

February 2, 1972 Letters between Narasimhan and Ozbudun

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Summary:

Update concerning ROK outline on Korean question, Japan-DPRK 5-year trade agreement, 16th preliminary Red Cross negotiation, and North Korean leader Kim Byong Sik's statement in Time magazine.

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

CVN/MK cc: Mr. Kutakov Mr. Muller

CONFIDENTIAL

2 February 1972

Dear Ahmet,

I acknowledge receipt of your confidential letters

Nos. 59-64 on various matters. I have taken note of the contents.

Yours sincerely,

C.V. Narasimhan

Mr. Ahmet H. Ozbudun
Principal Secretary
United Nations Commission for the
Unification and Rehabilitation
of Korea

Box 56 Seoul, Republic of Korea



NATIONS UNIES



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

CONFIDENTIAL: No. 59

28 January 1972

SIGNIFICANT REMARKS BY THE ROK FOREIGN MINISTER

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

I was able, just now, to obtain a transcript of remarks made by the ROK Foreign Minister Kim Yong Shik at a TV interview on 18 January 1972. In view of its importance, I am sending you the text of the unofficial translation as I received it, without attempting any editing.

The remarks are significant in that they indicate some potential movement on the ROK attitude on the matter of First Committee invitations to Seoul and Pyongyang to participate in discussions of the Korean question. I will naturally report further on any developments in this regard.

The following is the text:

- 110. At his New Year press conference, President Park has stressed that north Korea should change its attitude first before the UN would send simultaneous invitations to both north and south Korea to the debate on Korean question at its General Assembly. In his statement made on August 15 last year, the Chief Executive laid down two conditions: 1) to renounce its ambition of armed communizationunification and to accept the UN efforts to help achieve Korean unification by recognizing the UN competence and authority. When and if the north Korean communists accept those terms, the President said that north Korea can sit at the UN debate and that we are willing to meet them for conversations. We were puzzled a little at finding that in his New Year press conference, President Park failed to repeat his earlier term, that is, to demand north Korea's acceptance of UN's competence and authority. Mr. Minister, could you enlighten us on this point?
- "A. As there are various indications that prove that the north Korean puppet regime has an ambition of armed communization-unification, it is most imperative that they should first renounce that ambition.

In short, they should stop threatening us by sending armed bandits to the south or importing various offensive weapons. This is our stand and position. When and if north Korea renounces its ambition of armed communization-unification and honestly seeks peaceful unification --- At present, this seems hardly practical --- . At any rate, when and if the communists are willing to do so, then there is a UN debate. But before going into substantial debate on the Korean question, our friendly allies will stress that the parties directly concerned with the question should accept the competence and authority of the International Body. The principle is that any party can participate in the debate of the Political Committee of the UNGA only after it accepts the UN's competence and authority. In its expression, however, our friendly allies have a very flexible attitude. And we can also treat the question of expression in a flexible manner. But the basic principle at stake is to renounce the ambition of armed aggression. In fact, there is no point to be reluctant to accept the UN's competence and authority once they renounce the ambition of armed aggression and stick to the peaceful settlement under the auspices of the United Nations. On the UN Day every year, our government makes it an annual practice to send a letter to the UN Secretary-General reaffirming our official stand that we accept the competence and authority of the United Nations for seeking the settlement of the Korean question. Therefore, when and if one agrees to a peaceful settlement, there is no need for being reluctant to accept the UN's competence and authority. Viewing from this we presume that the question of invitation at the UNGA this year will be settled in a way that some 20 friendly allies of ours will submit a joint resolution calling for acceptance of the competence and authority of the United Nations if one wants to participate at the UN debate. In the question of expression, however it can be varied. When and if the north Korean puppet regime makes it crystal clear that it will renounce the ambition of armed aggression, we will presume that the expression could be flexible in various forms. At this point, one may wish to ask how flexible the expression will be. When you closely follow the proceedings of the UN

debate on Korean question, you will detect slight changes in its expression of the point from that of 10 years ago. Therefore, our primary concern at the UN debate this year will be to concentrate on a diplomatic effort to prevent a war, a provocation by the north Korean puppet regime or to have the north Korean communists prove by action but not by mere lip-service that they are ready to renounce the ambition of armed aggression. When and if they do so, we will be very flexible in the expression, although the basic principle remains unchanged that they should first accept the competence and authority of the United Nations. This is my interpretation."

