

**March 6, 1970**

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

**Citation:**

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**Summary:**

Principal Secretary of UNCURK Zouheir Kuzbari writes to Chef de Cabinet of the UN C.V. Narasimhan about the release of the remaining 11 South Korean passengers from the KAL YS-11 plane and the NDP's boycott of National Assembly sessions.

**Credits:**

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UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

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

Seoul, 6 March 1970

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

The release of the remaining eleven south Korean passengers whose plane, the KAL's YS-11, was reportedly hijacked to north Korea on 11 December 1969 is still the main preoccupation of the ROK Government. On 2 March 1970, a briefing for the heads of diplomatic missions in Seoul and the representatives on UNCURK was held at the Foreign Ministry during which the ROK officials disclosed the outcome of their investigations regarding the hijacking incident. Foreign Minister Choi Kyu Hah stated at the briefing that "the remaining eleven south Korean passengers are being held in north Korea against their own will", and appealed for their "early repatriation". In the meantime, Pyongyang Radio and the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) have given numerous statements attributed to some of those eleven passengers, in which they expressed their wishes to stay in the "northern half of the DPRK". It is expected that this issue will be taken up again at the MAC Secretaries' meeting today.

The situation along the whole DMZ remains unusually calm. There are of course several interpretations for this, but no one is sure that with the end of winter this lull will continue to prevail. On 1 March 1970, Pyongyang's Korean Central News Agency reported that on 28 February 1970 north Korean frontier guards in the central sector of the DMZ killed a south Korean "armed spy", who intruded into north Korea "to perpetrate espionage and subversive acts". Recently, the DPRK side at the MAC has brought up many charges related to an increased south Korean infiltrations into the north.

There have been few significant domestic developments this week. On 5 March 1970, the leader of the opposition New Democratic Party reiterated that his party will not attend the National Assembly session until the ruling Democratic Republican Party agrees to the former's suggestions for reforming the electoral system. It will be recalled in this connexion that the NDP has been boycotting the National Assembly sessions since October 1969 when the legislature approved the constitutional amendment bill.

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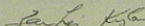
 Mr. C.V. Narasimhan  
 Chef de Cabinet  
 United Nations  
 New York
*Mr. Muller*
*For action  
 as noted  
 (2 letters)*
*mm**1373*

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It appears now that the ruling DRP will convene a special session of the National Assembly at the end of this month in order to debate the first supplementary budget despite the continued boycott of the opposition NDP. Interest has also been shown in the new movement carried out by some members of the NDP who resigned from their party's membership this week in order to form a new separate opposition party. They have been reported to be co-operating with Mr. Yun Bo Sun, the former President of the ROK in 1961. For that purpose, the independent Korea Times of 5 March 1970 expressed the view that such an action will lead towards weakening of the opposition NDP and renewed factionalism within its ranks. Dissatisfaction has also been expressed by other Korean dailies over the failure of the NDP to play a constructive role in the political institution of the ROK.

With warm personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



Zouheir Kuzbari  
Principal Secretary

Mr. S. T. Marston  
Director General  
Palace Station  
New York