

February 23, 1972

Letters between Ahmet H. Ozbudun and C.V. Narasimhan

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Summary:

Ozbudun sends Narasimhan a letter on the 19th ROK-DPRK Red Cross preliminary meeting, the first session of the Commission for 1972, a briefing for UNCURK, Japan-DPRK trade and other "relations", and statement of the ROK Foreign Minister on pre-conditions towards a Korean settlement.

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UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE LIAISON AND REGULATION OF ARMED
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Mr. R. Muller ✓CONFIDENTIAL 74 74

18 February 1972

THE 19TH ROK-UPK RED CROSS PRELIMINARY MEETING

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

The ROK and the UPK Red Cross Organizations held their 19th preliminary meeting on 17 February at P. 23 February 1972
further the agenda for the full-dress talks. The meeting lasted fifty minutes but was followed by an hour-long informal get-together.

During the session agreement was reached on a ROK Red Cross proposal, working-level meetings to adjust and arrange the agenda items for the full-dress talks.

Dear Ahmet,

The two parties further agreed that participants of the working-level meeting should be on each side. The group would solely be on each side. I acknowledge receipt of your confidential letters Nos. 74 to 78 inclusive. I have taken note of their contents.

During the preliminary meeting, the ROK Red Cross said that although there was little difference on substantive matters concerning the agenda items respectively. Yours sincerely,
there had been no substantial progress. It then expressed the hope that common ground would be found at the working-level to break through the stalemate over the agenda.

After the meeting, the ROK Red Cross Spokesman said that the ROK side had welcomed the proposal of the UPK Red Cross to hold working-level meetings.

C.V. Narasimhan
Chef de Cabinet

Following the informal meeting, it was announced that details on the projected working-level meetings would be arranged through Mr. Ahmet H. Ozbudun between the two liaison offices at Panmunjom.

Mr. Ahmet H. Ozbudun
Principal Secretary

UNCURK
Yongdongpo Red Cross Spokesman announced on 18 February that the two sides had agreed to hold the first working-level meeting on 21 February, in closed-door form.

P.O. Box 56
Seoul
Korea

The ROK Spokesman further said that the 20th preliminary meeting would be arranged by telephone contact between the two liaison offices after reviewing the outcome of the working-level talks.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,
[Signature]
Chief of Cabinet
Principal SecretaryMr. C. V. Narasimhan
Chef de Cabinet
United Nations
New York

UNITED NATIONS



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UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA
(UNCURK)CONFIDENTIAL: No. 79

18 February 1972

THE 19TH ROK-DPRK RED CROSS PRELIMINARY MEETING

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

The ROK and the DPRK Red Cross Organizations held their 19th preliminary meeting on 17 February at Panmunjom to discuss further the agenda for the full-dress talks. The meeting lasted fifty minutes but was followed by an hour-long informal get-together.

During the session agreement was reached on a ROK Red Cross proposal to hold working-level meetings to adjust and arrange the wording and the order of agenda items for the full-dress talks. The two parties further agreed that participants of the working-level meeting would comprise two out of the respective five delegates on each side assisted by two or three aides. The group would solely be charged with working out an agenda for the full-dress talks.

At the preliminary meeting, the ROK Red Cross said that although there was little difference on substantive matters concerning the agenda items respectively proposed by the two parties, there had been no substantial progress. It then expressed the hope that common ground would be found at the working-level to break through the stalemate over the agenda.

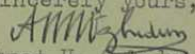
After the meeting, the ROK Red Cross Spokesman said that the ROK side had welcomed the acceptance of the DPRK Red Cross to hold working-level meetings.

Following the informal meeting, it was announced that details on the projected working-level meetings would be arranged through telephone contact between the two liaison offices at Panmunjom.

The ROK Red Cross Spokesman announced on 18 February that the two parties had agreed to hold the first working-level meeting on 21 February, in closed-door form.

The ROK Spokesman further said that the 20th preliminary meeting would be arranged by telephone contact between the two liaison offices after reviewing the outcome of the working-level talks.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ahmet H. Ozbudun
Principal Secretary

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

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UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA
(UNCURK)CONFIDENTIAL: N. 75

18 February 1972

THE FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMISSION FOR 1972

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

The first session of the Commission for 1972 will be held in Seoul on 7-8 February. The Representative of the Netherlands, Ambassador Th. P. Bergsma, will arrive from his Tokyo post to attend the meetings. Among other matters, I expect that the Commission will instruct its Committee concerning the guidelines for the preparation of UNCURK's report.

I have been requested to arrange for a field trip of the members, to visit Panmunjom and some areas of the Demilitarized Zone, on 9 February.

With warm regards,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ahmet H. Ozbudun".

Ahmet H. Ozbudun
Principal SecretaryMr. C. V. Narasimhan
Chef de Cabinet
United Nations
New York

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UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA
(UNCURK)CONFIDENTIAL: No. 76

18 February 1972

BRIEFING FOR UNCURK

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

Upon the request of the Members, I arranged two briefings this week on the security situation in Korea.

