



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

1 April 1986

eDP.

BT  
Shawley

Dear Mark,

Visit of President Chun Doo Hwan of the Republic of Korea

Charles Powell asked us to cast an eye over his redraft of the Prime Minister's speech for her dinner in honour of President Chun on Tuesday 8 April. He wanted to know if we had any comments.

There is one to which we attach considerable importance: we are sure that the passage in the present draft on democratic values would be taken amiss by the Koreans. We suggest therefore that you delete the passage immediately after "true today" on page 4 down to "democratic values". Instead you could add, after the sentence about the Rangoon bomb: "We know that, since your election as President, you have, in the face of such difficulties, made great efforts to move towards a fully functioning democratic system. We wish you well in this for the future."

On smaller points, it may be helpful to know that the vowel in President Chun's name is pronounced as in "foot". On page 6 the customs organiser was Mr McLeavy Brown. He was an Ulsterman. On page 3, "yours came first" overlooks the defeat of the Armada in 1588 - though that may not matter.

It might be worth replacing the examples in the paragraph about British visitors and the naval base in Korea on page 5 with more specific references to other Britons whose names are rather more familiar to the Koreans. The details are set out in the chapter on Korean/British relations in the Research Department memorandum that we sent you (pp 27-30). You might, for example, prefer to mention Mr W Pritchard Morgan, one of the Welsh mining experts who helped the Koreans mine gold and who was also at one time their Consul General in London. Ernest Bethell, the founder of the Korean Daily News, is also well known. So too are Bishops Corfe and Trollope - there is no problem about mentioning the Protestant church in a Korean context. Or again you could perhaps mention Lord Curzon.

/Finally,





/ Finally, you may like to have the enclosed biographical notes on the President and Mrs Chun, which the Koreans have supplied.

*Yours Sincerely,  
Colin Budd*

(C. R. Budd)  
Private Secretary

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