

## **June 16, 1954**

# **Asian Peoples' Anti-Communist Conference, Provisional Summary Record of the Fourth Session**

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### **Summary:**

The Provisional Summary Record of the Fourth Session of the Asian Peoples' Anti-Communist Conference features President Syngman Rhee proposing a "pacific alliance."

### **Credits:**

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### **Contents:**

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PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FOURTH SESSION

Hold at Admiral's Quarters, Chinhae, Korea  
on Wednesday, 16 June 1954, at 2:10 p.m.

CONTENTS

1. Announcement of the Committee on Permanent Organization.
2. Announcement of the Committee on Resolutions.
3. Discussion of organization.
4. Remarks by President Syngman Rhee.
5. Decision to establish a Central Liaison Office in Korea.
6. Reference of proposals on principles to committee.
7. Unofficial expression of sentiment for separate Peoples' and Government conferences in the future.
8. Expression of thanks for the advice and counsel of President Rhee.

Chairman: Mr. Lee Young P. The Republic of Korea

Vice-Chairman and Presiding Officer: Mr. Jose M. Hernandez Republic of the Philippines

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AS THIS RECORD WAS DISTRIBUTED AT 0900 HOURS ON 17 JUNE 1954 THE TIME-LIMIT FOR CORRECTIONS WILL BE 0930 HOURS ON 18 JUNE 1954.

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Temporary Chairman Lee Young P. of Korea called the Fourth Session to order at 2:10 p.m. Photographers were permitted three minutes to take pictures.

The Committee on Permanent Organization was announced as Mr. Han Lih-wu of China, Mr. Peter Chu of Hongkong, Mr. Whang Sung Soo of Korea, Mrs. Lee Chein of Macao, Miss Michaela A. Montemayor of the Philippines, Mrs. Chuang B. of Thailand, and Vu Hong Khanh of Vietnam.

The Committee on Resolutions was announced as Mr. Liu Chien-Chung of China, Mr. Chang Tien-yee of Hongkong, Mr. Lee Won Chul of Korea, Mr. Yu Chien Tong of Macao, Mr. Marie T. Gathenton of the Philippines, Mr. Phra R. Nides of Thailand, and Mr. Le Quang Ho of Vietnam.

Jose M. Hernandez, the Chief Delegate of the Philippines, took the chair at the request of Mr. Lee of Korea. The Delegates began a discussion of the agenda subpoints under "Objectives of the organization" and "Work of the organization." Two of the proposals were recommended to committeemen and a third was under discussion when it was suggested that all the proposals be considered and voted upon en bloc. It was later decided to recommend all the proposals, together with those made by the China and Philippines delegations, for committee consideration.

President Syngman Rhee, who was invited to the Conference at the Third Session, arrived and received a standing ovation. A place of honor had been reserved for him beside the Chairman.

The President spoke to the Conference during a 20-minute recess. He suggested that the Conference avoid becoming bogged down in too many details. Citing the difficulties involved in each specific item, he pointed out that general rules often will not apply to all countries.

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"You are here to solve a great world problem--Communism," he said.  
"The Communists seek to conquer the whole world. . . and make it one world under their control.

"We must fight ideologically and militarily. The Communists say, 'If we fail to win the world ideologically, then we'll conquer it by military force.'

"How do I know? See how many of the peoples of the world have fallen to the Communists. Pretty soon France, England, and the United States will fall into the same pattern.

"From now on we must get together. That means power, strength, and might. Militarily and ideologically we must fight Communism; there is no other way out."

But we haven't much time, the President said. "We can't do anything if everyone expects to get something for himself out of it." He pointed out that China, north Korea, and Indo-China are already gone.

"I have been telling Americans," he said, "that first you'll give up Southern California, and then Northern California, and then the White House. Then there will be peace. But if that is the peace we want, we can have it now."

President Rhee said Communists must be fought in homes, churches, organizations, communities--everywhere.

"The Communist is no longer my brother," he declared. "He is a beast."

