Rhee Nominated Anew; He Hints He Will Run

Special to The New York Times.
SEOUL, Korea, March 5—President Syngman Rhee was unanimously nominated for a third term today by his Liberal party.

The Presidential election will be held in either May or June.

Eight hundred three party delegates from throughout South Korea, holding their national convention here, also unanimously nominated Lee Ki Poong, chairman of the National Assembly, as Dr. Rhee’s running mate.

President Rhee will be 61 years old in March 26. Mr. Lee is 59.

Dr. Rhee told the delegates in a message that he did not wish to run because he already had served a second term and was old. However, he added by implication that he would bow to the wishes of the people, whatever those might be.

Rhee Says Crises Disprove Idea Free World Can Rely on Reds

Suggests U.N. Be Reorganized to Bar Communist Lands

Discredits Police Units

By FOSTER HAILEY

Special to The New York Times.
SEOUL, Korea, Nov. 14—Recent events in the Middle East and East Europe have proved the fallacy of the belief that the free world and the Communist world can live peacefully together, Dr. Syngman Rhee, South Korean President, said today.

The Soviet Union has proved by its actions in Hungary that it will use force whenever its own rule is threatened anywhere, he said. He believes the record has shown that words are useless against such tactics. The Communists are influenced only by defeats, he said.

The Soviet military suppression of the Hungarians’ attempt to again become masters in their own country quite obviously has affected President Rhee deeply.

In a discussion of international affairs in the summing up of his study of his home on North Mountain overlooking the Korean capital and then at luncheon, he returned again and again to that subject.

One reason was because he saw a parallel between Hungary and the situation in his own divided country.

Rhee Opposes Revolt in North

“Some persons have suggested that I urge my people to the north to revolt,” he said. “But how can I do that unless I can assure them help will come?”

The 61-year-old President always speaks of the North Koreans as his “My” people. He never has accepted and quite obviously does not intend to accept the division of Korea imposed by the Soviet Union in 1945 and supported during the Korean war by Soviet arms and Chinese Communist troops. More than 400,000 Chinese Red troops still remain north of the Thirty-eighth Parallel in Korea.

Dr. Rhee never accepted armistice in 1953 that left the country divided. He has long demanded that the sixteen countries in the United Nations that fought alongside South Korea from 1950 to 1952 take whatever means are needed to wipe out the dividing line and unify Korea.

The President knows the horrors of war. Twice he had to leave his capital when Communist armies overran most of the republic in 1950 and again in 1951. But he believes there are some situations that hardly can be borne. The abdication of the Hungarians to Soviet guns was one such situation, he said.

Rhee Warns Against Fear

“We deny our manhood if we say we will not fight under any circumstances,” he said. “We must not let fear determine all our actions.”

The Korean leader believes that the United Nations, as now organized, cannot bring peace to the world. Nor does he see much future in a United Nations police force. “You [United States] would not allow a United Nations police force to come into your country, would you?” he asked.

Dr. Rhee said he favored a world organization of free nations only. Then let countries know Communist controlled men only. Then let countries know Communist controlled men when they qualify, he suggested.

The key is the future lies in Washington, in the hands of President Eisenhower, the Korean President said. “Now that the election is over, I hope that he will be prepared to take resolute action when it is called for,” Dr. Rhee said. “When justice is on our side, then we should act.”

Japanese Are Alarmed

Special to The New York Times.

TOKYO, Nov. 18—Japan’s two top Cabinet officers expressed deep concern over world events today. They denounced both the British and French intervention in Egypt and Soviet interference in Hungary today.

In a special session of the Diet, Premier Ichiro Hatoyama, and Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu urged Japan to a policy of peace. Both applauded the resolution of President Eisenhower as an influence toward the restoration of world harmony.

The current Diet meeting was called primarily to ratify Japan’s peace arrangement with the Soviet Union concluded last month in Moscow. Mr. Shigemitsu said the action of Britain and France on Egypt was a willful betrayal of the spirit of the United Nations that jeopardized its very existence.

He urged the Soviet leaders to “listen to the voice of the Hungarians and take measures to ease the situation in line with the resolutions of the United Nations.”

