

# October 21, 1971 Letters, UNCURK Principal Secretary Ozbudun to UN Chef de Cabinet Narasimhan

#### Citation:

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### **Summary:**

Ozbudun updates Narasimhan on domestic and peninsular political developments. President Park instates the Garrison Act of 1950 on college campuses, increasing repression tactics. The National Assembly reconvened after 12 days of deadlock over the agenda. While the Red Cross "family search campaign" is in deadlock over the agenda, the general mood is positive.

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English

#### **Contents:**

Original Scan

CVN/je ccc: Mr. Kutakov Mr. Muller

26 October 1971

Dear Ahmet,

I have received your confidential letters dated
21 October on Red Cross talks, 22 October on the meeting of
the National Assembly, and 22 October on developments on the
campus situation. I have taken note of their contents.
With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

C.V. Narasimhan Chef de Cabinet

Mr. Ahmet H. Ozbudun Principal Secretary UNCURK Secul Korea

P.S. I have also received your strictly personal and confidential letter of 22 October entitled "Students in the ROK -- The Future in Perspective".



October 1971

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The preliminary talks remain deadlock however over the issue of scheduling the formal negotiations as such which are to be held in Pyongyang and Seoul on an alternating basis. The northerners still insist on convening the first such meeting on 10 December and the southerners remain against setting a date pending the conclusion of the preliminary talks.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ahmet H. Ozbuduh Principal Secretary

#### UNITED NATIONS



#### NATIONS UNIES



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

CONFIDENTIAL

21 October 1971

#### RED CROSS TALKS

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

Yesterday North-South Red Cross negotiation teams held their 5th preliminary talks at Panmunjom on the so-called "family search campaign".

The meeting itself lasted two hours and 45 minutes, however it was followed by a luncheon given by the north side which took another two hours and 10 minutes. Members of the two teams exchanged gifts afterwards. The south team will reciprocate the invitation after the next meeting which is not yet scheduled.

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With warmest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ahmet H. Ozbudun Principal Secretary

UNITED NATIONS



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UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA

CONFIDENTIAL

22 October 1971

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

It was just reported that the National Assembly, which had been in recess for the past 12 days on account of a parliamentary deadlock over impending agenda issues, finally met this morning.

According to a compromise formula reached between floor leaders of the incumbent and opposition parties, the Assembly is to conduct simultaneous deliberations on the supplementary budget bill and the NDP requested interpellation of the Cabinet on current issues, including the invocation of the Garrison Act and the campus crisis.

While this agreement has seemingly eased the interparty deadlock, the DRP-NDP will probably continue stiff political strife in the foreseeable future. Prospects for the DRP are not bright, especially because it has lost the commanding two-thirds majority as a result of the last National Assembly elections. Impending matters, moreover are burning issues.

With Kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ahmet H. Ozbudun Principal Secretary

#### UNITED NATIONS



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

CONFIDENTIAL

22 October 1971

#### DEVELOPMENTS ON THE CAMPUS SITUATION

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

Last Friday, on 15 October 1971, President Park Chung Hee surprised all concerned by emerging with a nine-point order concerning students and campus activities which then resulted in the institution of the so-called Garrison Act of 1950. An unofficial translation of the order is attached herewith along with a background note. 1/ Other information is contained in the Summary of Developments covering the period 13 through 19 October 1971, which is presented to you separately.

This is the second time since 1950 when the Act was invoked, the other being the 1965 case when students demonstrated against the ROK-JAPAN Treaty on the normalisation of their relations.

Troops entered and entrenched themselves in ten university and college campuses. (However, two or three were vacated subsequently). Troops arrested several hundred students some of which are reportedly still under detention. The campuses remain closed. Many students were expelled; numerous student organisations and societies were disbanded and "unauthorized" student periodicals were banned. Some of the measures were "voluntarily" taken by the individual schools as urged by the Presidential order. These measures could be accompanied by other governmental action "to rid the universities of all unruly elements in the future" (Vice-Minister of Education). One such action entails the reference to the Defence Ministry of a list of some 5,000 students from 30 educational institutions for having refused to undergo on-campus military drill. They may be subjected to the draft, along with about 8,000, who were determined to be unqualified for the student draft deferment, on account of age or absenteeism from school.

The New Democratic Party reportedly reacted to the government measures by strong criticism and proposed that the measures be lifted. In addition it formed eight teams, each

<sup>1/ &</sup>quot;Background Note on the Student Demonstrations and subsequent Developments", dated 20 October 1971.

comprising ten Assemblymen, to investigate the campus situation as well as to contact the Ministries of Education, Home Affairs and Defence. The NDP is further reported to ask for National Assembly interpellation of the pertinent Ministers concerning the campus situation in addition to other deadlocked issues which have prevented the Assembly from meeting on the vital Budget for the past 12 days.

The Defence Ministry announced that the departure of troops from campuses could be only effected by a request from the Mayor of the Special City of Seoul, who originally asked the movement of Garrison troops. The request is unlikely to be "elicited" pending the completion of further measures to preclude student unrest in the future.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ahmet H. Ozbudun Principal Secretary

#### ANNEX

#### Presidential order

On 15 October, President Park Chung Hee issued the following special order in connexion with the current student demonstrations. The order aimed at the restoration of order in the campuses:

- Student demonstrations leaders who destroy order in the campus shall be expelled immediately from colleges and universities;
- Students obstructing normal school functions through illegal sit-ins, street demonstrations, rallies, and refusal to attend school or lectures, shall not be tolerated and shall be expelled;
- Students expelled from school due to their involvement in the demonstrations shall be deprived of student privileges which they enjoy;
- 4) All student organizations other than those established for academic research work shall be dissolved immediately. Even those student organizations formed in connexion with academic work shall be operated under the responsibility of the faculty chairmen;
- No school newspapers, magazines, pamphlets and other publications shall be published without the approval of university authorities;
- 6) Due responsibility should be emphasized before enjoying campus freedom, independence and autonomy. No campus freedom and autonomy can be recognized in universities where on-campus order is destroyed by illegal acts such as rallies, sit-ins and street demonstrations, and refusal to attend school or lectures.

