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August 7, 1953
Summary Record of the Conference held between President Rhee and Secretary Dulles (Third Session)

Citation:

"Summary Record of the Conference held between President Rhee and Secretary Dulles (Third Session)", August 7, 1953, Wilson Center Digital Archive, B-380-003, Papers Related to the Korean American Mutual Defense Treaty, Papers Related to Treaty-Making and International Conferences, Syngman Rhee Institute, Yonsei University https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/119430

Summary:

President Rhee and Secretary Dulles have concluded the final negotiations for the US-ROK defense pact and now both believe it is time to inform the American and Korean public. Rhee emphasizes that he will not accept Korean neutralization and it is imperative to remove the Chinese from the north. Dulles states that the US will do its best to unify Korea under one peaceful government and will try to remove the Chinese aggressors in the north.

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Original Language:

English

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C O P Y

Summary Record of the Conference held
Between President Rhee and Secretary Dulles

Time: 10.30 a.m. to 11.50 a.m., August 7, 1953 (Third session)
Place: Kyung Mu Dai
Attending members: same as second session

(In this session, much of the time was spent by both sides in studying and improving the draft of the Defense Treaty as well as in preparing to issue a joint statement on the talks.)

Secretary Dulles said that since he was to depart for home the next day, he would like to say something to the public regarding the talks he had with President Rhee and other high officials. He said he had prepared a letter to that effect.

President Rhee agreed and said that he too had to make a statement to his people because they were anxious to know what had transpired here during the last few days. The Communists, he said, were on the other hand celebrating the armistice in Moscow, Peking and Pyungyang. Secretary Dulles suggested that his letter and the President's statement be put together to be issued in the form of a joint statement.

Turning to the political conference, President Rhee said that in that forthcoming conference, Korea would never accept proposals for her neutralization. For, he said, the neutralization idea which came into being in Europe because of the many wars that were frequently fought through the centuries cannot be accepted in Asia where the situation is altogether different from that in Europe.

President Rhee also stated that Korea and the United States are two big allies. Korea is struggling to survive, but she will not be able to do so with a million Chinese Reds in the northern half of the Korean territory. As long as the Chinese Reds remain in Korea, world problems will not be easily solved. The Chinese must get out of the Korean soil by all means; the Koreans like to know where they stand on this score.

Secretary Dulles replied that the United States cannot undertake to fight every war to remove all the injustice existing in this world. But that he would like to reassure the President that the United States would do its best in having the Chinese Reds removed from Korea and in endeavoring to achieve the unification of the country by peaceful means.

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President Rhee then turned to the subject of the billion dollar aid. He asked Mr. Dulles what the time-length of the aid-program would be for using the money, saying that he would prefer it to be three years. Mr. Dulles said that he would try to make it so, failing which he thinks it should be extended to four years. It would therefore be necessary to put it down as three to four years in the joint statement that will follow.

Regarding the draft of the Defense Treaty under final study, Mr. Dulles suggested leaving out the word "effectively", which the Korean side inserted on its insistence, in the final paragraph of Article III of the Treaty, because Article III of the Security Treaty concluded between the Philippines and the United States also contains a similar paragraph in which no "effectively" was inserted. The presence of that word in the Korean treaty might therefore create a misunderstanding as to whether the absence of that particular word in the Phillipine one implies anything less effective than the Korean one.

The conference, after adjourning at 11.50 a.m. continued at 3.30 p.m. the same day and lasted till 4.40 p.m. Both sides had a separate meeting of their own for about twenty minutes, studying and improving the statements. Both sides agreed to initial the draft treaty at 10 a.m. the next day and to issue a joint statement at 4 a.m. the following morning.

x x

/s/ Yongshik Kim