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November 28, 1969

Letter, UNCURK Principal Secretary Kuzbari to UN Chef de Cabinet Narasimhan, Concerning ROK Political Developments

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Summary:

Principal Secretary of the UNCURK Zouheir Kuzbari updates Chef de Cabinet of the UN C.V. Narasimhan on the NDP boycotting National Assembly sessions, Park Chung Hee's economic plan for the 1970s, and Park's commitment to the United States' Asian Policy.

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English

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3 December 1969

My dear Kuzbari,

I acknowledge receipt of your confidential letter of 28 November reporting on recent political developments in the ROK. I have taken note of the contents.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

C. V. Narasimhan
Chef de Cabinet

Mr. Zouheir Kuzbari
Principal Secretary
UNCURK
Seoul, Korea

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UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES CVN/nt

UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA (UNCURK)

CONFIDENTIAL Seoul, 28 November 1969

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My dear Kuzbari,

I acknowledge receipt of your confidential letter of 28 November reporting on recent political developments in the ROK. I have taken note of the contents.

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C. V. Narasimhan
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UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA
(UNCURK)

CONFIDENTIAL

Seoul, 28 November 1969

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

A paralyzed National Assembly has been called into session last week despite the continued boycott of its proceedings by the opposition New Democratic Party. Relying on the numerical majority in the National Assembly, members of the ruling Democratic Republican Party called the legislature into session on 21 November in order to discuss and dispose of important laws before the end of the year. On 22 November, a resolution, permitting National Assemblymen to be appointed concurrently to cabinet posts and also empowering the Assembly's speaker to make committee appointments if the opposition party fails to co-operate, was passed and signed into Law by President Chung Hee Park. Meanwhile, the opposition New Democratic Party has made it clear that it will continue to boycott the session of the National Assembly.

On the other hand, the ROK President, in his message to the National Assembly on 25 November, described the 1970s a decade for growth and predicted that the per capita income in the ROK will reach $400 in 1976, the last year of the third Five-Year Economic Plan. He also stated that the export volume will reach $1 billion next year and $3.6 billion in 1976 and that the ROK will attain self-sufficiency in food production by the end of next year.

Touching on various aspects of his country's foreign policy, President Park appeared to have accepted the new United States' Asian policy, which is based on military disengagement in Asia, and to espouse the view that Asian countries should shoulder larger defence responsibilities. At the same time he has again reaffirmed his Government's support for the continued United Nations presence in Korea and, particularly, for the work of UNCURK.

As to the security situation in the ROK, there have practically been no significant incidents along the DMZ since the middle of the last month of October. The U.N. Command seems to be of the view that the present "interlude" may not last long and that the U.S. sector in the DMZ could become the target of further harassment by the north Korean side.

With warm personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

Zouheir Kuzbari

Zouheir Kuzbari
Principal Secretary

Mr. C.V. Narasimhan
Chef de Cabinet
United Nations
New York