects of Communist infiltration in the Philippines.

By the Presidential Proclamation, treaties of friendship that were concluded between the Republic of the Philippines and the Governments of India, Cuba and the Kingdom of Greece on different dates in 1950 and 1952 were made known to the public this month. It is said that the proclamation of the public documents was over due. Attached herewith are the mimeograph copies of the treaties which might be useful for the FORMIN Treaty Section. I would like to recommend that a treaty of friendship between the Philippines and Korea be drafted for consideration by the two countries.

Faithfully yours,

Young Kee Kim

His Excellency Syngman Rhee, President of Korea, Seoul.

Copy to Acting Foreign Minister Chung Whan Cho.