

June 26, 1957

**Letter No. 17 from Tai Ha Yiu [Yu Tae-ha] of the
Korean Mission in Japan to President Syngman Rhee**

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Summary:

Yu briefs President Rhee on a meeting with Tsugumo regarding the current issues in the Japanese political arena.

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REPUBLIC OF KOREA

KOREAN MISSION IN JAPAN

Tokyo, June 26, 1957

No. 17TO : His Excellency
The President

FROM : Tai Ha Yiu

At 2:40 o'clock this afternoon I met Tsugumo at the Imperial Hotel to obtain information as to the current goings-on in the Jap political world.

During his meeting with Ishii the evening last, the acting prime minister expressed his concern over the difficulties confronting the settlement of Korea-Japan problems. According to Tsugumo, Ishii is being labelled pro-Korean by other government leaders and he finds it difficult to get things done his way. Ishii was very concerned lest the new Korean proposal might bring the whole Japanese public on the government and break up what had been achieved so far. Knowing how difficult it is, Ishii even tells the press that he is not aware of what the new Korean proposal is, Tsugumo said.

With regard to the Korean request for the deletion of the words "under deportation orders", Ishii told Tsugumo he was quite understanding of the Korean insistence, but in view of the agreement by the Japanese side to insertion of the term "served their sentences" in the detainee memo, it would be difficult to accept it. Ishii stated that he would have to await Kishi's return and told Tsugumo that he did what he could but is unable to do any more.

A cabinet shuffle will take place after July 10, and Tsugumo feared that men like Kono and others would get into the government, although Ishii will remain deputy premier. There is speculation that either Ishii or Fujiyama Aichiro, the president of the Japan Chamber of Commerce will become the foreign minister since Kishi will definitely not hold that portfolio, but is eyeing the Finance Ministry.

Tsugumo expressed his hope that the Korean side would accept the original drafts and bring the problems to settlement. I told him very strongly that we would not back out a bit from our stand. He replied that if so, he would not be able to help us.