Premier Hatoyama dwelt principally on Japan’s recent economic gains, including a 10 per cent increase in the national income since 1955. He said Japan should concentrate on economic enhancement while “avoiding all costs involvement in the disputes of other countries.”
**Rhee, 83, Honored by South Koreans**

**Special to The New York Times**

SEOUL, Korea, March 26—South Korea celebrated President Syngman Rhee's eighty-third birthday today with a military parade, fireworks and other events.

Dr. Rhee, who is a symbol of Korean independence and vigilance against communism, still has a life-long wish to fulfill—the unification of his divided country. He says he now sees the prospect for unification getting brighter.

The President, applauded from the reviewing stand when two United States Honest John rockets and two atomic cannon passed before him during an hour-long military parade, was the first time Seoul residents had seen these weapons, which the United Nation Command brought into South Korea early this year in efforts to counter-balance the increased equipment of the Communist forces in North Korea.

The President's birthday messages were received from Secretary of State Dulles, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, President of South Vietnam, President of China, Ngo Dinh Diem, President of South Vietnam, and Premier of Japan, and other world leaders.

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**A Stubborn Korean**

**Syngman Rhee**

IN his long, arduous and often troubled life, Dr. Syngman Rhee has been called many things—a patriot, a tyrant, a stubborn old man.

Dr. Rhee, wizened by his 83 years, is iron-shelled in resisting many pressures. Often this quality has put him in the world spotlight. Now his contoversial security law, which has been brought about the recall of the United States Ambassador to the Republic of Korea for consultations, has focused that spotlight again.

For all the clouds of controversy Dr. Rhee has caused, he remains essentially an uncomplicated man. In a political life that has lasted for sixty-four years (the entered politics five years before Sir Winston Churchill), Dr. Rhee has dedicated himself to the proposition that Korea must be independent. The South Korean President has stubbornly maintained that he felt better than anyone at home or abroad knows how to reunite the country in independence.

Not a Trustful Man

Dr. Rhee has seldom, if ever, placed full trust in any of his lieutenants, much less in the country's elected legislators. Once a Korean Premier announced a decision to reporters after alighting from a plane. A Government spokesman, upon hearing of it, exclaimed in outraged incredibility. "But he's only the Prime Minister; he's not allowed to make decisions."

Dr. Rhee was born Lee Sung Man (later anglicized to Syngman Rhee), a descendant of the dynastic rulers of Korea for 518 years. It was his father's wish that the boy prepare himself by a classical education for government service.

The youth steeped himself in oriental philosophy and calligraphy under the finest teachers. A remarkable student, he won first place in the national examinations held in the royal court in Seoul.

Under the influence of missionaries, the boy felt a need for contact with the West. He was switched to a mission school for his last year of high school. In 1910, he graduated from high school and entered at the University of Tokyo, a four-year course in law.

In 1914, he was graduated by...
NEW SECURITY ACT DEFENDED BY RHEE

He Vows South Korea Will Maintain Freedoms Under Controversial Measure

BY ROBERT TRUMBULL

SEOUL, Korea, Jan. 21—The Republic of Korea's new security law is being criticized by Americans in ignorance of the true situation here, President Syngman Rhee said today in an interview.

Dr. Rhee gave strong assurances that the law, passed Dec. 24 as an anti-subversion measure, would be administered with the fullest regard for the freedoms of assembly, speech and the press. Opponents say these are being threatened.

The President gave no indication that he would entertain the idea of forming a new opposition party to guarantee such rights in the law itself. However, legislative leaders of opposed factions have been showing an inclination to study some mutually satisfactory compromises to get stalled parliamentary processes in South Korea moving again.

President Rhee asserted that his Government, despite its inexperience in democracy, had "never violated democratic principles." He said he knew, in this case, the administration would do so now.

Red Infiltration Alleged

"Koreans love freedom perhaps more than any other people," he declared. "Our only aim is to protect ourselves against communism.

"Communists have infiltrated all activities in that country. They are coming in every day. We have not only enemies outside but also enemies within trying to disturb the situation."

The United States is far away while we are close to the enemy land. Americans don't have to have such a security law at the present time, but they are doing other things to make themselves secure."

The Korean leader maintained his long-standing position that the Communists respected only force.

"If we show them timidity or fear, there is no hope that the democratic nations will survive," he said.