"Let us start all over again in unison and act together," he continued.  
"The Communists are powerful because they are organized. . . . Falsehood, robbery, and plundering are their principles. We stand on our principle of the freedom of man. We are willing to give up our lives for freedom. We have goods to sell; Communism hasn't. The Communists have only evil. We can win over the Communist followers, and that is why I hope you won't spend too much time on details."

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But the President reminded the Conference that he was expressing only his personal views, and that the Delegates should be guided by their own convictions and by majority vote.

At the conclusion of the President's remarks, Acting Chairman Hernandez of the Philippines expressed the view that the Delegates would have to decide whether the Committee on Organization was to recommend objectives or a constitution and bylaws.

Mr. Meriniano G. Abad of the Philippines suggested that the Committees screen and process the recommendations of all Delegations and then report.

President Rhee responded that the Conference should decide the main issues first. He suggested that constitutions, charters, and by-laws are difficult to agree upon, and that details usually solve themselves and sometimes destroy harmony if they receive too much emphasis.

The President expressed belief the principal emphasis should be on the national organizations, with clearly stated main principles for all to follow and with close communication.

Acting Chairman Hernandez endorsed the views of President Rhee, and Miss Montemayor suggested that the whole Conference, rather than the Permanent Organizations Committee, consider the problem.

Mr. Ku Chin-Kang of China suggested three points: (1) Appreciation for the views of President Rhee and agreement in principle; (2) doubts as to the full accomplishment of objectives unless the national organizations were drawn closely together; (3) time for consultation among the delegates.

Mr. Hernandez restated the views of the President and Mr. Tsai Chang, Chief Delegate of Ryukyu, said he believed the international organization should be a strong one.

Mr. Phra<sup>u</sup>. Nides, Chief Delegate of Thailand, said the Conference was fortunate to have the guidance of President Rhee. He said that the Delegates were arriving at a common platform of anti-Communism.

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Dr. Hwang Kuo-Su was appointed temporary chairman of the Organization Committee, and the Conference was recessed pending a meeting of that group.

The Conference reconvened at 5:45 p.m. Organization Committee Chairman Hwang reported on the meeting of his group. He said that the question was one of the nature of central organization. He said the Committee had recommended unanimously to establish a central liaison office in Korea to coordinate the work of the various national and local organizations. Another Committee meeting was scheduled for 8 p.m.

President Rhee observed that "this Conference is a lot better than Panmunjom," and said he believed the solution a good one.

Mr. Nides of Thailand moved acceptance of the Organization Committee's report and Miss Montemayor of the Philippines seconded. The motion carried without dissent.

Mr. Whang of Korea moved that the Organization Committee accept the agenda statements on principles. Miss Montemayor seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously. Chairman Hernandez suggested that proposals submitted by China and the Philippines also be considered, and there was no objection.

President Rhee said he would like the opinions of the Delegations on a Pacific alliance. "How far have we gone and where do we stand?" he asked. He expressed the opinion that a Government-level conference should be held. The President said he feared that not all countries would be able to attend a mixed Government-level and Peoples'-level Conference, but pointed out that two separate conferences might be held. He asked for the views of Delegates on whether it would be preferable to hold a single conference or two separate ones.

Mr. Abad of the Philippines said that he could not speak for his Government, and that such a matter would have to be discussed on the Government-level.

Mr. Ku of China said that his Delegation represented people and that it was not in a position to commit the Government. He also favored two conferences

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because the Peoples' movement was just getting started, and because it could have wider scope than anything done at the Government level. As an illustration of this, he pointed out that this Conference has representatives from People whose Governments could not be represented at such a gathering. Finally, he said, the People can exercise their influence to push their Governments along faster.

In a straw poll, six delegations expressed themselves in favor of separate conferences and one favored a joint conference.

Mr. Nides moved and Miss Montemayor seconded a vote of thanks for the President's advice and counsel, and for the Korean delegation's service in working out the plan for the Central Liaison Office. The motion was passed unanimously.

The President said he thought it was the Conference that should be thanked.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.