The first was offered by the United Nations Command on 14 February, and the second by the ROK authorities on 17 February.

Although both briefings were generally interesting, not much came out that was not already known to the Members. However, the overall information might be useful at the time of the drafting of UNCURK's report and also serve as background in my future letters to you.

Two points that emerged, which could significantly be reported at this time, are: First, the UNC still remains unconvinced of an imminent attack from the North although it does not rule one out in the foreseeable future. Second, the ROK which had claimed, since the Declaration of the National Emergency, that an attack was imminent, now appears to have altered its position and only regards such attack as probable.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ahmet H. Ozbudun".

Ahmet H. Ozbudun
Principal SecretaryMr. C. V. Narasimhan
Chef de Cabinet
United Nations
New York

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UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA
(UNCURK)CONFIDENTIAL: No. 77

18 February 1972

JAPAN-D. P. R. K. TRADE AND OTHER "RELATIONS"

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

This week's issue of our Summary of Developments renders interesting news items on latest steps taken in Pyongyang and Tokyo to expedite trade (and other) relations between the two countries, as follows:

"1. Members of Japanese Upper House form Parliamentary Association with north Korea

On 8 February, members of the Upper House of the Japanese Diet formed a Japan-north Korea Parliamentary Association. The Association is designed to promote exchange of persons with north Korea.

2. Japanese trade union seeks exchange of workers with north Korea

On 8 February, leaders of Japanese trade unions formed a Japan-north Korea Solidarity and Liaison Conference for Exchange of Workers. The Conference is to promote the exchange of workers and friendship with north Korea.

3. Tokyo Governor invites north Korean officials

On 9 February, the Office of the Tokyo Governor announced that Governor Ryokichi Minobe had sent official invitations to five north Korean officials including Mr. Lee Sang Son, Mayor of Pyongyang, and Mr. Kang Ryang Uk, Chairman of north Korea's External Cultural Liaison Council, for a visit to Japan sometime after June 1972. The invitation was in return for the welcome extended to Governor Minobe by the north Korean authorities during his visit to Pyongyang in October 1971.

Meanwhile, Justice Minister Shigesaburo Maeo said that it would be difficult for the Government to approve

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

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a visit to Japan by north Korean officials. He cited the standing government policy of limiting personnel exchanges between Japan and the north Korea to sports officials and scholars.

4. Pro-north Korean residents in Japan request re-entry visas

On 9 February, representatives of the Choryon (pro-north Korean organization of the Korean residents in Japan) applied to the Japanese Justice Minister Maeo for re-entry permits for 13 pro-north Korean residents who are planning to attend, on 15 April 1972, the ceremonies of the 60th birthday of Premier Kim Il Sung in Pyongyang. The group is planning to leave for Pyongyang on 20 March and to return to Japan on 20 June 1972.

5. Cargo-liner service between Japan and north Korea

It was reported on 9 February that a cargo-liner service between Japan and north Korea would be inaugurated in Japan later this month. A Japanese cargo-liner is scheduled to depart the port of Nagasaki, Kyushu, Japan, for Nampo (formerly Chinnampo) in north Korea around the end of February. Thereafter, at 20-day intervals, a regular cargo service would connect the two ports.

6. DPRK to import nylon fabrics from Japan

On 11 February, a Japanese synthetic fibre firm, the Yunichika Company, announced that it had signed a contract with north Korea for the export of about 300,000 square yards of nylon fabrics to that country. The goods, worth of about 40 million yen, will be shipped in July and August this year.

7. North Korea demands implementation of trade agreement

In a broadcast on 12 February, the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) said that the Committee for Promotion of International Trade of north Korea had issued a statement in connexion with the "refusal of the Japanese Government to permit the travel of a north Korean trade delegation and technicians to Japan".

According to the broadcast, the Committee demanded that the Japanese Government take steps to expand trade with north Korea by implementing the trade expansion agreement concluded between a Japanese delegation and north Korea on 23 January.

The Committee further claimed that north Korean trade personnel and technicians should be duly allowed to travel freely to Japan, and that a north Korean trade mission be also established in Japan.

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8. Members of Japanese prefectural assembly form pro-north Korean group

On 10 February, 70 members of the Kanagawa Prefectural Assembly of Japan organized a suprapartisan group to promote establishment of normal diplomatic relations with north Korea. At the inaugural meeting held in Yokohama on the same day, the group issued a joint statement pledging to exert efforts to improve, as early as possible, the relations between Japan and the DPRK, and to promote the establishment of normal diplomatic relations and economic and cultural interchanges with north Korea.

The group said that it would send a delegation to north Korea to promote interchanges with members of local assemblies in north Korea in the future.

The 70 members - comprising more than three fourths of the members of the Prefectural Assembly - consist of 21 members of the Liberal-Democratic Party, 5 members of Komeito, and 44 members of the Japan Socialist Party, the Japan Communist Party and the Keneseikai, an organization of independent members.

