

September 11, 1973

**Letter, Ahmet H. Ozbudun to C.V. Narasimhan,
"Background Information on and Implications of
UNCURK's Press Release"**

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Summary:

Ozbudun sends Narasimhan a report on background information on and implications of UNCURK's press release.

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UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA

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11 September 1973

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Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

CONFIDENTIAL

I have called and written to you separately on the matter of your press release of 4/10. I believe that you may be interested in certain background information.

Under governmental instructions and/or other solicited, members vary strongly about arrangements for the simultaneous issuance by the Commission of a draft resolution on 7 September, Seoul side, of UNCURK's recommendations, as contained in the "Concluding Observations" of its report.

Dear Ahmet,

I refer to your most confidential letter of 7 September on the subject of UNCURK's last press release. I have taken note of its contents.

I have not sent a copy of your communication to anyone else outside my office.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

C.V. Narasimhan
Chef de Cabinet

Mr. Ahmet H. Ozbudun
Principal Secretary
UNCURK
Korea.

New York

I still remember the controversy and tension caused by the tabling several years ago of a draft resolution for the Socialist side of the Korean question, prior to the formation of the First Committee, under the title "Unification of Korea".

UNITED NATIONS



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11

UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA
(UNCURK)M-C-S-T CONFIDENTIAL

7 September 1973

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON AND
IMPLICATIONS OF UNCURK'S PRESS RELEASE

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

While I have cabled and written to you separately on the matter of UNCURK's last Press Release (6/73), I believe that you may be interested in certain background information.

Under governmental instructions and/or other elicitation, members very strongly urged arrangements for the simultaneous issuance by eight hundred hours 7 September, Seoul time, of UNCURK's recommendations for its dissolution, as contained in the "Concluding Observations" of its annual report, in the form of a Press Release, prior to the publication of that report. Had your arrangements not come, the members were ready to "go it alone", namely to issue the release in Seoul only.

The evident motivation was to enable their (and other friendly) delegations in New York to include the aforesaid recommendation for UNCURK's dissolution in the forthcoming draft resolution by their "side". Ostensibly this "side" appears most anxious to table the draft resolution first, so that it could obtain priority over the competing "Algerian", etc. proposal.

Frankly speaking, I was somewhat disturbed that (i) UNCURK would thereby deliberately lose objectivity vis-à-vis one group of Member States ("Algerian" etc. side); (ii) the Commission would unwittingly contribute to a possibly vituperous debate as to whether juridically draft resolutions could be tabled before the commencement of an UNGA session, or even, before the adoption of the formal agenda*; and (iii) UNCURK would be the target of charges for breaking the heretofore intact practice of issuing press releases on its reports concurrently with the publication of the said reports.

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

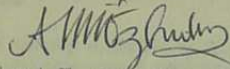
*/ I still remember the controversy and furor caused by the tabling several years ago of a draft resolution for the Socialist side on the Korean question proper, prior to the formation of the First Committee, under the title "Organization of Work".

- 2 -

I mentioned these points to the members, off the record, and I believe in appropriate diplomatic phraseology, so that they were aware of the implications and possible ramifications of their seemingly "innocent" move. They appreciated this very much but apparently had no other course but to proceed. In fact, during the one hour between your cables 94 and 95, there were moves to persuade me to go ahead with the issuance of the Press Release only in Seoul, to which I courteously replied that the Chairman and the members could on their own initiative and responsibility alone proceed in this direction. They appreciated this as well.

With kindest personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



Ahmet H. Ozbudun
Principal Secretary