

November 6, 1956

Letter, L. George Paik to President Syngman Rhee

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Summary:

L. George Paik updates President Syngman Rhee on the proceedings of the Asian Peoples' Anti-Communist League Conference in Manila.

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MANILA, November 6, 1956.

His Excellency the President,
Kyung Mu Dai.

Your Excellency:

We, the delegates to the Extraordinary Conference of the Asian Peoples' Anti-Communist League held in Manila from November 3rd to 5th, have the honour of presenting our report on the said Conference.

The Conference began with a keen sense of timeliness and closed with more successful and encouraging notes than the delegation had hoped.

The most outstanding achievement is the decision of the Philippines Government to back the League as its principal instrumentality for fighting Communism throughout the Philippines. Previously, the Philippines chapter has been merely an extension of Catholic Action, and has lacked for membership, workers, and funds.

Now the Philippines is establishing, with the express approval and backing of President Ramon Magsaysay, The Philippines Anti-Communist Movement, which will be patterned after the League's highly successful program in Vietnam. Major Constante Cruz, chief of the Psychological Warfare Division of the Department of National Defense, probably will direct the movement in the organizational stage.

Philippines leaders are enthusiastic about the movement, and plan to carry it to the grass roots-family level, just as has

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been done in Vietnam. They are, as Your Excellency has expressed it, rising up to do something about Communism. Considering the new Communist tactic of political infiltration in the Philippines, this is of great importance for Philippines democracy and for the security of Free Asia.

Another encouraging indication was the continued presence of Thailand in the councils of the League, and signs that Thai also may rally her people against the Communists.

Considerable progress has been made on expansion of the League. Contact has been made with anti-Communist groups and individuals in several additional countries, including Greece, Turkey, Pakistan, and Australia. From present indications, it appears that the membership of the League will be doubled by the time of the Saigon Conference in March.

The Manila Extraordinary Conference also took these specific actions:

1. Adopted resolutions strongly urging the U.N. admission of Korea and Vietnam, and strongly opposing the U.N. admission of Red China.
2. Adopted a resolution denouncing Soviet aggression against Hungary and Poland, urging that the Free World undertake a great crusade to liberate all enslaved peoples, and calling upon all Free Peoples to give the assistance necessary to encourage anti-Communist revolutions everywhere behind the iron curtain, especially in north Korea, north Vietnam, and mainland China.

(The four resolutions stipulated under Nos. 1 and 2 above will be presented to the 11th General Assembly of the United Nations by the Chief Delegates of the Philippines, Thailand, and China, and the Observers of Korea and Vietnam).

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3. Adopted a resolution warning against neutralism.
4. Adopted a declaration setting forth the increased danger of Communism in Asia.
5. Urgently recommended that each chapter set up its activities in a concerted program of action against Communism. At Saigon, each member will report on the success of such action, and will indicate ways in which the League can undertake more positive penetration of the iron curtain.

Enthusiasm remained at the same high peak attained at Saigon, and the Manila papers gave the Conference extensive coverage. Delegates were received by President Magsaysay, and many high officials of the Philippines participated in the deliberations.

The only discouraging note continues to be the Chinese advocacy of Japan for League observer status. We have tried in every possible way, but are unable to convince the Chinese of the pro-Communism and aggressive potential of the Japanese.

In this connection, the Chinese are representing their position as an "order" from President Chiang Kai-shek. We have reason to believe, however, that the principal motive is the trade interests of the Chinese, and that Chiang may not have given any such direct command. For this reason, it might possibly be profitable for Ambassador Kim to explore the matter with President Chiang or with Foreign Minister George Yeh.

On the whole, however, the prospects that the League will realize the hopes that Your Excellency held for it at Chinhae are more promising than ever before. At least two countries - Vietnam




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and the Philippines - are rising up to fight Communism as hard as
is Korea, and that is an accomplishment of no mean proportions.

Respectfully submitted,

L. George Paik
Kong Chin Hang
Whang Sung Soo
Kim Chae Ho
William A. Glenn



The Chief Delegate