

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

To: Ted Van Dyk

From: Ofield

Thought you would want  
to have the attached.

Public Affairs Office

EAPA-PI

5 July 1967

Mr. Olfield Dukes  
Office of the Vice President  
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Mr. Dukes:

Attached is a copy of the transcript of the Vice President's remarks at AFKN on 3 July 1967.

I regret we were not able to have them transcribed and reproduced prior to your departure.

The Vice President's appearance at AFKN was highly successful from our point of view and a real morale booster.

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CHESTER E. GARDNER  
Major, USAF  
Chief, Public Information Division

Armed Forces Korean Network

(A F K N)

Q - Mr Vice President, since your last visit to Korea what progress of changes do you note in the Republic?

A - Well one of the most difficult assignment that a visitor has on a brief visit, is to get a truly accurate picture of the country or an area. I have noted with considerable interest and pleasure the great amount of construction that is going on in the area of Seoul, Korea. Of course, I have studied with our people of the Embassy some of the production figures, the revenue figures, the gross natural product figures of the Republic of Korea. I think it's fair to say that there has been nothing short of amazing economic progress in this country. We put it this way back home, that Korea is on the point of economic take off; in fact it's in flight. It isn't just running down the runway, it's airborne so to speak, and is moving ahead rapidly with a gross national products increase between 12 and 13 per cent last year with very substantial increase in government revenue which permits the government of the Republic of Korea to do a much better job in terms of its public services with an improvement in the quality as well as the quantity of the educational opportunity and I am particularly pleased to see the type of planning that is going on in Korea in the economic field, a sensible balance between improvement and agriculture, which is fundamental to any economic development along with emphasis upon industrialization, the type of industrialization that meets the needs of the people here and the world markets that

their export trade would hope to serve. Finally, I would add that coming from the states the last few days, I've talked to number of businessmen at home as well as American businessmen here as well as Korean business people. There is an increase in the rate of foreign investment and particularly American investment. Two new plants are scheduled to come to Korea shortly - Motorola, in the field of electronics and radio, then I believe another one is RCA as well. Of course, there are other investment that one should mention, so when you add it all up, Mr Riley, I would say that Korea is doing very well. It's doing well in terms of its defense,. It's making a great commitment in Vietnam for which we are all grateful. It understands its role in the modern world, and is playing a vital part in the development of a free Asia; and on the economic front it's one of the most encouraging areas of the free world.

Q - Yes sir, we note more and more regional cooperation between the free countries in Asia, what exactly is the US policy towards such regional ventures?

A - Well, Mr Wells, this is the subject that I have discussed at some length with President Park and with the Prime Minister Sato of Japan and Vice President Yen of the Republic of China and other dignitaries and leaders that have been attending the inaugural ceremonies here of President Park. I might add that while it was a rare privilege to be the representative of President Johnson and the American people at the inaugural ceremonies for President Park as the 6th President of the Republic that I was given an extra dividend by having the time to talk with and to work with many of



our friends and allies in this part of the world. Much of that talk at least in the details of it, went towards economic development regional cooperation. You asked what is the policy of our government towards it. Our policy is to actively encouraged Asian cooperation, Asian initiatives, Asian enterprise, and to do so on the basis of regional cooperation and regional development. The reason is quite obvious, that when these nations are able to work together and to pool their resources on some of the projects and to consult between themselves and amongst themselves, they maximize their resources and they maximize the opportunities of their development. We are particularly pleased with the initiative taken by President Park and the government of Korea about a little over a year ago, was while I recollect now, for what is known as the ASPAC, Asian Pacific Council or Conference. That meeting has been followed by some eight or nine subcommittee meetings and as of today, there is another conference. The second conference of the Asian Pacific countries in Bangkok, Thailand. This is what we mean by regional cooperation where basic social economic and political issues are discussed in candor, openness in the hopes to arrive at the least better understanding if not common policy. And, there are other economic developments or regional development of importance. The Southeast Asian educational conference that took place here a little over a year ago in Thailand, the Japanese economic conference, that was held in Tokyo, the development of Asian bank which has its home offices in Manila. I think we're well on the road to a vast area of cooperative activity in free Asia particularly in Southeast Asia. The Mekong River development, a river that's gone untouched in terms of development for literary centuries. That river is now

being looked upon as a great resource for power, for flood control, for navigation, for irrigation and even in the midst of the war in Vietnam, projects are under way. I've visited some of these projects a little over a year ago when I was in Laos. So this is one of the hopeful signs of the future - regional cooperation and our friends here in Asia understands this and they are proceeding on their own with American friendship, with American partnership, but not American domination.

