

November 11, 1971 Letter, Ozbudun to Narasimhan, "PRC's Entry into the United Nations: Repercussions"

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Summary:

ROK doubts are rising due to the PRC's entry into the UN. Many debate ROK's position in connection with UNCURK and UNC.

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

CONFIDENTIAL: No. 6

11 November 1971

PRC'S ENTRY INTO THE UNITED NATIONS: REPERCUSSIONS

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

Repercussions of the entry into the United Nations of the PRC continue in the Republic of Korea with utmost vigour. Both Korean officialdom and Press are extensively commenting on the entry's possible impact on Seoul's present and future policies. The political and military presence of the United Nations in Korea in the form of UNCURK and the UNC are extensively debated, sometimes with an emotional overtone, however usually with a solemn search into prospects. It is hardly conceivable that this anxiety is approximated elsewhere except perhaps in a handful of capitals including, naturally, Taipei.

This is yet another proof how Koreans intensely feel not only the geographical proximity of the PRC to the ROK but the potential political impact of China's membership on the Korean question as such.

There is no indication, at this time anyway, of a departure from the official UN approach for settlement, and support for UNCURK and the UNC is forthcoming. However, Korean self-reliance for defense and unification policies is stressed with increasing frequence.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ahmet H. Özbudun Principal Secretary

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