Draft dated 24 June 54

24 June 54

My dear President Eisenhower:

Firstly, I want to say that I accept your last letter which I know was the best under the circumstances then prevailing, and subsequently agreed to go to Geneva.

You urged me to go to Geneva in order to exhaust every means to settle the unification question peacefully and stated that if we did go to Geneva you would consider a program to improve the Republic of Korea Forces with additional United States assistance by -

1. Continued development of the ROK army to a field army, capable in itself of sustained combat operations.

2. Continued modernization of the ROK navy and the addition to it of anti-submarine, amphibious and auxiliary type vessels, including two destroyer escorts.

3. Reorganization of the ROK Marine Corps from a brigade of scattered small units to a combat capable division.

4. Modernization of the ROK air force by re-equiping the existing fighter wing with jet type aircraft and by the establisyment of an efficient tactical control organization. Training of ROK pilots for transition to jet aircraft will begin as soon as practicable.

~~The main reason I accepted agreed to go to Geneva~~ I was influenced by these proposals to decide to go to Geneva, particularly as you also stated that you would send General Van Fleet to consult with me. I took it for granted that when you sent General Van Fleet at my request he would be appointed to be in charge.

In that connection, the reason I insisted on having General Van Fleet to be in charge was because even if the US Government made a huge appropriation for this work, ~~all the~~ there are groups of Americans in the State Department and the Pentagon and even Congress who are known to be friends of Japan and who are more interested in the welfare of Japan than of the United States. It is well known that ECA appropriations for reconstruction of Korean economy, left more American dollars of Korean aid funds on

132
0170

Japan than in Korea during the last six or seven years.

Tobuild up our defence force is essential because the communists utilized the armistice period for their reinforcement of their forces therefore we have to increase our defence forces equal to the ~~enemy~~ those of the enemy, and we do hope that the build up of the Korean forces, army, navy and air forces will take place immediately, as the Geneva conference has failed.

The Geneva conference has come to an end with the unanimous support of all the allidd nations for the first time in the course of negotiations with the communists. It is time to adopt new measures to deal with the situation.

As soon as our Delegation to Geneva returns, we plan to announce that the armistice terms are automatically ended and there will be no more peace talks or negotiations regarding Korea with any nation or group of nations.

Whatever measure we will adopt will be decided at our consultations between our two countries. We ~~are~~ have been waiting for suggestions from Secretary Dulles. However, we are again disappointed. General Van Fleet came with a number of men in his party who have been going around the various Asiatic countries and have now gone back to America to report. I hear that the other members of his party havebeen investigating the situation in Japan and Formosa and the Philippines. They are to report and suggest plans according to the prevailing situation. But what will be the results of these reports and how long it will take for them to be activated, no one seems to know. It seems highly doubtful that ~~any~~ all American statesment fully realize the grave situation the Red agressors have created everywhere and what they are achieving every day. While we are

talking our enemies are acting. Indo Chinas has nearly gone, North Korea has been made a permanent part of China and the rest of South East Asian nations will soon follow, then Korea;and India is already in the Soviet orbit with England and France and Italy almost gone. Now there is the eruption in Central America and soon the US itself will be caught up in the conflagration. It is only quick action on the part of the US which will save something, if anything at all.

Unless you act quickly and let General Van Fleet come out here to carry out your four points directly under your own orders, with no other authority or agency to interfere with his work, even if you make a huge appropriation for the expansion of the ROK defence forces, the whole thing will gradually fall into the hands of the pro-Japanese groups in the State Department, in the Pentagon and those in Japan.

The more I come to know the real situation I begin to regret that I ~~have ever taken~~ took the anti-communist stand as I did. With every turn of events I see no sign of firm, definite determination on the part of the allied nations to save the free nations and save themselves from communist world conquest. I regret that I have allowed myself to be persuaded by our allies to miss splendid opportunities to take unilateral action in turning the communist aggressors out of our land. The longer we travel alone the harder it grows to be, and the enemies are growing stronger all the time.

My one hope and my urgent request is that Your Excellency will authorize General Van Fleet to come out here immediately with full authority to carry out your program for the expansion of the ROK Defence Forces and with no further delay. THE END.

134
0172