Dr. Rhee said he had told Ambassador Walter C. Dowling, who is in Washington reporting on the disturbed political atmosphere here and General George H. Decker, commander of United States and United Nations forces in Korea, that the "practical situation demands" a stringent security law.

The law passed last month
Rhee's Burdened Aide
Lee Ki Poong

Of the Koreans to whom President Syngman Rhee is the voice, soul and supreme authority, none stands closer to the aged patriot than Poong Lee Ki—the quiet little man who has been elected Vice President. Since the days of the liberation of Korea from Japan in 1945, Mr. Lee has stood by Dr. Rhee's side, often taking the bullet intended for News the older man and quietly slipping out of the line of fire, occasions of triumph for the President. Few persons familiar with the high level of Korean politics believe that Mr. Lee can be regarded as a successor to the President.

"I look to the day when I can lay down these burdens," he told a Western friend not long ago. "I am weary, but as long as the President needs me I will stay."

Loyalty Never Serves
A slight, smiling man, Mr. Lee for many years has suffered in silence from the heavy burden of Secretary and confidant of Dr. Rhee. The Vice President-elect has often little time for Dr. Rhee's occasional heavy-handed treatment of democratic procedures, but he has never wavered in his dedication to the man himself. Whether as secretary-without-parlamental appointment of the Ministry of Education or Speaker of the Assembly, Mr. Lee has performed with such singular dedication.

His association with Dr. Rhee began in the early Nineteen Thirties, when both men were in Korea. Mr. Lee, whose family had been impoverished by the Japanese, had secured himself a job in a school. He was discharged, however, for six years after high school, to save enough money to come to the United States.

He enrolled at the now-defunct Tabor College, Tabor, Kansas, in 1924, with the approval of the Japanese, as a liberal arts student.

Meets Rhee in the United States
At the end of the academic year, his funds exhausted, Mr. Lee came to New York, where he took menial jobs and where he met Dr. Rhee. In 1932, discouraged, in poor health and unprepared for a profession, Mr. Lee went home to find his parents dying. He returned here, however, he had met Maria Park, a young Korean who was studying at missionary schools. Friends said in later years that Miss

"I look to the day when I can lay down these burdens."

Park's enthusiasm for her calling had been medicine for Mr. Lee.

The decade preceding the liberation of Korea from the Japanese was a grim one for Mr. Rhee's countrymen. Koreans were being impressed as laborers in Japan's expanding empire. The substance of the peninsula was being drained by the expansionist course of Japan. Mr. Lee survived by teaching school and minding his own business. It was in these years that his discretion was honored to a fine edge, his friends recalled.

Flowers for His Idol
When Dr. Rhee returned to Korea in 1945 under the auspices of the United States Government, Mr. Lee stood quietly at the plane ramp at Kimpo Air Port, holding a small bunch of flowers toward his idol.

From that moment, Mr. Lee has been either at Dr. Rhee's side or off on missions for him. So close has been the relationship that, several years ago, Dr. Rhee adopted Mr. Lee's elder son, Rhee Kang Suk, a 25-year-old lieutenant in the Korean Army. Dr. Rhee married to a Vietnamese woman, the former Francesca Dooner, was childless. With the adoption completed, Mr. Lee said:

"I am honored and happy. You see, I still have a son."
RHEE OPENS DOOR TO A COMPROMISE

Korean President Holds He Would Make Deal With Reds If U. N. Gave Guarantee.

By CHARLES GRUENZER

From the New York Times

Rangoon, Jan. 4.--President Rhee of Korea said today he would be willing to compromise with the Chinese Communists if the United Nations accepted responsibility for seeing to it that the Communists kept whatever agreement would be reached.

The 52-year-old head of the Republic of Korea expressed his willingness in a speech broadcast on radio.

The President told the people of Rangoon that he would be willing to talk with the Communists if they would agree to a cease-fire.

The speech was delivered in a broadcast to the people of Rangoon, the capital of the Republic of Korea.

President Rhee said he would be willing to talk with the Communists if they would agree to a cease-fire.

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Syngman Rhee presenting the Presidential Unit Citation of his country to Maj. Gen. Earle E. Partridge, commander of the Fifth Air Force, who accepted the decoration in behalf of all the members of Fifth Air Force Headquarters.