Q - Mr Vice President, during your stay here in the Republic you spoke with a number of the other leaders from other countries who attended the inauguration about the Johnson - Kosygin meeting. Could you tell us what the principle benefit, if any, was in those meetings?

A - Well, Mr Riley, the men who were here with whom I have the privileged of a visit are people who are deeply interested in the world about them, or to put it in another way, a leader of a country today knows that his country cannot live alone. They know whatever happens in other part of the world affects their well being and maybe their safety and their very lives. Surely, every single leader is concern about the relationship between the United States and the Soviet Union. So, I took the liberty, at the instructions of President Johnson, of giving a review of the Johnson - Kosygin meetings to the gentlemen that I had mentioned - President Park, Prime Minister Sato, Vice President of the Republic of China and in brief to General Chu from the Republic of Vietnam. The men were very interested. I think there is always a feeling and a concern amongst all people that the United States and the Soviet Union might come to agreements without consultation with others. We want to dispel that. We're not going to do that. We are

a consultative, cooperative ally and friend and we're not going to be taking unilateral actions. You asked what was the principle benefit. Well, I couldn't tell you. I cannot say that there were any agreement arrived at except the agreement to continue to talk. The principle benefit as I see it was first of all that the world would have been very dismayed and unhappy had these two leaders not been able to get together during the visit of Mr Kosygin to the United States. I think people expected that the leaders of the two great powers would find a way to sit down and to talk about conditions in this world and talk about their mutual problems and their differences. That's number one, secondly, people must, and I do believe feel a little more secure and comfortable when they know that the strong leaders of these two great powers have had a chance to as we put it "size each other up a little", to look the other fellow in the eye and to get a feeling or to get some judgment as to the qualities of the respective individuals. How did they react? What are they like? In other words, the principle benefit was the President Johnson and Chairman Kosygin got to know each other. To know how they act and react, to hear first-hand the policies about the policies of the respective governments and the differences. I can say to you Gentlemen, that these meetings were held in a friendly atmosphere. Both the president and Chairman Kosygin were respectful of each other. There was no pounding of the table, no emotional outbursts, The meetings were cordial, and having said that, may I say that no imposition of our

governments were reiterated. I don't believe that you could say there was any basic changes arrived at the results of the discussions with possibly with one exception that should be encouraging. Namely that on the nuclear nonproliferation treaty, the efforts being made to prevent the spread of nuclear weaponry to other nations, that Mr Kosygin and President Johnson agreed to have their respective foreign secretaries. Secretary Rusk and Foreign Minister Gromyko to follow thru and see if we couldn't come to some understanding. I can report to you quite happily that both Mr Rusk and Mr Gromyko have made some substantial progress and there will be a tabling or the presenting of a draft treaty to the disarmament conference at Geneva representing the joint efforts of the United States and the Soviet Union and other countries. That treaty will take a great deal of time to refine, to work out the details but that was on the plush side of that conference. Other than that, it was primarily hopefully improving the political environment, the international political environment.

Q - Vice President, Can you explain some of the disorder in American cities and the domestic US problems that we're reading about here.

A - We don't have enough time. Yes, I would like to say something about what you read about and hear about. There's a great change taking place all over the world, here in Korea, everyplace that you look. People are moving in from the countryside, into the cities. Urbanization is the fact of life whether you go to Peru or the Soviet Union. Whether you're in Korea or in Communist China. Urbanization is a fact when people



are pouring into the cities and they're pouring into them in the United States. Our population is essentially urban now. Around 70 per cent of the total population in the United States today lives in urban centers and is rapidly increasing. Therefore, there are a host of problems, problems of traffic, problems of communications, of housing, problems of adequacy of school facilities, as well as numbers and qualities of schoolteachers, recreation facilities, problems of relocation, of taking a family that comes from a very simple rural environment and maybe a family with very little education, little or no income and surely no industrial training. Suddenly he is uprooted. For one reason or another, he comes to the great city where there are no new friends or old friends. They've lost their family, their contacts. They wander around frequently lost. So we're having to design a program that will meet the needs of these people. On top of all of this, is the obsolescence of our cities, the slums, cities that have more population pressure than they have facilities, cities that haven't been kept up to date, in terms of the needs of the people. So we have the job of literally rebuilding the physical plant of many cities and making the cities a buyable economic and social union. In another words, so you can have jobs where you live, where you don't have to get on busses and travel halfway across the state to get a job. Where you can have schools and hospitals where you live, so that you feel that there's a neighborhood and not just a bedroom or someplace to put your body. All of this is going to take time and we're busily engaged in doing something about it. Finally, I say the race relation problem is critical. United States is going through a great

