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大韓獨立血戰記
대한 독립 혈전기
The Epic Battle for Korean Independence

by

金永佑; 김영우
Kim Young Wo
(1919)

Please note that many of the individuals associated with the early days of Korean Independence featured in this book came up with their own unique Anglicized spellings of their names. For such individuals, we have preserved their preferences; for others, we have used the Revised Romanization System adopted by South Korea in 2000. Place names in North Korea are per their variant of the McCune-Reischauer system.

이 책에 실린 한국 독립 초기의 많은 사람들이 본인의 이름에 고유한 영국식 철자법을 사용하였으며 우리는 그들의 선호를 존중하여 이를 그대로 채택하였고, 그 밖의성명은 2000 년에 한국에서 채택된 개정 로마자 표기법을 사용하였습니다. 북한의 지명은 매켄-라이샤워 표기법에 따라 표기하였습니다.

*Numbers at the bottom right-hand side are specific to this translation and do **not** correspond to the organization of materials by Kim Young Wo. Pagination for his book is noted in each section main page. See links to Sections One through Nine.*

본 저서의 페이지 번호(오른쪽 하단)는 원저자인 김영우의 자료 구성과 일치하지 않습니다. 원서의 쪽번호는 각 단원별로 명시되어 있으며, 단원 1-9 의 도입부를 참조하십시오.

INTRODUCTION

This website represents the first English version of Kim Young Wo’s book that was published on August 15, 1919. We developed these information-rich annotated transcriptions and selected original translations at the request of the Estate of the late Kim Young Wo, who operated Variety Shop (later the Variety Shoe Store) on Haili Street in Hilo from the 1940s through the 1960s. The Estate wishes to make this important book available to the local community to mark the major contributions to the Korean Nation by her countrymen who found a home on the Big Island. It is an honor for Ka Noio ‘A‘e ‘Ale Press and the UH Hilo English Department to host this book for the public.

- [Biography of the Author, Kim Young Wo](#)
- [About the Project Participants](#)
- [Go directly to the Table of Contents & the Ten Sections](#)
- [Download images of the Original Book](#)

大韓獨立血戰記 was published in Hawai‘i while Kim Young Wo was working as the secretary and chief financial officer for the fledgling Korean National Association in Honolulu.¹ The book was undertaken with probable guidance by Syngman Rhee and the Korean Commission, which was established in Washington, D.C. following the March 1, 1919 Declaration of Independence from Japan. The documents Kim utilized came from a variety of sources: newspapers, news wire services, U.S. government publications, and directly from several different provisional governments which were established at various loci. According to the National Museum of Korean Contemporary History, provisional governments sprang up between March and April of 1919—the Korean National Council;

¹ Do-Hyung Kim and Yǒng-ho Ch’oe, “The March First Movement of 1919 and Koreans in Hawai‘i,” *From the Land of Hibiscus: Koreans in Hawai‘i*, ed. Yǒng-ho Ch’oe (Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press, 2007), 125.

the Shanghai Provisional Government; and the Korean National Assembly in Primorsky Krai, Siberia to name a just a few.² As president of several different organizations calling themselves “the” legitimate de facto government of Korea, Rhee is said to have recognized the dangers of not having a unified voice in communications with sympathetic countries to win support of an independent peninsula. Rhee’s attempts to create a unified diplomatic front was partially achieved in reaching out to and informing overseas Koreans on what was happening. Kim Young Wo’s book anticipates the consolidation of most groups under the Unified Provisional Government of the Republic of Korea in November of 1919.

Rather than trying to translate what was originally written or published in English, we have fully reproduced those original texts and have added introductions and footnotes to help connect these varied materials with each other and with the key people and events of 1919. What we have translated from Korean are Kim Young Wo’s prologue, lists of protests and participant numbers, the manifesto issued by the Koreans fighting for independence in the Eastern Provinces of Russia, wire service and newspaper headline summaries, and two key first-hand accounts by women of that period.