U.S. Air Force
KOREA

The Walnut

(See Cover)

In a refugee camp a few miles outside Seoul last week, Ann Nam-chang and her family were getting ready to go home. Nam-chang's husband was one of at least a million South Korean civilian casualties in the early days of the war, but she has a hunch that her old father is still living on his two-acre farm near Munsan. Nam-chang has three children. As if that were not enough, she has adopted a little girl—one of Korea’s 100,000 war orphans—who would most likely have died if Mrs. Ann had not taken her in. The U.N. Civil Assistance Command has been looking after the Ahns for a couple of years; the kids are outfitted in olive-drab pants. Mrs. Ann wears a dogskin necklace, a relic of the old days, of which she is very fond; at 31, a widow in a country where widows are unwanted. Mrs. Ann has not much to look forward to, but if she can find her father, they will make a home.

On the roads that wind from Seoul to Munsan, to Uijongbu and farther east, in central and eastern Korea, many families like the Ahns were on the move last week. In a thousand hamlets and settlements, some within sound of artillery on the stalemated battlefront, the blue-grey ashes of prewar villages were being raked aside, raw pine uprights were being planted, and women & children were combing through the rice straw for thatching for new roofs. Of the 22 million people in South Korea, about a fourth are homeless. No matter how hard and hopefully they work they cannot soon replace their 600,000 destroyed homes, nor provide the 250,000 new dwellings necessary to shelter the refugees from the north.

North & South. Nearly three years of war, there is not much left of Korea. North of the 38th parallel the devastation is immense. U.N. intelligence estimates that bombing and strafing have destroyed 40% of all habitations of any kind; U.N. bombers no longer have profitable targets. The civilian population has diminished from 8,000,000 to perhaps 4,000,000—killed in the bombing, dead from malnutrition or cold, fléé to the South for freedom, or carried off by the Communist occupiers. The North Korean army is a shadow: perhaps only 50,000 soldiers remain of their once formidable corps. The North Koreans have been beaten; it is their occupiers, the Chinese Communists, that U.N. armies now face.

In South Korea, the military picture is better, thanks to the might & main of the U.S., to the lesser but nonetheless real help of 14 other U.N. nations, to the tenacity of the South Koreans themselves, and to the singular dedication of Korea’s first & only President, Syngman Rhee. A 400,000-man ROK army, including twelve fully equipped divisions in the line, guards the young republic from further invasion and is building so fast that it may soon be strong enough to take over the whole front. It already holds more than half.

But back of that line, shadows gather in the picture. Destruction is widespread. The capital city of Seoul is 85% uninhabitable. Public buildings everywhere lie in ruins, public utility services are makeshift, and two-thirds of the schools are unusable. Only in the South’s gaunt era of Reconstruction after the Civil War is there a U.S. parallel to what Rhee and his people are up against. The economy is shot to pieces. Some 75% of all mines and textile factories have suffered severe damage. Those industries which can function lack parts for maintenance and equipment for repair. The draft has absorbed much of the country’s youth, but there are still thousands of unemployed. Resourceful businessmen struggle with makeshift merchandise; they offer for sale cooking utensils fashioned from the aluminum of wrecked planes, buckets beaten out of old olemargarine cans, canoe-shaped rubber sneakers made from worn-out truck tires, men’s & women’s clothing cut from discarded (and pilfered) U.S. Army uniforms.

A newly arrived U.N. officer, after a first look at Korean fashions, cracked: “U.S. olive drab seems to be the Korean national color.” With thoughts hardly less superficial, thousands of soldiers have moved backwards & forwards over this small republic (slightly smaller than Indiana), fighting its invaders, and sometimes laying down their lives in its defense. Overwhelmed by the physical aspect of war, they have no means of assessing the stark inner tragedy. The U.N. soldier does not know that a Korean schoolteacher’s salary will buy her only 16 lbs. of uncooked rice and ten cups of coffee a month; that a Korean doctor sells penicillin on the black market because his income is less than $10 a month.

