June 21, 1957

Mr. Ambassador:

It is a happy occasion for me to receive from you the Letter with which Her Britannic Majesty Elizabeth the Second accredits you as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Korea, the first such accreditation in the diplomatic relations between our two countries. I extend sincere congratulations to you on your promotion and most heartily welcome you in your new capacity as Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain.

I am keenly aware of the close and cordial relations between our countries, and I am sure the reciprocal elevation of our diplomatic missions will further strengthen the existing bonds of friendship.

Between our two countries there is a mutuality of interest based on the concern we share for justice and the freedom of all men. This concern was evidenced here in recent years by the valiant soldiers of Great Britain who served on the battlefields of this peninsula in defending the freedom of us all. It has also been evidenced in the support which Great Britain has given to the efforts of the United Nations to rebuild our country from the ruin and devastation of war.

It gives me great pleasure to hear that Her Majesty granted audience to Ambassador You Chan Yang, my special Goodwill Envoy, who was dispatched to your great country to express our heartfelt gratitude to the British people for their noble sacrifice in our common defense against Communist aggression.

I listened with particular interest to your thoughtful words on your Government's attitude toward our endeavors to achieve the unification of our Country. It is a great encouragement indeed to know that your Government will continue to stand with us as a powerful and capable ally in resistance to aggression and in pursuit of the essential objective of the United Nations resolution on Korea which is the establishment of a unified, independent and democratic government.

I thank you for your kind greetings and I welcome this opportunity to reciprocate the good wishes of the Government and people of the United Kingdom through you, their distinguished representative. I assure you, Mr. Ambassador, you will have the utmost confidence and cooperation of my Government. It is our hope that you will find great satisfaction in your important assignment and that your stay in Korea will be both pleasant and rewarding.