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Washington, D. C.
February 12, 1957

The Honorable
John Foster Dulles,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I have been here in this country attending the sessions of the UN General Assembly as a representative of our legislative body on a Good-will Mission. My collegues in the National Assembly and all our people in Korea desired that I come here to the United States as a further expression of our deep gratitude for all of America's contributions to the Republic of Korea. We are great Allies, working together always toward the common goal of peace with justice throughout the world.

To my great regret, I have been unable to call upon you to pay my respect and to discuss items of mutual concern. I realize, of course, that you have been involved in many problems particularly crucial to the United States. So, before departing, may I take the liberty of using this medium to express the sentimenta of the National Assembly and the Korean People on a most pressing matter: the growing differences between our nation and Japan.

Realizing the grave peril involved for all of us, Korea has tried -- in every possible way -- to avert the onrushing crisis. We have held out the hand of friendship to Japan. We have made concessions and offered compromises, all to no avail. We still wish to do anything we honorably can to achieve,a just and lasting settlement.

Premiers Hatoyama and Ishibashi repeatedly have made promises to meet us halfway. So have Foreign Ministers Shigemitsu and Kishi. Not one of these pledges has been kept.

Instead, the Japanese have turned to our enemies, the Soviet Union and Red China, and have even entered into trade and other quasi-official relations with the communist puppets of north Korea.

Mr. Secretary, the factual record reveals that the Japanese Government has:

1. Continued to lay claim to 85 percent of Korean property in flagrant disregard of the terms in the San Francisco Peace Treaty and agreements made with the United States.

2. Refused to withdraw the statement of Kanichero Kubota challenging Korea's sovereignty and independence. This same statement asserts that the U.S.-Allied pledge of Korean independence during World War II (in the Cairo Declaration) was in contravention of international law.

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3. Incarcerated more than 1,400 Koreans illegally in the notorious Omura concentration camp and refused to release them, even after the Japanese Foreign Minister had agreed to do so and we had agreed to simultaneous release of Japanese fishermen held at Pusan.

4. Sent its own infiltrators and smugglers into our territory.

5. Defied our authority to police our coasts and conserve our fishing grounds.

6. Abused 600,000 Koreans who are legal residents of Japan and deported some of them to the communist-held north of this country.

7. Declined to return our gold reserve, our art and literary treasures, our ships, and other properties.

8. Engaged in trade in strategic materials with Red China, north Korea, and other communist countries.

9. Made common cause with other communist organizations in north Korea and Red China.

In the last few weeks, Prime Minister Ishibashi and Foreign Minister Kishi renewed Japanese promises to make amends, then promptly repudiated their own word and refused to take action of any kind.

You can be assured that as long as Japan continues to display the disposition of an unfriendly, irresponsible nation, your interests as well as ours will suffer and continue to deteriorate.

Grateful as we are for American aid and support, we Koreans are at a loss to understand the position of the U.S. in this matter. We have been told that the U.S. does not wish to interfere in the internal affairs of its neighbors. Yet the U.S. has urged Korea repeatedly to cooperate with Japan -- regardless of Japan's record as summarized in the foregoing nine points.

Mr. Secretary, I assure you in all seriousness that unless the U. S. quickly takes steps to persuade the Japanese Government to redress the grievous wrongs done Korea, the relations between the two countries will never be adjusted peacefully.

For the inherent principle of National survival, we shall have to follow our own interests -- should the United States decline to take an active interest in this vital problem.

Thanking you for the privilege of expressing my views so frankly, I am

Sincerely yours,

Kyung Kyu Cho
Vice-Speaker

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