social revolution. There was a time in which we had a segregated society and it was established segregated society in many areas. The time in which the negro American was not given the opportunity frankly to do his best and to be a full participant. He was told to get to the back of the bus. That day is all over. It's over by law, and it's over in the minds of the American negro. He's not going to take it any longer. To put it another way, you can't ask men to fight together, to live together in the battlefield, to be together in Korea and Vietnam and when they go back home, to tell them to separate and to live some other way. They're not going to do it. And we're going through a period of social turmoil, but we're going to come out of it. It's sort of like going through a weather system, gentlemen. When you run into a one pattern of weather and another pattern comes head on and if you, as airmen, you know occasionally that you get a little turbulence out of that. You hope that you've got a good plane and a good pilot. We think we've got a good pilot in our government, our president. We think we have a good plane, namely the American social political system and we think we're going to weather the storm, but we're going to go through a period of thunderstorms, of turbulence and lightning and that which is the noise and the shouting that you hear and one of these days, we're going to come out in the blue sky and clear weather. And, we're going to be a happier country and better people. And, that's what's going on in American cities. Lots more, the war on poverty, training the unemployed

that have never had a job in their lives, hard-core unemployed, getting at the problem of teenage unemployment, making people feel or permitting people to feel that they're a part of the American social, political structure, not removed from it, not apart from it, but a part of it. That's what we're trying to do.

Q - Sir, yesterday at the 19th General Support Group mess hall, you said that our foreign policy is nothing more than an extension of our domestic policy. Could you expand on that?

A - Yes, I think that's the simplest way in pointing out what we're trying to do in the world. I mentioned that, what we're seeking to do is to improve the lot of the well being of humanity at home and abroad. We're seeking to get better life for own people at home. We're seeking to provide political freedom for everyone at home along with responsibility and we're seeking within the terms of our culture and history to have the pursuit of happiness. In other words, to live in freedom, and live in security at home and to live in opportunity. This is what we're trying to do abroad in a simple way. We have a military alliances. Why? For security purposes. We have economic assistance in our foreign policy. Why? For the purpose of improving the quality of life, the abundance of the material blessing of life, to improve the economy of the countries that we work with. We have programs of education, of health, and cultural exchange. Why? To improve, well, to provide for the enrichment of life. Now we have this at home and abroad. So you add it all up, and what it comes to is, we're seeking to improve the political environment, the social environment and of course to provide a degree of security in which a political and

economic development can take place.

Q - Sir, What do you regard is the principle benefit of your mission here in South Korea?

A - I would think that the principle benefit insofar as America is concerned is the opportunity that has been afforded me to meet with the leaders of the countries that I have mentioned as well as some others. Also, to once again reassure our friends in Korea of our firm determination to stand with them. They can be sure of our partnership economically and militarily. That our alliance is a strong alliance, that we are committed to their freedom and their independence and their security. And, I want that message to be very clear to the people of this great country. To give it words of encouragement to the business and the labor and the labor of people and the people of education and in politics about the prospects and future of Korea. Everyone that's trying to make something of themselves, whether it's a person or a nation, needs to hear once in awhile what other people think of you. And if you have the word of hope and commendation of praise that's earned, it ought to be expressed. So, I would say the principle benefit of this mission is getting to know our friends a little better, for them to get to know us and what we're trying to do, to give a word of reassurance, to reaffirm once again our alliance and our loyalty to the support of the people of Korea, and to speak in a very genuine and sincere manner to the peoples of Asia, of the American desire to be a working cooperating partner. I've said a couple of times that, I think that this is really a new era in American political life.



We are Asia oriented in a very real sense. We are Pacific power not just an Atlantic. This does not mean that we are any less interested in Europe. To the contrary, we have vital interest in Europe. And, Europe is doing great things, free Europe. But we are equally interested in what is going on Asia, and I happen to think that a continent that provides a home for half of the human race is a great of importance to the people of the United States. And we ought to know the people here, and we ought to know what they're doing, what their hopes are, their aspirations, we ought to be better acquainted, and regretablely many of the men in public life in America are not well informed about Asia through no fault of their own. So, I come here to learn and I go away knowing that this is a vital energetic, lively part of the world filled with hope and promise. You can't help but feel this way, when you see the young people and when you know that over 50 per cent of the population of this fine country is under 19 years of age. Everyplace that you go there are young people and they are fine looking young people. There's a sense of pride, family, a person and nation here. I think that's pretty wonderful.



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