

February 26, 1971 Letter, UNCURK Principal Secretary Kuzbari to UN Chef de Cabinet Narasimhan

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Summary:

Internationally, ROK government voices concern about the UN's two-China policy. Domestically, the NDP accuses the government of suppressing the opposition party's election campaign.

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UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

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



Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

The Government of the Republic of Korea appears to be quite worried about the recent diplomatic moves in Japan and in the United States for the admission of the divided nations to the United Nations and has embarked this week on a concerted diplomatic campaign to set forth its views on this subject. Foreign Minister Choi Kyu Hah held a press conference on 24 February and stated that Korea should not be included in an international package deal to settle the question of the divided nations. He pointed out that the reported plans in Japan and the United States to adopt a two-China policy should, under no circumstances, be applied to the Republic of Korea. He termed as "academic" the proposed international package deal on the divided nations and added that those nations have different historical, political and legal backgrounds which should not permit an indiscriminate disposal of their destinies. He also stated that the China representation issue at the United Nations must be dealt with differently from the Korean question. The statement of the Foreign Minister seems to be part of general directives given by the President of the Republic of Korea to all its diplomatic missions abroad and aim at heading off the impact that could result from the admission of Communist China to the United Nations on the Korean question. It also appears to express the concern of the present Government here about proposals made recently by West Germany's Willy Brandt to the effect that he will not be opposed to the admission of both West and East Germany to the United Nations. The general tone of the editorial comments here suggests that the Government of the Republic of Korea wishes to see no changes in the U.N. presence here despite the impending changes at the United Nations as a result of its possible admission of Communist China.

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Mr. C.V. Narasimhan New York

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On the domestic political scene, the opposition New Democratic Party went on the offensive this week and accused the Government of creating difficult preelection conditions. Representative Yu Chin San, head of the New Democratic Party, criticized the Government for supressing the press and depriving the opposition of the means by which it could express its views publicly. He also charged that the Government had formed a third party specifically to create disruption in the ranks of the opposition New Democratic Party.

No final date has been fixed yet for holding the presidential election, but the recent announcement made by the ruling Democratic Republican Party indicates that the election may be held on or around 26 April 1971.

With warmest personal regards,

Yours sincerely.

Enhi Kolan

Zouheir Kuzbari Principal Secretary