

UNITED NATIONS
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COUNCIL



GENERAL

S/1627
25 July 1950

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NOTE DATED 25 JULY 1950 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF AN
EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN PRESIDENT SYNGMAN RHEE OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND
GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR

The Representative of the United States to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to request that there be brought to the attention of the Security Council the following exchange of letters between President Syngman Rhee of the Republic of Korea and General Douglas MacArthur:

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT RHEE TO GENERAL MACARTHUR

15 July 1950

In view of the joint military effort of the United Nations on behalf of the Republic of Korea, in which all military forces, land, sea, and air, of all the United Nations fighting in or near Korea have been placed under your operational command, and in which you have been designated Supreme Commander of United Nations Forces, I am happy to assign to you command authority over all land, sea, and air forces of the Republic of Korea during the period of the continuation of the present state of hostilities; such command to be exercised either by you personally or by such military commandor or commanders to whom you may delegate the exercise of this authority within Korea or in adjacent seas.

The Korean army will be proud to serve under your command, and the Korean people and Government will be equally proud and encouraged to have the over-all direction of our combined combat effort in the hands of so famous and distinguished a soldier, who also in his person possesses the delegated military authority of all the United Nations who have joined together to resist the infamous Communist assault on the independence and integrity of our beloved land.

With continued highest and warmest feelings of personal regard,

(Signed) Syngman RHEE

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REPLY OF GENERAL MACARTHUR TO PRESIDENT RHEE

18 July 1950

Please express to President Rhee my thanks and deepest appreciation for the action taken in his letter of 15 July. It cannot fail to increase the coordinated power of the United Nations forces operating in Korea. I am proud indeed to have the gallant Republic of Korea forces under my command. Tell him I am grateful for his generous references to me personally and how sincerely I reciprocate his sentiments of regard. Tell him also not to lose heart, that the way may be long and hard, but the ultimate result cannot fail to be victory.

(Signed) MACARTHUR