

July 1, 1957
**Remarks Made by Young Kee Kim on the Occasion of
the Mabuhay Dinner**

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Summary:

Minister Kim's farewell remarks, as he terminates his duty in Philippines.

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REMARKS MADE BY KOREAN MINISTER YOUNG KEE KIM ON THE OCCASION OF THE "MABUHAY" DINNER GIVEN IN HIS HONOR AND PRESENTATION OF DECORATION FROM THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT BY ACTING SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS & MRS. RAUL S. MANGLAPUS AT THE SUNBURST ROOM, MANILA HOTEL ON JULY 1, 1957, AT 8:00 P. M.

Mr. Secretary, Mrs. Manglapus, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen:

I wish to thank you for your kind hospitality and the honor you have graciously extended to Mrs. Kim and myself this evening. I feel deeply humble and moved at the honor of receiving this decoration from your government. It has already been three and a half years since we arrived here but we both feel it is much shorter than that, and we indeed regret leaving this beautiful country.

One of the principal characteristics of life is constant change. We live in a fast changing world. I did not expect to get a new assignment so soon. When President Rhee asked me to go to Rome to open up a new legation, I accepted, and I look forward with interest to the new assignment in the enchanted city of Rome.

The honor which you have given me is also an honor to Korea. I hardly know how to express my feelings -- deep appreciation and gratitude to the government and people of the Philippines -- for what you have done for Korea. Your valiant Filipino soldiers went to Korea, - to them, a strange and distant land -, when it was attacked by the Communists from North Korea. Your boys, with soldiers of fifteen allied nations came to our rescue and repelled the Communist aggressors. The arrival of the Philippine Battalion Combat Team at Pusan was an inspiration, giving much needed moral encouragement to the Korean people. The people who love freedom and fight for independence are truly comrades-in-arms and brothers in peace. The bond of friendship between the Philippines and Korea,

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cemented with the sacred blood of your courageous soldiers and our boys together with other allied nations in the Korean war against Communist aggression, will continue to grow stronger, and I deem it my pride and honor that I have taken an humble part in the establishment of the first Legation of the Republic of Korea in Manila.

Your people are close to the hearts of the people of Korea. We are eternally grateful to the government and people of the Philippines. In token of my deep esteem to the nation that has so graciously conferred on my humble self this honor, may I ask you to join me in drinking a toast to the health and happiness of President Carlos P. Garcia and to the progress and prosperity of the people of the Philippines.

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