

December 4, 1970

**Letter, UNCURK Principal Secretary Kuzbari to UN
Chef de Cabinet Narasimhan, Concerning the Nixon
Doctrine in Korea**

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Summary:

Principal Secretary of UNCURK Zouheir Kuzbari informs Chef de Cabinet C.V. Narasimhan on the effects of U.S. disengagement with ROK and Asia and the landing of a North Korean pilot in the ROK.

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

Seoul, 4 December 1970

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

There have been some indications this week that the U.S. Government has begun to put teeth into its so-called "Nixon Doctrine" and appeared to be applying it first in the Republic of Korea. Although this doctrine is still in search of a content, it nevertheless envisages using the manpower of this country thus limiting U.S. commitments to certain tactical aspects for the defence of the Republic. In a series of developments made public this week, the U.S. Government seems to have, despite the opposition of the Republic of Korea Government, arrived at the conclusion that the rapidly changing situation in Asia has imposed limitation on its ability to involve itself deeper into the Korean situation. An accelerated programme to complete the withdrawal of one U.S. division from the Republic of Korea by the beginning of next summer is well underway and arrangements are being made for the South Korean troops to assume responsibility for the defence of the whole 155 miles of the Demilitarized Zone. On the other hand, with a view to complete this withdrawal entirely, the U.S. has decided to move the Phantom fighter-bomber wing presently stationed in Japan to South Korea in order to bolster the air defence of this country as a substitute for reducing the number of its troops. It is also reported that the details of the modernization programme for the Republic of Korea armed forces recently negotiated between the U.S. and South Korean sides are about to be finalised. The U.S. Government was also reported to have agreed to turn over the weapons and equipments presently used by the Republic of Korea forces in Viet-Nam to South Korea. But despite all these efforts by the U.S. to strengthen the defence posture of this country, there appears to be a growing fear and suspicion among the South Koreans that they have been let down by their ally and that the "Nixon Doctrine" is nothing in reality but a gradual U.S. disengagement from this part of the World. This very issue has been referred to during the present election campaigns and the opposition New Democratic Party leaders have

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

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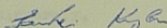
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again stressed the point that the only way to secure the future of the country is to obtain international guarantees from the big four powers, the People's Republic of China, the USSR, Japan and the US, for the independence of the Republic.

In another unrelated developments, the Ministry of Defence announced yesterday that a North Korean pilot, Major Pak Song-gu, "defected" to South Korea by landing his MIG-15 jet fighter - bomber at a seaside airstrip on the East Coast, which is located about five kilometers south of Kansong and about 35 kilometers southeast of the eastern edge of the Demilitarized Zone. However, Pyongyang Radio announced on 4 December that the pilot had lost his way, run out of fuel and made a forced landing in that area. The United Nations Command has informed the North Korean side of the incident and notified them that the pilot was safe. The matter appears further complicated in view of the fact that the Republic of Korea cannot retract its earlier statement that the pilot had "defected" while in reality he was forced to land. The question is expected to be discussed at the MAC meeting on 5 December. The Committee of UNCURK has referred to this incident at its meeting held on 4 December and is following the matter closely.

With warmest personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



Zouheir Kuzbari
Principal Secretary