

December 19, 1957

Draft Letter from Saigon Dated December 19 for Heads of State

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Summary:

In this draft, Choi Duk Shin warns that Japan's economic expansion is a serious threat which should be combated as actively as the threat of communism in Asia.

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English

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Transcript - English

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DRAFT LETTER FROM SAIGON DATED DECEMBER 19 FOR HEADS OF STATE.
EXCELLENCY,

I WISH TO BE HONOURED TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS TO
YOUR EXCELLENCY MY VIEWS ON THE GENERAL SITUATION OF THIS AREA,
IN THE NAME OF PARTICULAR ACQUAINTANCESHIP WHICH I HAVE HAD SINCE
MY RECENT TRIP TO YOUR GREAT COUNTRY AND OTHER SOUTHEAST ASIAN
COUNTRIES PD

MY JOURNEY TAUGHT ME THAT THERE ARE THE TWO FOLD DANGER AND
MENACE WHICH THE PEOPLES IN THIS AREA ARE FACING AT PRESENT PD
ACTUALLY THEY ARE OMINOUSLY CONFRONTING WITH THE THREATS OF THE
COMMUNISTS AND THAT OF REVIVAL OF IMPERIALISM PD

THE COMMUNIST DANGER IS AN OPEN FACT, AND A SERIES OF FACTS IN
THE POST WORLD WAR II ERA HAVE SUFFICED TO AWAKE THE PEOPLES OF THE
FREE WORLD IN SEEING THE TRUE FACE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST REPEAT
COMMUNISM PD THE FREE WORLD IS NOW WELL AWARE OF THE THREATS OF
COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY OF WORLD CONQUEST, AND BEGINS TO ADOPT FIRM AND
STRONGER POSITION AGAINST IT PD

WHILE WE ARE BUSILY FIGHTING AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS FOR THE
DEFENSE OF LIBERTY, THERE ARE MOST REGRETTABLE DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS
AREA WHICH CLEARLY INDICATES REMARKABLE CONTEMPLATION OF IMPERIALISM
IN A NEW FORM OF "ECONOMIC EXPANSION" ON THE PART OF JAPN JAPANESE
OFFICIALDOM, REPRESET REPRESENTING REVIVAL OF OLD IMPERIALISTIC
DREAM OF CONQUEST OF ALL SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES PD JAPAN IS
UNCOVEREDLY ATTEMPTING TO HAVE ECONOMIC SUPERIORITY AND EVENTUALLY
POLITICAL PREDOMINANCE IN ASIA PD

UNDER THE GUISE OF AN ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP THE ECONOMIC SITUATION
OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS, MR KISHI PUT FORTH A PLAN WHEREBY THE
UNITED STATES WOULD PROVIDE DOLLAR FUNDS AND JAPAN THE TECHNICAL
KNOW-HOW PD JAPAN IS A DONATOR-MEMBER OF COLOMBO PLAN; SHE IS ABLE
TO TAKE ACTIVE ROLE IF SHE WANTS TO DO SO PD WHAT SHOULD BE THE
GOOD REASON FOR MR KISHI TO PROPOSE A PLAN IN WHICH ONLY LOOK FOR
HELP FROM JAPAN? IT IS CRYSTAL CLEAR TO EVERYONE CONCERNED THAT

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MR KISHI'S AIM IS TO MAKE OF THESE NATIONS HER SATELLITES BY
MAKING THEM ECONOMICALLY DEPENDENT ON HER PD I DO NOT THINK THAT
THE U. S. POLICY-MAKERS WILL BE SO FOOLISH AS TO SUPPORT THIS ILL-
INTENTIONED PLAN, AND I AM IN FIRM BELIEF THAT YOUR EXCELLENCY WILL
DISCOVER THE REAL MEANING OF MR KISHI'S PLAN, AT ONCE PD

I WISH TO DRAW YOUR EXCELLENCY'S PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THESE
COMMON PROBLEMS AS THE SAME ASIATICS PD AS TO THE JAPANESE EXPANSION-
ISM WHICH CONSTITUTES A NO LESS DANGEROUS THREAT THAN COMMUNISM TO
KOREA AS WELL AS ENTIRE ASIA, MOST CAREFUL WATCH MUST BE GIVEN, AND
THE PREVENTIVE STEP MUST BE ADOPTED BY OURSELVES PD THIS RISING
INFLUENCE OF A TREACHERU REPEAT TREACHROUS NATION MUST BE TIGHTLY
CHECKED AND STOPPED BEFORE IT BECOMES TOO LATE PD