The following measures shall be taken against such colleges and universities: a) All student organizations shall be dissolved and the college and university authorities shall directly control and supervise the organizations approved by university authorities; and b) If necessary, the police may enter the campus to arrest the leaders of student rallies and demonstrations for the maintenance of public order;

- 7) The military personnel shall cooperate with the Ministries of Education and Mome Affairs as well as provincial governors and city mayors in accordance with due procedures;
- 3) The "on-campus military training" shall not be suspended. All military instructors assigned to colleges shall perform their duties faithfully, with dignity and a sense of mission; and,
- Colleges and universities shall reinforce their school regulations and establish order in the campus.

(HI, CI, DA and JI, 15 and 16 October)

## UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA

20 October 1971

# Background Note on the Student Demonstrations and Subsequent Developments

On 24 February 1971, the Cabinet approved a guideline prepared by the Education Ministry on the military training programme for college and university students as a compulsory subject in the curriculae. Seven academic credits on military training are required for graduation. The programme was put into force on 1 March 1971, the beginning of new school year. Until then, the military training, which started in March 1970 replacing the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) system, was not a compulsory subject in the curriculae.

The student demonstrations began early April and continued on and off until about end of June in Secul, Pusan and Kwangju. They were staged in protest against the compulsory military training on campuses. During this period, the students demanded abolition of the training and the reinstatement of the expelled students who had taken leading roles in the demonstrations. They also protested against alleged government suppression of the press and irregularities in the Presidential election.

On 24 May, Education Minister Hong Chong Chul ordered indefinite suspension of classes of four colleges of the Secul National University. The suspension was lifted on 23 June. Twenty-three students of the SNU were punished in connexion with their involvement in the demonstrations on 1 June: 5 were expelled and the remaining 18 were suspended from the class. However, they were reinstated on 3 July.

On 25 June, the Education Hinister said that the Government would shorten the military training hours from 3 to 2 per week; abolish the field training course; exempt senior class students from the training; and restore the ROTC system.

With the promise of the Education Minister to revise the training programme and the coming of the summer holidays, the student demonstrations ceased until about the end of September when the students returned to school after the vacation. They resumed demonstrations sporadically and on a small-scale. About 200 to 800 students had participated.

The student demonstrations across the Republic were intensified when personnel of the Capital Garrison Command entered the Korea University and arrested five students on 5 October. This was made public on 7 October.

The incident was taken up at the National Assembly Defence Committee. The Defence Minister apologized for the incident and promised that the recurrence of such an incident would be prevented.

However, the students demanded academic freedom and punishment of those military personnel involved in the intrusion as well as abolition of military training. The demonstrations continued from 8 to 12 October. Clashes with the riot police occurred.

Earlier, on 12 October, the Ministers of Education and Defence jointly announced that those students who refused to take military training would be drafted into the military service since they are unqualified for deferment of conscription.

The students of the Korea and Yonsei Universities decided to boycott classes for two days until 14 October. Then they attended class on 15 October.

About 10 o'clock on 15 October, the President issued a nine-point special order to restore order in the campuses. He ordered, among others, the expulsion of those student leaders who had instigated demonstrations, the disbanding of unauthorized student circles and organizations, and the abolishment of illegal student publications. He further said that the police could enter the campuses and arrest demonstration leaders. He ordered the military personnel to cooperate with the ministries concerned in accordance with due procedures, so as to restore order in the campuses.

Following the special order by the President, Mayor of Special City of Seoul Yang Taik Shik, around 10:30 a.m., requested the Commander of the Capital Garrison Command to deploy military personnel in the campuses and to restore order. With the invocation of Garrison Decree in Seoul area, the military personnel under the Capital Garrison Command were sent to university campuses. Armed military personnel arrested 1,889 students in the campus and handed them over to the police. The police released all except 92 students on the following day. The campuses of six universities in Seoul were occupied by the soldiers as of noon, 15 October.

The Home Ministry announced that there were 119 student leaders throughout the country and the police had arrested 76 of them as of 18 October.

On the same day, the Education Minister ordered the temporary closing down of six universities in Secul and one university in Kwangju, Cholla Namdo, and to submit by 17 October a list of student demonstration leaders expelled from school. He further ordered to disband unauthorized student organizations.

Accordingly, 23 colleges and universities expelled 169 students as of 19 October. 74 student organizations in 6 universities were disbanded; 13 unauthorized publications in 4 colleges were discontinued; and 7 student autonomous bodies were suspended.

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The Education Ministry further ordered the colleges and universities to reinforce the school regulations, and not to reinstate or transfer expelled students.

The Director of the Central Conscription Administration Office said that those students who had refused to attend military training and who were unqualified for deferment of military service would be drafted into the Army between November to early December this year.

The Vice Defence Minister said that the military personnel deployed to the campuses would be withdrawn when such request is received from the Mayor of Seoul.

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