

August 7, 1957
**Report No. 126 from Ho Joon Park to Chung Whan
Cho**

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Summary:

Minister Park briefs Minister Cho on Japan's decision to refuse trade with the Philippines on a barter arrangement.

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Your Excellency:

On July 31, I attended the assembly held by the International Club of the University of the Philippines at Diliman, Quezon City. The club, which is composed of the foreign students at the university, elected Mr. Chai Choon Kim, a Korean student, as president.

Vice Consul Chung attended the party of the Philippine Cultural Mission to Southeast Asia consisting of 12 members who will tour the southeast Asian countries.

On August 5, the Legation sent my consular commission to Acting Secretary Raul S. Manglapus, requesting the issuance of an Exequatur.

I attended the regular monthly luncheon of the Consular Corps, held on August 7, to which Acting Secretary Manglapus, who will resign shortly from his post, was invited.

The Japanese government, through Ambassador Horio Yukawa, has decided to carry on Philippine-Japanese trade on a "cash-and-carry" basis which means that from now on, Japan would refuse to trade with the Philippines on a barter arrangement. This decision by the Japanese government would make "crucial" the current Philippine-Japanese negotiations on a normal trade agreement which started early last June and encountered difficulties on the issue of granting a most-favored-nation treatment to Japan. Toward this decision taken by the Japanese government, the Philippines in general expressed their serious concern, criticizing the Japanese policy. Enclosed herewith is the editorial entitled "Now It's Cash" of the August 2 issue of the Manila Times on the matter.

It is reported that Minister Caesar Lamza, head of the Philippine Reparations Commission in Japan, has submitted a schedule for the conclusion of contracts totalling roughly \$57 million which is \$32 million more than the annual payment of \$25 million provided for in the reparations agreement. Mr. M. Yoshida, chief of the Japanese foreign office's reparations department, has reportedly said that

-2-

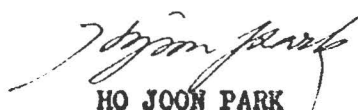
while Japan is not opposed to the Philippine plan, acceptance of this demand will depend largely on the nature of the projects or contracts.

Last July 31, the registration of members of the Philippine Army who were taken captive by the Japanese during World War II, undertaken by the Philippine National Red Cross at the request of the International Committee of the Red Cross, ended. A total of 37,000 former POW's were listed for compensation as provided for in the treaty of peace concluded between the Philippines and Japan.

A report from Washington that Japanese and German property confiscated by the United States during World War II would be returned to their original owners has given rise to a feeling of anxiety on the part of individuals and institutions still awaiting payment for war damage claims filed with the U.S. Government. It is assumed that part of war damage payment funds have been drawn or are being drawn partly from confiscated Japanese assets and if these are returned, it might mean a corresponding deduction in funds available for war damage payments.

It is reported that Nationalist China is drafting a plan for the teaming up of Japanese industrial investment abilities with established overseas Chinese interests. This plan was reportedly discussed by Japanese Prime Minister Nobosuke Kishi and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek during the former's visit to Taiwan recently, and a Philippine trade agent has revealed that an understanding has already been reached on the matter. In this connection, another newspaper clipping entitled "Nat Sinos Seek Nippon-Sino Team Develop SEA Countries" is enclosed herewith.

With renewed sentiments of loyalty,


HO JOON PARK
Second Secretary
and Consul

His Excellency Chung Whan Cho
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Seoul, Korea

Copy sent to His Excellency President Syngman Rhee.

140