Kim Young Wo also utilized a handful of photographs, including those from a pamphlet issued by the Korean Red Cross in the summer of 1919.³ We have added additional archival images with explanatory notations and links to webpages that house related photographs. Wherever possible, we have added notations for place names, some of which were incorrect in the original English versions; we have also added geographical notes for places that have changed over time. We provide links to external resources to aid further study, although some resources are only found in Korean or other foreign languages.

- [Link to Original Primary Resources \(English\)](#)



Left, photo of a float used in a Korean Independence parade in Hilo, July 4, 1920. From the [Henry Chung Collection](#), courtesy of the Korean American Digital Archive, USC Digital Library.

² “Liberation of Korea: Independence Movement and International Relations,” National Museum of Korean Contemporary Culture (website), accessed March 1, 2021, https://www.much.go.kr/en/contents.do?fid=03&cid=03_1.

³ *Red Cross Pamphlet on the March 1st Movement* (n.p., 1919), Korean American Digital Archive, USC Digital Library, accessed March 1, 2021, <http://digitallibrary.usc.edu/cdm/ref/collection/p15799coll126/id/5245>.

For our local readers, it may be interesting to note that some of the individuals associated with these documents have direct links to Hawai‘i: Syngman Rhee (李承晩; 이승만), [Hyun Soon](#) (玄楯; 현순), [Lee Kang](#) (李剛; 이강), Nodie Dora Kim (김혜숙), [Henry Chung](#) (鄭翰景; 정한경), Min Chan Ho (閔贊鎬; 민찬호),⁴ [Noh Baek Rin](#) (盧伯麟; 노백린), [Ahn Hyun Kyung](#) (安顯景; 안현경), and [Park Yong Man](#) (朴容萬; 박용만), the latter also known as Young M. Park.⁵ In fact, Park is credited with establishing a military training center for Koreans at Ahumanu Plantation on O‘ahu just before the March 1st Declaration.⁶ What may be more surprising is that Syngman Rhee and a group called the Dongjihoe were directly involved in developing the “Comrade Village” here on Hawai‘i Island at Mountain View—a 500-acre plantation that housed a collection of businesses that were intended to fund independence activities back in the Peninsula.⁷

- [About the Organizations Devoted to Korean Independence](#)

We have tried, as best without bias, to preserve the original feel of this collection. We hope that regardless of the reader’s persuasion, this book can be acknowledged for its incredible efforts at having produced in so little time a comprehensive Korean translation of key events and documents for a far-flung contingency of expatriates. We also hope that this book, while providing an early glimpse of the emerging fractures among these individuals, can also be appreciated for communicating their common dedication to Korean independence.



Left, photo of Korean Independence Parade in Hilo, July 4, 1920. From the [Henry Chung Collection](#), courtesy of the Korean American Digital Archive, USC Digital Library.

⁴ Duk Hee Lee Murabayashi notes Rev. Hyun Soon’s assignment on Kaua‘i. She also lists the Reverend Min Chan Ho, who was stationed in Honolulu starting in 1906, and later served as editor of the *Korean Christian Advocate*. Murabayashi, “Korean Ministerial Appointments to Hawaii Methodist Churches” (Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Center for Korean Studies, 2001), 11-17, accessed March 12, 2021, <https://scholarspace.manoa.hawaii.edu/bitstream/10125/25503/1/Korean%20Ministerial%20Appointments%20to%20Hawaii%20Methodist%20Churches.pdf>. A group photo that includes Min Chan Ho can be found on page 6.

⁵ Park Yong Man appears to have used the moniker “Young M. Park” in the publication *True Facts of the Korean Uprising and the Text of Independence, etc.* (Honolulu: Korean National Independence League, 1919), 39.

⁶ Bong Youn Choy, *Koreans in America* (Chicago: Nelson-Hall, 1979), 86.

⁷ For more information on the “Dongjicheon” venture, see Lew’s *The Making of the First Korean President* (Honolulu: Hawai‘i University Press, 2014), 162-177.