

September 11, 1970

**Letter, UNCURK Principal Secretary Kuzbari to UN
Chef de Cabinet Narasimhan, Concerning ROK
National Assembly Debates**

Citation:

"Letter, UNCURK Principal Secretary Kuzbari to UN Chef de Cabinet Narasimhan, Concerning ROK National Assembly Debates", September 11, 1970, Wilson Center Digital Archive, "International incidents and disputes - Korea - correspondence (603.1)," Executive Office of the Secretary-General, S-0196-0003-01, United Nations Archives and Records Management Section (UN ARMS), New York, NY. Obtained for NKIDP by Charles Kraus. <https://digitalarchive.wilsoncenter.org/document/117368>

Summary:

Principal Secretary of the UNCURK Zouheir Kuzbari updates Chef de Cabinet of the UN C.V. Narasimhan on the ROK National Assembly debates. The debates focused on ROK national security, unification, and US relations.

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

cc: Mr. Narasimhan ✓
Mr. Kutakov
Mr. Muller

UNITED NATIONS



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COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA

RM/fp

CONFIDENTIAL

Seoul, 11 September 1970

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

22 September 1970

Attention this week has been focussed on the interpellations of the Cabinet members in the National Assembly where problems of national security, unification and relations with the United States have been widely commented on. Although the statements made by the Government's spokesmen on the above issues

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 11 September 1970 concerning the recent debates in the National Assembly.

I send a copy to the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Security Council Affairs. of unification, Prime Minister Chang Il Kwon reiterated the position stated earlier by President Park Chung Hee in his speech of 15 August 1970 calling for unification of both North and South Korea in accordance with the principles of the United Nations. Some members of the National Assembly have pressed on the Government to submit a detailed and precise plan which should contain concrete suggestions regarding cultural exchange with North Korea, but the Prime Minister has said this down and stated that no plan could be made until the Government first accept President Park's formula for unification. There were also considerable debates regarding the existing anti-communist laws. Some members of the National Assembly have asked that these laws should be amended in order to allow a free debate in the country regarding the question of unification, but again the Prime Minister stated that this would not take place until the Government changes its policy towards North Korea. Two UNCURK members from the opposition New Democratic Party also pressed on Seoul Government to change its "rigid" diplomacy and suggested that Korea Government should seek trade and cultural relations with the socialist countries in eastern Europe.

Robert G. Muller
Director

Mr. Zouheir Kuzbari
Principal Secretary

The US-ROK bilateral talks regarding the modernization of the South Korean armed forces have been resumed this week. It was reliably stated that the US Government has made it known that it would only commit itself to a sum of \$1.5 billion over

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

UNITED NATIONS



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

Seoul, 11 September 1970

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

Attention this week has been focussed on the interpellations of the Cabinet members in the National Assembly where problems related to national security, unification and relations with the United States have been widely commented on. Although the statements made by the Government's spokesmen on the above issues tended to be vague and ambiguous, the general tone of the debates in the National Assembly suggests that the Government has been challenged to come out with clear and definite statements regarding those issues.

On the question of unification, Prime Minister Chung Il Kwon reiterated the position stated earlier by President Park Chung Hee in his speech of 15 August 1970 calling for unification of both North and South Korea in accordance with the previous resolutions of the United Nations. Some members of the National Assembly have pressed on the Government to submit a detailed and precise plan which should contain concrete suggestions regarding cultural exchange with North Korea, but the Prime Minister turned this down and stated that no plan could be made unless the North Koreans first accept President Park's formula for unification. There were also considerable debates regarding the existing anti-communist laws. Some members of the National Assembly have asked that these laws should be amended in order to allow a free debate in the country regarding the question of unification, but again the Prime Minister stated that this would not take place until the North Korean regime changes its policy towards South Korea. Two members from the opposition New Democratic Party also pressed on the Government to change its "rigid" diplomacy and suggested that the Government should seek trade and cultural relations with the socialist countries in eastern Europe.

The US-ROK bilateral talks regarding the modernization of the South Korean armed forces have been resumed this week. It was reliably stated that the US Government has made it known that it would only commit itself to a sum of \$1.5 billion over

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

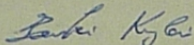
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a period of five years to modernize the ROK armed forces. The modernization programme will take into consideration of providing the ROK with heavy equipment which would put South Korea on a parity with the military forces of North Korea. One exception in this modernization programme is in the field of tactical aircraft where the US feels that it would be able to reinforce the South Korean air force in time of war from its neighbouring bases. On the other hand, the ROK Ministry of Defence has reacted strongly against the suggestion that the ROK forces should man the portion of the Demilitarized Zone, which is now guarded by the US forces, and that after the complete withdrawal of the US forces from South Korea, the latter would only provide guards at the armistice site in Panmunjom. The Ministry stated in this connexion that such steps are "unthinkable" under the present circumstances.

With warmest personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



Zouheir Kuzbari
Principal Secretary