

A SPEECH

BY

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ON THE OCCASION OF THE
VISIT OF HIS EXCELLENCY
DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER,
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA, TO
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Your Excellency, Distinguished Guests, and Fellow Members of the National Assembly:

It is a great privilege and honor to greet Your Excellency, the greatest leader and symbol of peace in the world. On behalf of all Koreans I bid you a very warm welcome on this most auspicious and unforgettable occasion.

We remember that you visited this land of ours in the winter of 1952 immediately after being elected President of the United States, in order to restore freedom and peace in this part of the world, and ever since as President of the United States, you have continuously exerted your influence for the realization of a peaceful, democratic and unified Korea.

It will be forever remembered by all Koreans that, when we arose in the struggle against an authoritarian and corrupted regime last April, you and your government extended towards us warm friendship and inestimably valuable advice, without which democracy in this land might not have survived and the sacred blood shed by the young men of our two nations during the Korean war might have been in vain.

However, with the guidance of Almighty God and with your substantial help, freedom in this land has been revived and democratic reforms in fields political, economic, and social are marching steadily forward.

We know you are still determined to exert your every effort towards ending the tragic division of our peninsula. Our people are crying out "We can not survive half slave and half free."

We sincerely pray to God for your continuous good health and godspeed on your return home.

Thank you