

November 17, 1955 Telegram from Ministry of Foreign Affairs of ROK to the Office of the president

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Summary:

Report on the acceptance from the Japan regarding pre-war Korean detainees and related press release

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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

R. O. K.

NO. TS-81146

TELEGRAM

INCOMING

"CONFIDENTIAL"

DATE.162200

CLASSIFICATION

TO. OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.

TODAY I MET HANAMURA, JAPANESE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND TOLD HIM THAT I ACCEPT HIS PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WERE REPORTED TO THE GOVERNMENT ON SATURDAY. I MADE IT CLEAR THAT JAPAN SHOULD RELEASE ALL THE PRE-WAR-KOREAN DETAINEES FROM THE DETENTION CAMPS AND THEN R.O.K. WILL RELEASE JAPANESE FISHERMEN WHO COMPLETED THEIR PRISON TERMS AND ACCEPT DEPORTATION OF SIMPLE ILLEGAL ENT-RANTS AFTER 1945. AND BOTH HE AND I AGREED UPON THE SAID MEASURES. AFTER I CAME BACK TO MY OFFICE FROM THE JAPANESE JUSTICE MINISTRY, I MADE PRESS RELEASE TO THAT EFFECT IN ORDER TO MAKE IT KNOWN TO THE PUBLIC, THEREBY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT BEING UNABLE TO CHANGE ITS ATTITUDE. THIS EVENING HANAMURA TELEPHONED ME THAT WHAT HE AGREED WITH ME THIS AFTERNOON SHOULD BE PASSED BY HIS CABINET. SO I WARNED HIM THAT THE MATTER POINTED OUT BY HIM WAS NOTHING BUT INTERNAL PROCEDURES OF HIS GOVERNMENT AND ACCORDINGLY, HIS AGREEMENT WITH ME ON THE RELEASE OF THE KOREAN DETAINEES SHOULD BE WORKED OUT WITHOUT DELAY.

TIME RECEIVED 34

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IT SEEMS TO ME THAT OTHER JAPANESE MINISTRIES CONDEMNED WERE
THINKING THAT HANAMURAS COMMITMENT TO THE ARRANGEMENTS ON
"OMURA" CASE WAS UNFAVOURABLE TO THE JAPANESE SIDE AND HE WAS
PLACED IN A HARD POSITION. BUT SINCE THE AGREEMENT HAS ALREADY
BEEN REACHED UPON THE ABOVE MEASURES BETWEEN ME AND HANAMURA
AS JUSTICE MINISTER OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT, IT CAN NOT BE
CHANGED BY HANAMURA UNILATERALLY IN ANY EVENT.

I AM CAREFULLY WATCHING THE REACTION OF THEJAPANESE GOVERNMENT.
THIS MATTER AND IN CASE JAPS AND TRYING TO PLAY DUPLICITY ON
IT, I WILL IMMEDIATELY BLAST OUT JAPANS FAILURE TO KEEP INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS. ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS ON THIS ISSUE
WILL BE REPORTED TO THE GOVERNMENT IMMEDIATELY.

DETAILS WILL BE REPORTED THROUGH POUCH.

MINISTER KIM.