

**September 18, 1971**

**Letter, UNCURK Principal Secretary Ozbudun to UN  
Chef de Cabinet Narasimhan**

**Citation:**

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**Summary:**

Ozbudun believes UNCURK should not participate in the Red Cross talks between the two Koreas.

**Credits:**

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UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

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

18 September 1971

RED CROSS NEGOTIATIONS

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

I believe that the Secretary-General would undoubtedly be concerned with the intended "decision" at some future date of the ROK National Red Cross to propose to its DPRK counterpart the "participation" of UNCURK at negotiations "in Seoul or Pyongyang."

If the ROK officials have missed the point conveyed to them by the Principal Secretary and members of UNCURK, they may endeavour to involve the Commission at some future date.

The undesirability of UNCURK involvement is clear. This would not be beneficial unless both sides welcomed the participation of the Commission. The allergy of the DPRK side vis-a-vis such "participation" cannot be eradicated at least in the foreseeable future.

I must recall to your attention, however, as I did inform the members with appropriate caution, that UNCURK indeed possesses a specific mandate (among others) where such participation on its part is indicated. The ROK might not be aware of this particular terms of reference (and it will not be up to me to remind them of it), as follows:

1. UNCURK was accorded, among others, the task of assuming the functions "hitherto" exercised by the United Nations Commission on Korea (UNCOK) /Res. 376(V), 7 October 1950/.
2. The functions of UNCOK referred to above were set out in paragraph 1 of resolution 293 (IV) of 21 October 1949.
3. Paragraph (b) of that resolution states:

"..shall..."

"Seek to facilitate the removal of barriers to economic, social and other friendly intercourse caused by the division of Korea; and make available

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

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its good offices and be prepared to assist, whenever in its judgement a favourable opportunity arises, in bringing about the unification of Korea in accordance with the principles laid down by the General Assembly in the resolution of 14 November 1947;"

4. Paragraph (c) of the aforesaid resolution states that UNCOK:

"...shall.."

"Have the authority, in order to accomplish the aims defined under sub-paragraph(s)....(b) of the present paragraph, in its discretion to appoint observers and to utilize the services and good offices of one or more persons whether or not representatives on the Commission;"

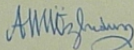
I have deemed it my duty to inform the members of the mandate, however, with full concurrence with their posture not to involve themselves, at the present juncture at any rate.

I believe that UNCURK should beware against possibly being used as a pretext for the breakdown of the historic Red Cross talks.

Please advise if you do not concur fully.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,



Ahmet H. Ozbudun  
Principal Secretary