

## **June 16, 1956**

### **Letter from Choi Duk Shin to Mr. Vu Van Mau**

#### **Citation:**

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#### **Summary:**

Choi Duk Shin informs Vietnam of the problematic usage of the name "South Korea" in the local press.

#### **Credits:**

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#### **Original Language:**

English

#### **Contents:**

Original Scan  
Transcript - English

TRANSLATION

Saigon, June 16, 1956

N° KLS 0012

Excellency,

I have the honor to bring to the attention of Your Excellency the importance of the following fact :

I have noted in the Vietnamese and foreign presses in Saigon, the use of the terms "Sud Corée", "Corée du Sud", or "South Korea". These terms are not, Your Excellency, equitable to the name of our country.

The term "South Korea" suggests the idea of the existence of a "North Korea" indicating that there is a "divided" Korea. But there is no division. As you know there is a demarcation line in Korea, but it is a temporary and a military one. Moreover, it has been fixed by the Allies of the Second World War, against our will.

For these reasons, I would request Your Excellency to bring to the attention of these presses the reasons for an adjustment in the use of the above terms. The terms of "The Republic of Korea" (La République de Corée), or "Korea" (Corée) are always the accurate ones for the name of our country.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my high consideration.

His Excellency  
Mr. Vu Van Mau  
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs  
Republic of Vietnam  
Saigon

Choi Duk Shin  
Envoy Extraordinary and  
Minister Plenipotentiary of  
the Republic of Korea to Viet  
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