

May 22, 1970

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

Citation:

"Letter, UNCURK Principal Secretary Kuzbari to UN Chef de Cabinet Narasimhan", May 22, 1970, Wilson Center Digital Archive, "International incidents and disputes - Korea - correspondence (603.1)," Executive Office of the Secretary-General, S-0196-0003-05, United Nations Archives and Records Management Section (UN ARMS), New York, NY. Obtained for NKIDP by Charles Kraus.

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Summary:

Kuzbari briefs Narasimhan on recent developments in Korea, including the NDP accusation of government involvement in the collapse of several Seoul apartment buildings and a woman's death; the debate on US troop reductions; diplomatic ties between the ROK and Cambodia; and talks between the UN Command and the DPRK on Armistice violations.

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Leon Levy Foundation

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

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

Seoul, 22 May 1970

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

The main political activities this week have centered around a series of interpellation and question of the Government in the National Assembly with regard to its domestic and foreign policies. Members of the opposition New Democratic Party raised a number of questions during the interpellation, especially those related to the Government's responsibility in the collapse of some apartment buildings in Seoul and a murder case of a certain call girl whose name had been linked with some top Government leaders and officials. The NDP members have also inquired from the Government about the reported intention of the U.S. Government to reduce the number of its troops in the Republic of Korea. The Government's spokesmen took the view that the administration has been investigating all the opposition's allegations which, they asserted, stem mostly from a narrow party's point of view and lack real substance. The Government's spokesman for foreign affairs, Vice Foreign Minister Yun Suk Heun, stated in a parliamentary session that the policy of the present administration is to insist on keeping the present level of U.S. forces in the ROK. On the other hand, the Deputy Prime Minister in charge of economic affairs, Mr. Kim Hak Yul, re-assured the critics that the Government has begun to take steps to rectify the adverse effects which could result from excessive investment in the country.

As to the relations between the ROK and Cambodia, it was simultaneously announced in Seoul and Djakarta on 20 May 1970 that the two countries have agreed to restore full diplomatic relations. (Diplomatic links between the two countries were severed in 1966 over the attempted defection of a North Korean boxer in Phnompenh.) The joint ROK-Cambodia statement said that, as a first step, permanent missions would be set up in Seoul

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

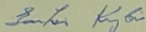
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and Phnompenh and that they would perform diplomatic functions in addition to normal consular affairs. The statement also made it clear that, upon establishing formal diplomatic relations between the two countries, the above missions would be elevated to the level of embassies and headed by ambassadors.

At the Military Armistice Commission Secretaries' meeting yesterday, the UNC side charged the DPRK of moving illegal anti-aircraft equipment into the DMZ. This charge was denied by the DPRK side whose spokesman insisted that the UNC had recently sent a number of armed agents into North Korea.

With warm personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



Zouheir Kuzbari
Principal Secretary