

May 27, 1955
Letter, J. W. Staggars to Syngman Rhee

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Summary:

Staggars defends himself against attacks by officials in Rhee's government.

Credits:

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JOHN W. STAGGERS
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
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WASHINGTON 1, D. C.

May 27, 1955

The Honorable, Dr. Syngman Rhee
President, Republic of Korea
Seoul, Korea

Dear Dr. Rhee:

I received a letter from you dated the first of September 1954, which at that time was acknowledged. From your letter, I

QUOTE:

"I have recently received complaints which seem to be caused by my appointing you years ago as my attorney. I cannot believe all reports coming to me for a long time which reflect on your integrity and honor as one of the outstanding lawyers. But the reputation of the Government is being damaged." UNQUOTE

In reply to these vicious charges and untruthful statements which have been made to you about me, I wish to make a positive statement. They are untrue and most of them manufactured out of the whole cloth. And, I wish to add that many of them were initiated in your own official family. By official family, I mean from people who were appointed by you to fill important offices.

The reason I did not answer these vicious charges before is that I know the enormous burden which you are carrying and I did not wish to add to it. God forbid.

However, there are some things that must be said in my defense. Otherwise, these scandal mongers will continue their vicious attacks against me. I defy and challenge them to produce a single fact that would justify the attack which they have made.

I have known of this situation long before you called it to my attention. You will recall that when I was in Korea, you had several names on a piece of paper which someone had handed to you with a report that I was associated with them in a corporation. As I recall, there was not a single person whose name was listed that I have ever known or had business dealings with. I knew then that someone was out to defame and vilify me. I was hoping that you yourself would discover the source of these reports and they would be removed by you.

Please find other letters enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. STAGGERS

JWS:dgo
Letter No. 108
Via Air Mail