9. Pro-north Korean residents in Japan plan to form Japan-north Korea Export-Import Corporation in Japan

On 13 February, the Choryon (a pro-north Korean organization of Korean residents in Japan) announced that it was planning to inaugurate on 19 February the Japan-north Korea Export-Import Corporation in Tokyo, with an initial capital of 2.4 billion yen (\$8 million), to promote exports of Japanese industrial equipment to north Korea.

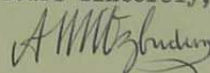
It said that the capital for the firm was raised among Korean residents (businessmen) in Japan with north Korean connexions, and that Japanese were not included among the stockholders.

The Japanese Government had refused the services of the Government Export-Import Bank in financing north Korean transactions and had denied authorization to north Korea to open a trade office in Tokyo.

The Radio Pyongyang announced on 12 February that the new trade firm would serve as the business representative of north Korea in Tokyo until an exchange of trade missions between north Korea and Japan was made possible."

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



Ahmet H. Ozbudun
Principal Secretary

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UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA
(UNCURK)CONFIDENTIAL: No. 78

18 February 1972

STATEMENT OF THE R.O.K. FOREIGN MINISTER ON
PRE-CONDITIONS TOWARDS A KOREAN SETTLEMENT

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

I am presenting herewith the unofficial translation of a press conference statement by the ROK Foreign Minister made on 12 February 1972, which inter alia contains pre-conditions towards a Korean settlement.

The statement is in the direction of commencing a dialogue with the DPRK if it draws response from the latter.

The text is as follows:

"1. The north Korean Communists are lately indulging anew in a fraudulent propaganda campaign under the guise of serving for peaceful unification and relaxation of tensions. This is nothing but a repetition of their timeworn propaganda and can only be viewed as a vicious scheme for covering up their real intentions of communizing the whole of Korea by force with the conviction of superiority of their war preparedness over the south. Such often repeated propositions for 'peaceful unification and relaxation of tension' by the north Korean Communists do not, in fact, match with their actual deeds, as illustrated by the following:

(1) The north Korean communists have continuously been violating the Armistice Agreement for the past 18 years since the Agreement was signed in 1953. Since then, a great number of north Korean armed agents have continuously infiltrated into the south across the truce line and via coast lines, including the despatch of an assassination commando unit into the city of Seoul on January 21, 1968.

(2) The north Korean communists are blocking, at the present moment, all efforts of the United Nations

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

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by refusing the entry into north Korea of the members of UNCURK, whose mission is to help achieve peaceful unification of Korea.

(3) The north Korean communists have been persistently engaged in kidnapping the fishermen and their fishing boats on high seas, threatening the lives and livelihood of innocent people.

(4) In December 1969, the north Korean communists kidnapped a civil aircraft to the north and eleven crew and passengers as well as the aircraft are still forcibly detained in north Korea.

(5) At the so-called fifth north Korean Labor Party congress held in November 1970, the north Korean communists called for 'liberation of the people in the south' through struggles by whatever means, lawful, unlawful, small and large, against the Republic of Korea.

Furthermore, the north Korean communists have fully equipped the 1,500,000 Workers-Peasants Red Guards with arms and organized all offices, colleges, middle and primary schools and even the kindergartens into combat-ready units, thus boasting of the completion of war preparations.

2. As mentioned above, the actual deeds of the north Korean communists are entirely different from their peace propaganda. Therefore, no one would believe in their deceptive propaganda campaign. If the north Korean communists were sincere in their profession about peaceful unification, they should:

First, accept the proposal put forth by the United Nations Forces for the complete demilitarization and peaceful use of the demilitarized zone, 4 km wide, 250 km long, in accordance with the spirit and purpose of the Armistice Agreement.

Secondly, suspend immediately all sorts of provocative infiltration attempts by the north Korean armed agents via land, sea and all other routes.

Thirdly, release without delay all passengers and crew as well as the aircraft hijacked to the north and still detained there. Such barbaric acts threatening the safety of civil aviation should never recur.

Fourthly, abandon its aggressive policy of unifying the country by force which is evidenced by their urge for the fortification of the entire land, arming of the whole population and turning of all members of the armed forces into cadres.

3. For the first time since the division of the country,

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the Red Cross talks, proposed by the Korea Red Cross, are now being held at Panmunjom with a view to solving humanitarian problems. It is the hope of our Government that the Red Cross talks would bring forth fruitful results as early as possible.

In case the talks on humanitarian problems come to a successful conclusion, we would proceed to the discussions on non-political matters. If the talks on non-political matters prove to be successful, then we could move to the next stage of talks on political matters.

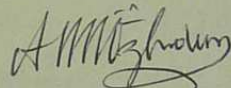
4. At this juncture, however, the most important thing is that the north Korean communists renounce their aggressive policy of unifying the country by force and prove it by deeds, and abandon their false propaganda campaign.

This only can serve as the first step towards the easing of tension in this area and the peaceful unification of the country."

I will report to you concerning the foregoing if and when further developments so warrant.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,



Ahmet H. Ozbudun
Principal Secretary