



## The Party for Peace & Democracy

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August 10, 1989

Mr. George Lister  
- Bureau of Human Rights  
Department of State  
Washington, DC 20520

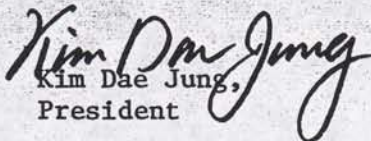
Dear Mr. Lister:

Many things have happened since I returned home in February, 1985 from the United States where I lived for more than two years in forced exile. The most gratifying event was the triumphant struggle of June, 1987 in which the will of our people finally overcame the military dictatorship.

Since then, we have made some progress toward democratization, but still have a long way to go. As a matter of fact, we are now under increasingly oppressive rule. We have at present some 900 political prisoners -- almost the same number as during the harsh Chun Doo Hwan regime! Our party is trying hard to liquidate the evils of the Fifth Republic (the Chun Doo Hwan regime) and make democratic reforms, but the Roh Tae Woo government is refusing to cooperate. For your reference, I am enclosing a copy of my statement at a recent press conference in which I explained the present situation and our party's policies in dealing with it.

In the past, your moral support has personally given me strength and inspiration during the dark periods of my ordeal in prison, exile, under death sentence and house arrest, and I am deeply grateful for it. Your support for the cause of democracy and human rights has helped our people sustain their struggle against tyranny. They once again need your encouragement and moral support as they face another challenge. With your continuing support, we will make our nation a shining example of a "true success story" in which political freedom, economic justice and peaceful reunification of our divided nation will all be realized.

Sincerely yours,

  
Kim Dae Jung,  
President

enclosure