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DOCUMENT

Report of the Hungarian Embassy in Pyongyang to the foreign minister 30 July 1971

002118/8/1971

Korean university in Japan

Comrade Sándor Demeter Institute for Cultural Relations Budapest, V. Dorottya u. 8.

Sándor Etre

Dear Comrade Demeter:

For your information, I am sending you a copy of the report prepared by our embassy in Tokyo on the topic mentioned above.

Budapest, July 30, 1971.

With comradely regards,

/István Kádas/ Head of department

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Embassy of the Hungarian People's Republic

SRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL Tokyo, June 14, 1971

Subject: Korean University in JapanMade in:5 copies4 copies Center1 copy Embassy

Reporter: Ernő Fóti Typed by: Mrs. F

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Budapest

At the ceremonies held on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the foundation of the Korean University our embassy was represented by Comrade Fóti. On the basis of conversations with the leaders of the University and the Alliance we report the following:

Koreans living in Japan established their own university in 1956 in a suburb of Tokyo under the name Korean University (KU). At present the University has 1,300 students, who study at six different faculties. The faculties of KU are as follows: Faculty of Korean Language and Literature, Faculty of Economics, Faculty of History, Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Faculty of Engineering. The language of teaching is Korean; every member of the teaching staff of 150 is Korean. Occasionally only some Japanese scholars are invited to teach some courses.

One of the openly declared goals of the University is to train cadres for the Alliance of Koreans Living in Japan and teachers for their schools in Japan.

KU is funded mostly by donations collected from Koreans living here and state support from home. All the students of the University live on campus in dormitories; some of them receive a scholarship too.

Syllabi and teaching materials are compiled in collaboration with educational authorities of DPRK. Textbooks come from DPRK. Most of the students come to the University from Japanese high schools /almost all of their schools here are at the primary level/. Their knowledge of the Korean language is rather imperfect: their pronunciation is poor, they often mix Japanese words in their speech, so the University places special importance on mother tongue education.

The faculty and students of the University adopted the political attitude of the Alliance and form one of its main forces. Naturally, this sets them against the Japanese authorities in a political sense, but at the same time they enjoy quite a lot of sympathy and support of progressive circles and large Japanese universities. For example, on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the foundation of the University a complimentary message was sent by Governor Minobe from Tokyo and Governor Kuroda from Osaka, and several large Japanese universities, like the University of Tokyo and many members of the Parliament attended the ceremonies.

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Repatriation is mainly characteristic of students graduating in the natural sciences and engineering, but even these graduates do not go home immediately after graduation but only after completing their doctoral or post-doctoral studies. This way, many highly qualified cadres can be ensured for DPRK.

The students of the University maintain regular contact with progressive Japanese student organizations; furthermore, they also find ways to meet – in secret – with students visiting Japan from South Korea. Thus, the University fights for the unification of Korea not only in words.

/Károly Szigeti/ Ambassador

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