

January 27, 1972

Letters between Narasimhan and Ozbudun

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Summary:

Update concerning the defense of Seoul, 15th preliminary Red Cross negotiations, and Japan's apparent establishment of links with North Korea and its emissary to North Korea for personal and economic exchanges.

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cc: Mr. Kutakov
Mr. Muller ✓

21 January 1972

27 January 1972

Dear Ahmet,

I acknowledge receipt of your confidential letters
No. 56, 57 and 58 and your ordinary letters No. 23 and 24
with their attachments.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

C. V. Narasimhan
Chef de Cabinet

Mr. Ahmet H. Ozbudun
Principal Secretary
UNCURK
Seoul, Korea

UNITED NATIONS



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UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA
(UNCURK)CONFIDENTIAL No. 56

21 January 1972

THE "DEFENCE" OF SEOUL

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

It was not hard to predict that the sense of emergency felt in the ROK, particularly for the "defence" of Seoul against a presumed or possible air attack, would cause the Government to seek measures to stop the constant influx from rural areas. In addition, efforts might commence, actually to de-populate Seoul and to make further facilities available to ease evacuation in the event of emergency.

Extensive funds have been obviously allocated for the defence of the Capital.

The implementation of the aforesaid intentions might commence in the not distant future.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ahmet H. Ozbudun'.

Ahmet H. Ozbudun

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

UNITED NATIONS



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UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA
(UNCURK)CONFIDENTIAL : No. 57

21 January 1972

THE 15TH PRELIMINARY MEETING OF THE ROK
AND THE DPRK RED CROSS ORGANIZATIONS

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

The 15th preliminary meeting between the ROK and the DPRK Red Cross Organizations was held at Panmunjom on 19 January.

The representatives of the two sides again discussed their respective proposals for the agenda of the full-dress meetings. They failed to achieve any progress in this regard.

The ROK Red Cross reaffirmed its previous stand and argued that members of dispersed families could undertake "mutual visits" to south and north Korea, upon the confirmation of their whereabouts.

It further said that the "free travel", as the DPRK Red Cross had proposed, was obscure in its meaning as there would be no "targets" to be visited since the residences of the members of dispersed families were not confirmed in advance, even if the members were given the freedom to travel to south and north Korea.

Elaborating point by point what had been agreed upon at previous meetings, and those points on which they were opposed, the ROK Red Cross urged its counter-part to settle the differences "under the principles of humanitarianism" as well as in conformation with the lofty ideals of the Red Cross.

The DPRK Red Cross persisted on the inclusion of "free travel" to south and north by the members of dispersed families on the agenda, instead of "mutual visits". The DPRK Red Cross reiterated that "free travel" was the direct and shortest way to the reunion of dispersed families and that it would also contribute to the "peaceful territorial unification of fatherland".

The two sides agreed to hold their 16th preliminary meeting on 28 January.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ahmet H. Ozbudun'.
Ahmet H. Ozbudun
Principal SecretaryMr. C.V. Narasimhan
Chef de Cabinet
United Nations
New York

UNITED NATIONS



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UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA
(UNCURK)CONFIDENTIAL : No. 58

21 January 1972

JAPAN'S FUTURE RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

Amidst their frustration with the PRC, the Japanese appear bent on establishing progressive links with the DPRK.

Efforts such as those indicated in the significant material attached herewith, will certainly not augur well with the ROK.

Whether Japan as such would be willing to risk deteriorating relations with Seoul and whether the latter can exert toleration regarding Tokyo's ventures are two closely interrelated questions of pertinence for the future.

I anticipate that there will be escalating developments in this regard, probably meriting for subsequent reporting on my part.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ahmet H. Ozbudun".

Ahmet H. Ozbudun
Principal Secretary

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

UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE
UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREAInformation Note
No. 4/72

21 January

Note by the Secretariat: Reproduced below is an article entitled "Government (Japan) may send formal mission to north Korea" which appeared in the Japan Times on 20 January 1972.

