

August 12, 1957

**Letter No. 40 from Tai Ha Yiu [Yu Tae-ha] of the
Korean Mission in Japan to President Syngman Rhee**

Citation:

"Letter No. 40 from Tai Ha Yiu [Yu Tae-ha] of the Korean Mission in Japan to President Syngman Rhee", August 12, 1957, Wilson Center Digital Archive, B-323-088, The Korean Diplomatic Mission in Japan, Reports from the Korean Mission to the United Nations and Republic of Korea Embassies and Legations, Syngman Rhee Institute, Yonsei University. <https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/123641>

Summary:

Yu briefs Syngman Rhee on illegal entrants from Korea to Japan, criticisms about Japan's policy toward Red China, and Japan's bid for a non-permanent seat in the UN Security Council.

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Syngman Rhee Institute, Yonsei University

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

KOREAN MISSION IN JAPAN

Tokyo, August 12, 1957

No. 40

TO : His Excellency
The President

FROM : Tai Ha Yiu

According to Fujita who came to see me to report his meeting with Itagaki, the latter expressed concern over the news articles which appeared in the papers regarding his meeting with me last Saturday. Itagaki told Fujita that in order to bring the talks to a successful conclusion, he had tried to keep the contents confidential, but somehow failed to keep them so. The present leakage, he said, must have been through the Finance Ministry officials he contacted to discuss the problem of property claims. Although the contents of the discussion were supposed to be kept confidential by them, they were issued to the press giving undue pressure to the Korean side, he said. And as Fujita said, there are officials in the Finance Ministry and in the Foreign Office belonging to the Matsumoto Shunichi group who are opposed to the talks currently being held with the Korean side and are trying to disrupt them.

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The Maritime Safety Agency in Moji reported to its headquarters in Tokyo that since the month of June, there was a marked decrease in the flow of illegal entrants from Korea due probably to the strict vigilance on the part of the Korean government whose police boats patrol the waters in fours and fives. In the past, the purpose of such patrol boats were to sight and seize Japanese fishing boats, but of late, they are concentrated in preventing Koreans from smuggling into Japan rather than seizing Japanese vessels. And with the decrease in the flow of illegal entrants from Korea, smuggling activities between the two countries have greatly lessened.

According to Fujita, Hatoyama and Kono are pressuring their government with criticism on Kishi's policies toward Red China, advocating improvement of relations between the two countries. Hatoyama and Kono, along with the Socialists, are demanding their government to dispense of fingerprinting the Red Chinese officials to the trade fairs to be held in Fukuoka and Nagoya. And although it has not been publicly released, the decision is that the period of stay in Japan which requires fingerprinting of foreigners has been changed from the usual two months to four or five months.

As for the staff members of the proposed Communist Chinese trade mission in Tokyo, the Japanese government is determined that they be fingerprinted because it will not recognize their right to diplomatic status, as the Red Chinese government so desires.

Matsudaira, Japanese ambassador to the UN, reported to his government that the nations which have promised votes for Japan's bid for a non-permanent seat in the UN Security Council are the U.S., Britain, Iceland, Canada and Nepal. The Latin countries have not been



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approached, however, Matsudaira was sure 2/3 of the countries would vote for Japan. Although the Arab States have not made themselves clear, there was every hope that Japan would get their votes. However, the Japanese government was not very optimistic about it. And Nationalist China through its Ambassador in Japan, assured the Japanese government of its vote.

A few days ago, the Japanese Foreign Office sent a note verbale to this Mission requesting that arrangements for meetings with the Foreign Minister and other government dignatories be made through the Protocol Section of the Ministry. According to Fujita, as soon as Kishi heard of this, he called Ohno and requested him to explain on whose authority he sent out such circulars. Fujita's information was that Ohno issued the circular to all the foreign missions during Fujiyama's absence for a couple of days but that it was particularly directed to the Korean Mission. The administrative level in the Foreign Ministry are piqued at not knowing what is going on as this Mission deals directly with the high level, and in their thinking, such a procedure causes confusion. Kishi was informed of the circular by his son-in-law and secretary, Abe.

I told Fujita to inform the Japs in the Foreign Ministry that I meet their superiors unofficially and privately during after-office hours and that Ohno's action could only be taken as interfering in my private activities.

The Note Verbale and translation of the Asahi Shimbun article are enclosed.