Won & Lost. Last week in a moldering, pagoda-roofed hall in Pusan, once used by Japanese occupiers as a wrestling arena, South Korea’s National Assembly met to consider measures for halting the galloping inflation which has made a sad joke of wages and salaries. Diesel oil and kerosene fumes from six U.S. Army space heaters mingled with the heavy smell of
garlic in the rear of the hall, where several hundred curious but impassive spectators watched the proceedings.

Nine days earlier the government had announced a very simple expedient for curing inflation: withdraw the present currency (won) and replace it with a new currency (hwan), at 100 won for one hwan. The question which occupied the Assembly was what proportion of existing bank deposits would be temporarily blocked from this trade-in. As the government worded the bill, a wide assortment of Koreans, from black-marketeers to most of the political opposition, would have 75% of their funds frozen.

Finance Minister Paik To Chin, poised and confident in a neat brown business suit, thought he had the Assembly exactly where he wanted it. Then the Assembly threw its bombshell: practically all existing won, it decided, should be convertible into hwan. Rather than have any part of their own private funds blocked, many Assemblymen were prepared to wreck the government's chances of curbing inflation.

The fact that there was a semblance of at all—in finance or in government as still something of a miracle. It was due, in almost every respect, to a remarkable old man: President Syngman Rhee, 78, stern fighter for Korea's freedom over more than half a century.

The Unbreakable. Syngman Rhee is the walnut of Asian politics. Brown, wrinkled, iron-shelled, he calmly resists the tremendous pressure of managing his tragic country.

Seated a few yards from him, the visitor does not notice the marks of strain—the extended eyelids, the twitching right eye, the flaccid skin—but sees only the hard, alert eyes, the restless energy of the small frame. Rhee is the last of the old heroes of the Korean struggle for independence, a man with long memories. Just outside Seoul lie the ruins of Westgate prison, where the Emperor Koh's jailers spliced Rhee's fingers with the wooden wand, which the jailers twisted until his fingers were almost ripped from the joints; there he was imprisoned for seven years.

As a youth, Rhee had attended the P'ae Chai Methodist Mission school, and now the missionaries and their wives visited him in jail. There he became converted to Christianity. When the Japanese took over Korea in 1904, Rhee was released in a general amnesty and immediately went to the U.S. For six years he studied in American universities, got an M.A. from Harvard and a Ph.D. from Princeton. Back in Korea, while heading up a Korean Christian student movement, he began undercover agitation against the Japanese. When the conquerors got his number, he slipped off to Hawaii in 1912. He was to be an exile from his native land for 33 years.

Head Worth $300,000. In Seoul the revolutionaries set up an underground provisional government, named Rhee as first president in absentia. The Japanese began a bloody purge of the nationalists and put so much better than Rhee's that she often helps him out in difficult interviews. She also speaks what she calls “kitchen Korean.” In that language she needles the President's lagging sienographers and orders his luncheons, and keeps tab on Rhee's police organization. Korean generals and politicians pay her immense deference.

Never Underestimate... The event to which Madame Rhee influences Korean politics is a matter of fascination conjecture for all who have seen the Rhee's together. Some have even gone so far as to say that Madame Rhee is the power behind the presidency, but the truth seems to be that the couple act in concert; in her own right. Madame Rhee is a clever, strong, ever-watchful helpmate. At home and in politics it is "the Rhee's," a political relationship like that which once existed between Madame and Generalissimos Chiang Kai-shek.

Rhee's day begins at 6 with a Western-style breakfast of toast, coffee, ham & eggs, after which the President likes to walk his Chin-do dog through the garden. He then goes through the newspapers with his secretary and scans reports from his embassies and ministries. Last week he received a letter written in blood purporting to be Acting Premier Paik To Chin's confession that he was a Communist. Rhee spotted the letter as a fraud, and investigation disclosed that it had been written in chicken blood by the madame of a Seoul tea house at the instigation of one of Paik's enemies. No detail is too small for Rhee's personal attention.

After his correspondence, the President, as he says, "settles down to the day's work," which may include 30 to 35 interviews or an official tour. Time & again he has climbed in & out of planes and jeeps on tours of the freezing Korean battlefront, stood stiffly to attention during the playing of the Korean U.S. national anthem, the wind winnowing his thin white hair, his battered gray felt hat clutched to his breast. But on other occasions, particularly when he is tired, the aged President will droop. Whenever Ma- damed Rhee thinks that a visitor has overstayed, she will interrupt with such a remark as "Poppa, do you half coffee or tea this afternoon?" Hearing her voice, Rhee's thousand-wrinkled face will crease into a smile. In private the President calls Madame Rhee "Mamma," and in recent months he has needed all her solicitude.

