

June 10, 1957

Report No. 122 from Do Soon Chung to Chung Whan Cho

Citation:

"Report No. 122 from Do Soon Chung to Chung Whan Cho", June 10, 1957, Wilson Center Digital Archive, B-339-100, The Korean Legation in the Philippines, Reports from the Korean Mission to the United Nations and Republic of Korea Embassies and Legations, Syngman Rhee Institute, Yonsei University.

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Summary:

Do Soon Chung briefs Minister Cho on the President Garcia's candidacy for the Nacionalista Party and the anti-American sentiment growing in Philippines since its independence.

Credits:

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Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

LEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA Report No. 122
MANILA

July 10, 1957

Excellency:

Upon the departure of Minister Young Kee Kim, he turned over to me the affairs and responsibilities of the chancery, and he notified the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Diplomatic Missions in Manila, designating me as Chargé d'Affaires a.i. until the arrival of the new Minister. I have the honor of pledging to Your Excellency that until the arrival of the new Minister, I will do my best to run the chancery efficiently with my humble service.

Mr. Ho Joon Park who has been assigned to this Legation as Second Secretary has arrived today. Since he is my senior, naturally, he should be Chargé d'Affaires of the Legation, but I, at present as Chargé d'Affaires a.i., will not be in a position to designate Mr. Park as the new Chargé d'Affaires a.i. That is to say, by diplomatic practice, a Chargé d'Affaires is not authorized to designate another Chargé d'Affaires. Therefore, I would like to request Your Excellency's good offices to notify the Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs directly of the designation of Park as Chargé d'Affaires a.i. by cable. At the same time, I would like to be informed of Your Excellency's decision so that I could be able to notify the Diplomatic Missions in Manila accordingly.

Yesterday, at the party given by the Argentine Minister on the occasion of Argentine Independence, I was told by Mr. Estrada, Chief of Protocol, that President Garcia yesterday morning approved the nomination of Consul General Lincoln Hoon Kim as Second Minister to the Philippines. At my repeated request, Mr. Estrada personally brought the papers to the President who has been busy in political affairs. Mr. Estrada told me that he will notify the Philippine Legation in Seoul by cable.

The Philippines observed her eleventh anniversary of independence on July 4 with colorful ceremonies. One of the highlights was the State dinner and dance, the first given by President Garcia, in which I had the honor to be present. Upon receipt of the congratulatory radio messages from His Excellency President Syngman Rhee to President Garcia and from Your Excellency to Acting Secretary Raul S. Manglapus on the evening of July 3, I promptly transmitted them accordingly. For Your

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LEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
MANILA

Excellency's information, the full text of President Garcia's speech delivered at the ceremony is enclosed herein.

According to political circles, President Garcia has definitely decided to leave the Nacionalista Vice-presidential question to the Nacionalista convention which will convene at Manila July 27-28, 1957, despite pressure from Congress to nominate Speaker Jose B. Laurel, Jr. as the President's running mate. Most of the provincial governors have pledged their strong support for President Garcia as Nacionalista presidential candidate while about 40 members of Nacionalista congressmen have withdrawn their support in favor of Senate President Eulogio Rodriguez. Regardless of any political showdowns, it is almost certain that President Garcia will be nominated as official presidential candidate of the Nacionalista Party, according to political circles.

There was anti-American feeling in Manila last week for the first time since the U.S. granted independence to the Philippines, because of the fact that U.S. Military authorities in the Philippines had sent George E. Roe back home and reverted him to inactive status despite a pending court case in Cavite Province. While he was in the Philippines with the U.S. Navy, Roe was involved in an auto accident in January, 1956, in which a Filipino woman suffered moderately serious injuries when struck by an automobile driven by Roe. Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs Manglapus delivered a strongly worded diplomatic note to the U.S. Embassy demanding the return to the Philippines of George E. Roe. The Acting Secretary informed the Embassy that Roe must be placed within the reach of local courts, impressing upon them such a necessity in the interest of justice and in accordance with existing treaty provisions between the two countries. Acting Secretary Manglapus took occasion to reiterate in the same note an earlier Philippine request to the Embassy for the return here of another sailor, Roy Cook, formerly attached with the U.S. Military port of Manila, to face trial before the Pasay city court for alleged damage to property through reckless imprudence. Cook was transferred to another post.

President Garcia appointed Dr. Jose Ma. Delgado, prominent physician and active Catholic lay leader, as the first Philippine Ambassador to the Vatican. The appointment of Delgado was the result of a long campaign of local Catholics to elevate the Philippine post at the Vatican to a full-fledged embassy.

Your obedient servant,


DO SOON CHUNG

His Excellency Chung Wnan Cho
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Seoul, Korea

Copy sent to His Excellency President Syngman Rhee.

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