

On Friday, March 8 at 4, David Cole, ex-Harvard and HIID, will give a talk, "Korea Transformed: 1952-2012." He will tell the fascinating story of how S. Korea went from being a 'hopeless' developing country to an industrial economy, effectively moving from the 19th to the 21st century in 60 years. His talk will feature a number of photos from Korea over the years and will include a discussion of what worked and what did not for this Asian Miracle Country.

David Cole's Bio:

David Cole's first engagement with the Far East involved working on a tractor project in North China in 1946-47 for the United Nations. He next was sent to Korea with the US Army, 1951-52, where he was assigned to the United Nations Civil Assistance Command, Korea, and traveled widely throughout the country analyzing industrial conditions. He returned to Korea, 1964-66, as Senior Economist with the US Aid Mission, and worked closely with Korean economic officials on formulation of economic policy and preparation of the Second Five Year Plan. In the 1970s he assisted Dr. Kim Mahn-Je with the establishment of the Korean Development Institute.

He received an AB degree in Far Eastern Studies at Cornell University, 1950, and a Ph.D in Economics at University of Michigan in 1959. He taught at Vanderbilt University, 1958-62, and was affiliated with the Harvard Institute for International Development (HIID) and the Economics Department at Harvard from 1966 to 1994. He was an advisor to the Indonesian Government on economic and financial policies throughout his time with HIID and was a consultant to many Asian and African countries. He taught courses on Modernization of Korea and Financial Policy for Developing Countries at Harvard. His publications include three books on Korean development, one on Indonesia's financial system, and one on a rural development project in Sudan. His most notable book on Korea, "Korean Development: The Interplay of Politics and Economics" written with Princeton Lyman was published by the Harvard University Press in 1971.