Government, as Rhee practices it, is almost a one-man job. He has a few trusted cabinet ministers, such as Acting Premier Paik To Chin and Information Minister Clarence Rhee. Below them are a number of lesser ministers and government officials who cautiously conform to Rhee's wishes. Government favors can be obtained only through Rhee and this circle of his intimates. All foreign exchange allocations for more than $300, for example, must be personally approved by Rhee.

Imposed to ensure the strictest honesty in government operations, this control has its drawbacks: important decisions inevitably await the President's approval, and
when he is incapacitated they await his recovery. Said a Rhee official last week: ‘‘When the old man is sick, Korea is sick.”

**Sovereign Trust.** In pursuing this policy, Rhee may well be moved by real distrust of Korea’s manipulating politicians. But there is something more to his actions than counter-manipulation: his passionate belief that he governs by sovereign right, conferred on him by the Korean people. This belief he clearly demonstrated in his row with the National Assembly last year. According to Korea’s five-year-old constitution, the Assembly elects the President. Rhee’s term being about to expire, the Assembly wished to exercise its constitutional right. Since the majority were opposed to Rhee, this meant a new man in the job. Among the aspirants was ex-Premier John Myung Chang, a U.S.-educated (Fordham) intellectual.

Rhee insisted that the President should be chosen by vote of the people. The Assembly said no. Rhee declared martial law, had his cops arrest twelve Assemblymen, charged them with being Communist plotters, and sent a mob of his supporters to storm the Assembly chamber. Aspirant Chang took refuge in a U.S. Army hospital. Rhee threatened to pull out a couple of ROK divisions from the line to back up his police, hesitated only when his good friend, Eighth Army Commander Van Fleet, flew to Pusan and told the President that this would mean an open rupture with the U.N. forces. When the Voice of America commented on his action, Rhee cut it off the air and invoked a censorship of news and publications. To an official note of protest from the U.S., he retorted: “I know you don’t like me and I don’t care.” The truncated Assembly finally voted him an extension of his term, and in the August elections (which U.N. observers deemed fair) the people voted Rhee back into the presidency by an overwhelming majority; thus his claim to sovereignty was justified.

**Democracy’s Price.** In conversation Rhee defends his attitude by saying: “The Assembly can be bought by anyone—by anyone.” So far, the internal Communist threat in South Korea, except for guerrillas, has been confined to minor sabotage and espionage. But, with a huge Chinese Communist army still in North Korea, the threat is real. The greatest strength of Syngman Rhee is his single-minded devotion to his country and its independence. This leaves him with no illusions whatever about Communism. Says Rhee: “It is perfectly clear to me that Communism can be defeated only by war . . . What we must bring about is the one event that the Soviet system cannot survive—a setback, a defeat. It must be a defeat that cannot be concealed from the people of Russia and the satellite countries. If we ever manage that, the system will fall. The people of Russia and the satellites will rise and throw off Communism; of that I am convinced. But they will never do it unless the fears and weaknesses of the Communist regime are exposed, and this can only be done by a military defeat, not by a political defeat. Our only chance of escaping a third world war is to inflict such a defeat in one of the little wars, perhaps this war.”

When the peace talks began in Kaesong nearly two years ago, Rhee denounced them as another Communist trick, and added, blusteringly, that if the U.N. were to sign a truce, the South Korean army would advance to the Yalu itself. Rhee’s truculence is echoed by many Koreans, and for understandable reasons: without the power resources, the fertilizer factories and the iron mines of North Korea, the republic is doomed to economic mendicancy. When President Eisenhower visited Korea last December, Syngman Rhee insisted that the condition of any settlement must be unification of Korea.