"Government and Liberal-Democratic Party leaders decided Tuesday (18 January 1972) to send an LDP mission to North Korea at an 'appropriate' time later this year if accepted by the North Koreans.

LDP Secretary General Shigeru Hori won approval of the plan at a meeting of Government and LDP leaders Tuesday afternoon.

The development apparently reflect LDP and Government willingness to improve Japan's relations with North Korea as well as China.

A suprapartisan group of Dietmen had left Tokyo earlier to visit Pyongyang to probe the possibility of early normalization of relations between Japan and North Korea.

Chuji Kuno, leader of the group, left with an ordinary traveler's passport because his visit with opposition member had not been approved by the LDP leadership. But three other Liberal-Democrats, originally included in the group, canceled their trips.

The Government and LDP leaders reportedly decided to dispatch the LDP's independent delegation to Pyongyang because it regards the Korea and China questions as the major ones that Japan must tackle in order to operate its Asia policy in years to come.

Failure to handle this question it believes, might lead to serious intraparty friction or a major domestic political issue severely shaking the Government and the LDP.

According to present LDP plans, the mission to North Korea will leave sometime after the 68th regular Diet session which ends May 26.

There are moves within the Foreign Ministry to improve relations with North Korea before the U.N. General Assembly convening this autumn, which could see Korea as a major issue.

North Korean Premier Kim Il Sung is ready to send a mission to Japan if its visit is accepted by the Japanese Government, Kanji Kawasaki, director of the international bureau of the Japan Socialist Party, said here Tuesday.

Kim disclosed this during his meeting with Kawasaki and other members of Kawasaki's mission dispatched by the JSP, Kawasaki said.

The Socialist also said at a press conference in the Diet Building Tuesday afternoon that Kim's intention had been disclosed in response to Kawasaki's proposal that North Korea's External Cultural Liaison Association send a delegation to Japan as a step designed to improve relations between the two countries.

Kawasaki and his party returned here Monday night from a three-week tour of China and North Korea."

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UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE
UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREAInformation Note
No. 5/72

21 January 1972

Note by the Secretariat: Reproduced below is an article entitled "Japan-North Korea Relations -- Economic, Cultural Exchanges Proposed" which appeared in the Japan Times on 21 January.

"The Dietmen's group now in North Korea for an 11-day visit proposed to its North Korean hosts Wednesday (19 January 1972) that economic, cultural and personal exchange be made to prepare for normalization of relations between the two countries.

The suprapartisan delegation, sent by the Dietmen's League for the Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship, and led by Liberal-Democrat Chuji Kuno, held the first round of talks Wednesday morning with leaders of the Korean Liaison Council for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.

Attending the session at the Government Guesthouse were all the 11 members of the mission and Chairman, Ryan Uk Kang, and other executives of the Korean Council.

The Japanese mission explained the League's basic position in favor of normalization of relations between Japan and North Korea in the light of the recent easing of international tension.

The Dietmen's group arrived in Pyongyang via Moscow Tuesday afternoon.

The members of the mission were welcomed at the airport by Korean officials including Kang, other representatives of the Council, and Guk Hun Kim, Deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly and Vice Chairman of the Korean National Peace Committee.

The delegation members proceeded to their quarters at the International Hotel immediately after their arrival.

They later paid a courtesy call on Kang and discussed Japan-Korea problems in a friendly atmosphere for about one hour.

During the meeting, Kuno told Kang that the Dietmen's League for the Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship wanted to invite the Korean official to Japan at an early date.

Kang reportedly said he would gladly accept the invitation.

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He also told the Japanese that extremely unequal and irrational points still existed in Japan-Korea relations, particularly in the exchange of persons.

He added that he was placing hopes on the efforts of the Dietmen's League.

The Dietmen's delegation is scheduled to remain in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea until Jan. 25.

During their stay, they plan to meet Premier Kim Il Sung."
