

June 4, 1971

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

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Summary:

During a MAC meeting between the UN Command and DPRK, UN Command announces its disassociation with the Major Pak crash-landing incident and ROK's sole involvement on the non-return of Major Pak. The DPRK states that, in the future, they will not return any US military personnel.

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UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

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

CONFIDENTIAL

Seoul, 4 June 1971

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

During the meeting of the Military Armistice Commission held at Panmunjom on Wednesday, 2 June 1971, which lasted almost six hours, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea side accused the U.N. Command of speeding up agents' infiltrations into North Korea and also of illegal high-altitude air infiltrations into its airspace. On the other hand, the U.N. Command informed the North Korean side formally through its senior member, Major-General F.M. Rogers, that the North Korean pilot, Major Pak Song Guk, who crash-landed in his MIG-15 on a beach near Kansong, Kangwon Do, on 3 December 1970, had decided to remain in South Korea on his own will and that the U.N. Command has disassociated itself from this case, which has in the meantime come entirely within the jurisdiction of the Republic of Korea. Major-General Han Yong Ok, senior member of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, refused to accept the explanation given by the U.N. Command and demanded the immediate return of Major Pak, who, according to him, had an emergency landing during his training flight on 3 December 1970.

With this announcement formally made by the U.N. Command at Panmunjom, and the press conference prepared by the Government of the Republic of Korea in Seoul on 31 May 1971, during which Major Pak stated that he decided to stay in South Korea, it is feared that the refusal of the Government of the Republic of Korea to hand him back to the North Korean authorities, as the U.N. Command has repeatedly insisted on, may put in jeopardy the position of the United Nations Command personnel who may be involved in similar future incidents. As an indication of this, the statement made by the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 1 June 1971 and broadcast over the Pyongyang Radio with regard to this case should be construed as significant. It implied, among other things, that, if the United Nations Command and the Republic of Korea authorities refuse to return Major Pak, and continue to "detain" him in South Korea "indefinitely", the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will not in the future return back any U.S. military personnel as they have done so in the past.

With warmest personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

Zouheir Kuzbari
Principal SecretaryMr. C.V. Narasimhan
Chef de Cabinet
United Nations
New York