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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Meeting at the White House

June 26, 1950



The President received the Korean Ambassador at the latter's request this afternoon, the Secretary of State being present. The Korean Ambassador presented to the President an appeal from the Korean Parliament asking for expeditious and substantial help. The Korean Ambassador said that President Rhee had telephoned to say that the Korean forces were deficient in artillery, tanks and aircraft and had asked for all possible aid in furnishing these. The President said that he had already issued orders to General MacArthur to supply all items ammunition and equipment which in General MacArthur's opinion the Korean army was trained to use and that the Koreans must continue to fight effectively so that help from the United States could strengthen them. The President pointed out that the battle had been going on for only 48 hours and that other men in other countries had defended their liberties under much more discouraging situations through to ultimate victory. The Korean Ambassador insisted that the soldiers were brave but that they did not have adequate equipment. The President again said that help was on the way and that the Koreans must develop the steadfast leadership which would carry them through this crisis.

*Notes bottom p. 6*