

72/10/49

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February 7, 1949

My dear Mr. President:

I wish to acknowledge your kind letter of December sixteenth, which Mr. Hoffman delivered to me on his return to this country. I thank you for your expression of gratitude on behalf of the Korean people for the assistance extended to their country by the Government of the United States. It was with pleasure that I read of the continued harmony and cooperation existing between the Koreans and the Americans in Seoul.

x426-L



Very sincerely yours,

(Sgd) HARRY S. TRUMAN

His Excellency
Syngman Rhee,
President of the Republic of Korea. #

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February 8, 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR

MR. WOODWARD

Referring to Mr. Muir's memorandum of February third, the President yesterday addressed a letter to His Excellency Syngman Rhee, President of the Republic of Korea. It is sent to you herewith for transmittal through diplomatic channels.



WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President

elb

Ltr of 2/7/49 from the President to His Excellency Syngman Rhee, President of the Republic of Korea; thanking for expression of gratitude on part of Korean people for assistance extended their country thru ECA.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
S/S-PR

February 3, 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HASSETT:

With reference to your memorandum of January 13, 1949, I am returning herewith the letter sent to the President by His Excellency Syngman Rhee, President of the Republic of Korea. *mf*

There is also enclosed a draft of a suggested reply to this letter for the President's signature.


R. G. Muir
R. G. Muir
Acting Chief of Protocol

x20.

Enclosures:

1. Original letter,
December 16, 1948.
2. Draft letter.



DRAFT

My dear Mr. President:

I wish to acknowledge your kind letter of December 16, which Mr. Hoffman delivered to me on his return to this country. I thank you for your expression of gratitude on behalf of the Korean people for the assistance extended to their country by the Government of the United States. It was with pleasure that I read of the continued harmony and cooperation existing between the Koreans and the Americans in Seoul.

Very Sincerely yours,



His Excellency
Syngman Rhee,
President of the Republic of Korea.

December 16, 1948



My dear Mr. President:

It is my sincere desire to assure you again of the profound gratitude which we, the Korean people, owe to you and the United States. We are grateful to you with reason. Your world policy dealing with communism was a helping hand to a drowning nation in time for its rescue. As long as the United States lives up to the spirit of the "Truman Doctrine" the Koreans can and will, I assure you, manage to keep their country safe for democracy.

We are grateful to you for the aid and assistance freely given to us through ECA. We are delighted to welcome Mr. Hoffman on his short visit with us. The materials supplied by America will save the lives of millions of our refugees who have fled from the part of our country controlled by Russia. Without American Aid many of our citizens who have succeeded in crossing the 38th Parallel would face freezing and starvation.

We are grateful to you for sending Ambassador Muccio whose presence here has gradually brought a feeling of cooperation and harmony between the Americans and Koreans in Seoul. He and General Coulter have been so helpful that we all feel the change of atmosphere in the relationship between our two countries. We shall be very happy to have these two men represent the United States through these difficult times.

Mr. Hoffman has courteously complied with my request to present to Your Excellency this brief personal note from me.

Very sincerely yours,



His Excellency
Harry S. Truman
President of the United States of America
Washington, D. C.