I WISH TO POINT OUT VERY EMPHATICALLY THAT THE PEOPLES SHOULD
NEVER MISUNDERSTAND THE POSITION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AS FAR
AS THE DANGER OF JAPAN'S ADVANCE IS CONCERNED PD SOME LEADERS MIGHT
THINK THAT KOREA'S WARNINGS ON JAPAN'S REVIVAL OF IMPERIALISTIC
PLOTS FOR EXPANSIONISM IS STEMMED OUT FROM THE PAST HATRED OF KOREAN
PEOPLE OCCASIONED BY LONG-YEAR DOMINATION OF JAPANESE COLONIALISM
OVER KOREA PD THIS ABSOLUTELY NOT TRUE PD THE RE-ENTRY OF JAPANESE
IMPERIALISTIC POWER INTO ASIAN COUNTRIES IS OF GRAVE CONCERNS NOT
ONLY TO KOREA BUT TO ALL ASIA PD THE PEOPLES IN THIS AREA HAVE
SUFFERED FROM COLONIAL RULE FOR A LONG TIME AND THEY HATE TO BE
DOMINATED AGAIN BY ANY OTHER POWER PD WE HAVE THE SAME OBJECTIVE
IN MAINTAINING PEACE AND SECURITY AND IN ENJOYING OUR FREEDOM, AND
OUR COMMON EFFORTS FOR THE SAME IDEAL OF DEMOCRACY IS OF GREAT
NECESSITY TO COPE WITH OUR COMMON PROBLEMS PD

IN ORDER TO COUNTER THE ABOVE MENTIONED TO -FOLD THREAT, MY
HUMBLE SUGGESTION IS TO FORM A COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM AMONG
NATIONS AND MUTUAL AID IN TIME OF AGGRESSION, WHATEVER IF BE
COMMUNISM OR THE OLD-FASHIONED IMPERIALISM PD THE TRUE MEANING OF
"ASIA FOR THE ASIATICS" IS THAT ALL NATIONS OF ASIA, BIG OR SMALL,

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STRONG OR WEAK, SHOULD BE TREATED AS EQUAL AND SHOULD ABIDE BY
CERTAIN RULES AND REGULATIONS LAID DOWN WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A
TRIBUNAL OF JUSTICE PD THERE SHOULD BE NO SUPREME POWER AMONGST
ASIAN NATIONS PD WE OPPOSE THE IDEA OF CERTAIN LEADING POWERS TO
MAKE OF JAPAN A DOMINATING NATION IN ASIA JUST AS BITTERLY AS WE
FIGHT THE COMMUNIST DOMINATION PD

ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE RENEWED ASSURANCE OF MY HIGHEST CON-
SIDERATION PD

CHOI DUK SHIN
KOREAN MINISTER TO VIETNAM

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EXCELLENCY,

I WISH TO BE HONOURED TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS TO YOUR EXCELLENCY MY VIEWS ON THE GENERAL SITUATION OF THIS AREA, IN THE NAME OF PARTICULAR ACQUAINTANCESHIP WHICH I HAVE HAD SINCE MY RECENT TRIP TO YOUR GREAT COUNTRY AND OTHER SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES PD

MY JOURNEY TAUGHT ME THAT THERE ARE THE TWO FOLD DANGER AND MENACE WHICH THE PEOPLES IN THIS AREA ARE FACING AT PRESENT PD ACTUALLY THEY ARE OMINOUSLY CONFRONTING WITH THE THREATS OF THE COMMUNISTS AND THAT OF REVIVAL OF IMPERIALISM PD

THE COMMUNIST DANGER IS AN OPEN FACT, AND A SERIES OF FACTS IN THE POST WORLD WAR II ERA HAVE SUFFICED TO AWAKE THE BEOPLES OF THE FREE WORLD IN SEEING THE TRUE FACE OF INTERATIONAL COMMUNIST REPEAT COMMUNISM PD THE FREE WORLD IS NOW WELL AWARE OF THE THREATS OF COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY OF WORLD CONQUEST, AND BEGINS TO ADOP T FIRM AND STRONGER POSITION AGAINST IT PD

WHILE WE ARE BUSILY FIGHTING AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS FOR THE DEFENSE OF LIBERTY, THERE ARE MOST REGRETTABLE DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS AREA WHICH CLEARLY INDICATES REMARKABLE CONTEMPLATION OF IMPERIALISM IN A NEW FORM OF "ECONOMIC EXPANSION" ON THE PART OF JAPN JAPANESE OFFICIALDOM, REPRESET REPRESENTING REVIVAL OF OLD IMPERIALISTIC DREAM OF CONQUEST OF ALL SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES PD JAPAN IS UNCOVEREDLY ATTEMPTING TO HAVE ECONOMIC SUPERIORITY AND EVENTUALLY POLITICAL PREDOMINANCE IN ASIA PD

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