

November 26, 1971 Letter, Ozbudun to Lansky, "Local Staff Reduction at UNCURK"

Citation:

"Letter, Ozbudun to Lansky, "Local Staff Reduction at UNCURK"", November 26, 1971, Wilson Center Digital Archive, "International incidents and disputes - Korea - correspondence (603.1)," Executive Office of the Secretary-General, S-0196-0005-04, United Nations Archives and Records Management Section (UN ARMS), New York, NY. Obtained for NKIDP by Charles Kraus.

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Summary:

Ozbudun informs Lanksy of the reduction of eight local staff at UNCURK.

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Leon Levy Foundation

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

UNITED NATIONS



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

M-O-S-T PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

26 November 1971

LOCAL STAFF REDUCTION AT UNCURK

Dear Mr. Lansky,

Thanks Goodness I have completed my negotiations with ranking Rok Government officials and obtained a firm pledge for an annual grant of \$15,000. I did not have an easy time at the Directors level of the Foreign Ministry and hence proceeded with meetings with the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister both of whom displayed proverbial grace and were most understanding and co-operative and appreciative of my endeavours.

Although nothing as yet is in writing, I was vigorously reassured that the grant would be available either in one installment or in two phases, \$12,000 and a separate \$3,000 respectively. The Foreign Ministry has already requested the first sum from the National Assembly under a general expenditure fund (no mention of UNCURK, etc.). The Minister expects no difficulties and believes that we could have the grant around 15 December.

I asked Mr. Humphries to be liberal to the maximum admissible degree to the released eight persons in order to compensate for (a) extremely low morale prevalent among all 28 staff members; (b) the loss of a "permanent" status and stature for the 8, particularly the need to survive only on 6-monthly service contracts; (c) the further loss of annual leave and sick-leave, medical benefits, promotion and salary increments as well as pension and severance payments; and (d) the final loss of the increased salary boost which would most probably come into effect next January. Mr. Humphries agrees fully, and his calculation brings the outlay to around \$14,500. I believe that there will be no difficulty for you to secure full endorsement in this regard at your end. I count on this most solemnly and confidently. Mr. Humphries and I will dispatch the pertinent figures under separate cover.

Probably on Monday I will arrange to meet the local staff and inform them of the Fifth Committee decision; the names of the 8 persons involved; and the new formula and conditions under which they will be retained.

Mr. George Lansky, Chief Field Operations Service Office of General Services UN Headquarters New York I am appreciative of the understanding Mr. Narasimhan and you so kindly displayed concerning my impasse. Please accept my thanks and convey them to Mr. Narasimhan to whom I have not presented a report.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ahmet H. Ozbudun Principal Secretary