

**April 10, 1970**

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

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**Summary:**

Principal Secretary of UNCURK Kuzbari updates Chef de Cabinet of the UN C.V. Narasimhan on the JAL flight hijacking incident's implications on ROK-Japan relations, UN Command and DPRK meeting on Armistice violations, and renewed DMZ incidents.

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UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

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

Seoul, 10 April 1970

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

Diplomatic ripples caused by the recent hijacking of a JAL aircraft to north Korea have appeared in the ROK-Japan relations. With the end of this unhappy incident, Government officials and the press here have begun a campaign to force the Japanese Government to come closer to the ROK in matters related to the common security and defence of the two countries. The grievances of the ROK Government appear to stem from the fact that, despite all the help it had extended to the Japanese Government in this affair, it was the DPRK which received Japan's greater attention. Moreover, the present mood among Japan's political parties to improve relations with the DPRK as a result of the JAL incident has been widely criticized by the ROK officials. In terms of the oriental art of diplomacy, the ROK Government believes that, because of the DPRK's decision to return immediately the hijacked JAL plane to Japan, the Japanese Government may feel "indebted" to the DPRK and therefore attempts to normalize relations with her at the expense of the ROK. An example of this was demonstrated in the recent recommendation of some members of the Liberal Democratic Party in Japan in urging the Government to henceforth refer north Korea as the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Several articles in Seoul's leading newspapers this week criticized Japan's "dubious" policy on Korea and made it clear that Japan owes its prosperity to the ROK which is standing as its bulwark.

Considerable attention has also been paid in the press here to the recent visit of China's Premier Chou En Lai to the DPRK. The relations between the DPRK and the People's Republic of China have cooled markedly in 1966 when the former decided not to take side in the Sino-Soviet dispute. Although no precise details of the DPRK-PRC talks have been published, speculations in the local press indicated that the DPRK Government has been anxious to upgrade its relations with the PRC to the level of the Soviet-DPRK relations.

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

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At the same time the leaders of both Governments appear to have expressed their mutual fear of what they regard as a growing revival of "Japanese militarism" and the US-Japan co-operation in the defence of East Asia.

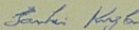
The involvement of the ROK Government in the complicated situation in South East Asia has been further widened by the current talks in Seoul that it shall extend help -- as in the case of south Viet-Nam where it has two divisions fighting alongside the US troops -- to Cambodia if it is requested by the latter's new Government. The Cambodian roving Ambassador Long Boret, who is representing his country at the current Asian Development Bank conference in Seoul, stated that, because of the DPRK's support to Prince Sihanouk, his Government may close its embassy in Pyongyang and establish diplomatic relations with the ROK. Some editorials in the press urged the ROK Government to provide the new Cambodian Government with military aid.

The 300th meeting of the MAC on 6 April 1970 provided some interesting statistics. The DPRK side accused the MAC of about 77,590 violations of the Armistice Agreement since it was signed seventeen years ago. The UNC side admitted to less than 100 of the charges. During the meeting, the UNC Senior Member, Major-General J.H. Skeldon, threatened to walk out in protest of the DPRK side using the meeting to spread what he described as "propaganda".

Meanwhile, renewed activities of infiltrators in the western sector of the DMZ were reported on 10 April 1970. The Counter-Espionage Operations Headquarters announced that a combined force of ROK Army and Homeland reservists killed three north Korean infiltrators about 16 miles northwest of Seoul and seven miles south of the DMZ.

With warm personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



Zouheir Kuzbari  
Principal Secretary