

May 11, 1951
Letter, Lieutenant General John B. Coulter to
Syngman Rhee

Citation:

"Letter, Lieutenant General John B. Coulter to Syngman Rhee", May 11, 1951, Wilson Center Digital Archive, B-011-013, Official Correspondences, President Rhee's Correspondences, Syngman Rhee Institute, Yonsei University.
<https://wilson-center.drivingcreative.com/document/122623>

Summary:

Lieutenant General John B. Coulter informs Syngman Rhee about the road survey that Colonel Frichard is in charge of, and matter related to civilian engineers.

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Syngman Rhee Institute, Yonsei University

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan



HEADQUARTERS
EIGHTH UNITED STATES ARMY KOREA
OFFICE DEPUTY ARMY COMMANDER
APO 301 C/O FM, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

May 11, 1951

Dear Mr. President:

With reference to the road survey, Colonel Prichard informs me that the first phase of the survey, which covers the Pusan-Taegu highway and other roads of lower Korea, is scheduled to be completed on or about May 21st. This phase will emphasize those roadworks which should be given immediate attention.

In accordance with your expressed desire that your civilian engineers and supervisors receive instruction in approved road construction and maintenance methods, Colonel Prichard is preparing a course of one week's duration which includes road construction methods, road drainage principles, road maintenance methods, design and construction of bridges, and a demonstration of blasting methods. Texts are being prepared in English and Korean that can serve as guides for road engineers and local supervisors.

Colonel Prichard has consulted our Engineer Advisor to ROKA and finds that in addition to school facilities and trained Korean instructors, the ROKA Engineer School at Kumhae has extensive areas already prepared, showing various steps in the several types of road construction and maintenance, drainage structures, blasting methods, and small bridge construction. He is of the opinion that the use of these facilities will afford excellent instruction, not available elsewhere, for the Korean Provincial Engineers and road supervisors, and recommends that a course at that school, under his supervision, be scheduled during the period June 10-17, 1951. He further recommends that the students be graduates of middle school or higher; be physically able to walk to and from quarters, classrooms and field demonstration areas; provide their own transportation to and from their homes; bring their own bedding; be housed in a vacant building in Kumhae; be furnished cooking facilities, be furnished a daily ration of rice, and a daily money allowance of 350 won; and that the school not be held liable for any injuries sustained during the period of the course.

Should you approve this course, it is recommended that the Minister of Home Affairs select not more than two hundred students representing the Provinces of the Republic to attend the course, and to report the names of the selected



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students to Colonel Prichard not later than May 25th, 1951, and that the Minister of Defense take the necessary action to implement the presentation of the course at the ROKA Engineer School under the supervision of Colonel Prichard and Major Hutchins, advisor.

Should you desire, I shall be happy to have Colonel Prichard call upon you or report to any officials whom you may desire to designate to work out details.

Yours sincerely,

John B. Coulter
JOHN B. COULTER
Lieutenant General, United States Army
Deputy Army Commander

His Excellency Syngman Rhee
President of the Republic of Korea
Pusan, Korea