**Oral Opposition.** Before the Communists’ invasion of South Korea in 1950, and again during the period when North

Chung Muk, 38, is foreign-educated (Japan and Germany) and possessor of a bitting intellectual intensity. Here he: “I read every work Harold Pinter wrote. I worshiped him for years. Then I realized I was wrong. Now I am back on more solid ground.” What had wrought the change? Paik downed the equivalent of half a jigger of Four Roses whiskey from a cracked porcelain cup, chased it with a handful of warm pine nuts, and went on: “Many of my former friends are now with the Communists in the north. I almost went with them. Now I know why they—and very nearly myself—were wrong. It is the same reason so many of you, the Americans, are wrong about us. You want, and we wanted, too much too quickly. Now I know and my friends know that our crime was impatience. Some people turn this around and call it a lack of trust. But it was not that. It was a grinding desire to achieve our hearts’ desires overnight.”

“**Enough to Start With.**” Paik brushed away a strand of black hair from his forehead. He said: “I have talked with more Americans in the last two years than I thought I would see in my lifetime. I know that your greatest crime, in terms of political expectations from us, is impatience. You want too much too quickly.

“Every time I meet a foreigner, the first question I am usually asked is something about freedom of speech, or freedom of the press. At first I used to try and explain that, compared with some of my friends who went north, the answer was definitely yes. Now, when I hear these questions, I would like to slap these people’s stupid faces. . . . Freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of this, freedom of that. Here in Korea, now, such questions are idiotic. Freedom, my friend, is a very relative thing. Now we have a little—more than the Communists, but still not much. But we have enough to start with. Meantime, don’t push us too hard, don’t ask too much too soon.” P翎 added: “You will be here for a long . . . You will see.”

**In the Long Run.** Forty years of Japanese occupation left Korea with few people trained in government. Thus, the Rhee administration rests upon 80,000 full-time, government-paid national police and some 120,000 volunteer provincial police who are paid by the towns and villages where they work, i.e., about one cop to every 100 population. In many parts of Korea, particularly in the country, police rule constitutes the government. Thus, Rhee is cautious about who controls the police organization, prefers to have two or three factions contending with one another. In the same way, he has never publicly nominated his successor. One of the severest criticisms of this proud old man is that he has let no one else around him gain power or prominence. In the election last August, Rhee named 52-year-old Lee Bum Suk to run as Vice President, but suddenly dropped this tough, whiskey-drinking ex-Chinese Nationalist general from his ticket, when Lee seemed to be developing a popularity of his own. Syngman Lee Bum Suk. Associated Press

Korean Reds occupied Seoul, South Korean intellectuals flocked north to the Communists like magpies to a ripe ricefield. For some the change was permanent: they are now entrenched with the Communist government in the north. But a few doubters elected to remain with Rhee’s government and see what Rhee would bring. During the past 18 months, those who remained have lost their doubts. In Pusan this week, in a coffee shop lighted by one feebly glowing electric light bulb, a reporter talked with a South Korean newspaperman who had planned originally to defect to the Communists, but who at the last minute had changed his mind. Critical of Rhee, protesting that the old man’s stubbornness has cost his nation dearly, he, nevertheless, is a staunch Rhee supporter on the straightforward ground that Rhee is the strongest political force in Korea today.

Stocky, sharp-faced Journalist Paik

TIME, MARCH 9, 1953
Rhee, in U.S., Restates Goal: Ouster of Reds From North

South Korean Leader Hails American Aid on Arrival in Capital, but Regrets That 'Cold Feet' Halted March to Yalu

By JOSEPH A. LOFTUS

WASHINGTON, July 26 — President Syngman Rhee of South Korea arrived today for a state visit and immediately restated his ultimate goal—the expulsion of Communists from North Korea and the unification of his homeland.

While warmly praising his United States friends for their courage and help, he mourned nevertheless that a little cold feet and not enough courage halted a march to the Yalu River.

He seemed to be touched by the welcome. He last visited Washington in 1947, but he saw President Eisenhower at a battle-line conference in the fall of 1952.

He spoke of Washington as his "second home town." He spent many years here as an exile. He was graduated from George Washington University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1907.

That institution will confer a Doctor of Laws degree on him Friday.

Official talks on Korea's problems will start tomorrow in President Eisenhower's office and will be continued at the State Department.

President Rhee was greeted at the airport by a delegation of civil and military officials headed by Vice President Richard M. Nixon. The wives of most of these officials were present in missions.

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