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ahmet H. Ozbudun Principal Secretary



NATIONS UNIES

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

CONFIDENTIAL: No 60

27 January 1972

JAPAN-DPRK CONCLUDE FIVE-YEAR PRIVATE TRADE AGREEMENT

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

On 23 January, Japan and the DPRK concluded in Pyongyang a fiveyear private trade agreement which calls for the increase of the annual volume of trade between the two countries by nearly ten times, namely from about \$60 million in 1971 to \$500 million in 1976.

The agreement was signed by the members of an Il-man suprapartisan Japanese parliamentary delegation, headed by Rep. Chuji Kuno, a member of the Japanese Liberal-Democratic Party, and Sok Jin Kim, Vice Chairman of the DPRK Committee for the Promotion of International Trade.

Under the agreement Japan would export 21 items, including industrial equipment for manufacturing automobiles, electronic computers, oil refineries, and nylon spinning plants. In return, north Korea would export to Japan the same number of items, including pig iron, non-ferrous metals, smokeless coal, and agricultural and fishery products.

According to the agreement, which will expire on 31 December 1976, the trade transactions would be made on the basis of contracts to be concluded between Japanese and north Korean traders. The two countries would promote technological interchanges and hold alternate trade fairs in Tokyo and Pyongyang.

The agreement also calls for the establishment by the two countries of trade offices in Tokyo and Pyongyang, as well for the acceptance by Japan of deferred payments, up to eight years, for large deals.

The agreement will bring about serious concern and repercussions in Seoul.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ahmet H. Ozbudun Principal Secretary



NATIONS UNIES

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

CONFIDENTIAL: No. 61

28 January 1972

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HEARS
REPORTS FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTER ON THE JAPAN-DPRK TRADE
AGREEMENT; REMARKS OF THE ROK AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

Further to the information contained in this week's Summary of Developments on the above matter, the following is of interest:

On 26 January 1972, the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly heard a report from the Foreign Minister on the trade expansion agreement concluded between a Japanese supra-partisan parliamentary delegation and the DPRK on 23 January.

Foreign Minister Kim Yong Shik stated that the Japanese Government had made it clear that it had never contemplated the establishment of trade offices by Japan and north Korea in Tokyo and Pyongyang, or the opening bilateral trade on a deferred payment basis, as had been reported. Minister Kim said that Japan had clarified its basic stand that the accord had not been approved and that Japan did not plan to do so in the coming days. He further said that Japan's negative attitude toward the accord had been confirmed verbally but not in the form of a document or written guarantee.

Minister Kim said that the Government would exert diplomatic efforts to maintain amity with Japan, based on the spirit of the Basic Relations Treaty. Also the Government would watch closely further developments on the matter in connexion with the enforcement of the trade expansion agreement.

He further said that if the trade agreement were implemented despite the ROK's strong protests, it would no doubt be conducive to strengthening north Korea's military potential, and thus would pose a grave menace to peace on the Korean Peninsula and other parts of Asia.

Representative Chyung Yil Hyung (NDP) demanded that the Government prevent Japanese approaches toward north Korea "at the cost of the ROK-Japan Basic Treaty".

After hearing the Foreign Minister's report, the Foreign Affairs Committee adopted a resolution calling on the Government inter alia to work out policies to counter the Japan-north Korean contacts focussing on the trade expansion agreement reached between Japan and north Korea. It further said that the Government should deal with the issues concerning the relationship between Japan and north Korea with a more positive and stronger attitude. The resolution also pointed out that a series of moves for contacts between Japan and north Korea contravened the spirit of the ROK-Japan Basic Relations Treaty.

In one point the resolution said: "Therefore, we strongly ask the Government to get definite assurances from Japan that it would not seek any exchange with north Korea harmful to Korean national interests". The resolution further called for exertion of national efforts to prevent Japan-north Korea contacts. It said that the trade expansion agreement could eventually help increase north Korea's combat power directed at the invasion of the south. The resolution further asked the Government to negotiate with Japan on the matter as soon as possible.

Meanwhile, upon his arrival in Seoul for consultations on 26 January, Mr. Lee Ho, ROK Ambassador to Japan, stated that the Japanese Government had officially assured him that it would not honour the reported trade expansion agreement and the joint communique between the Japanese suprapartisan parliamentary delegation and north Korea. Ambassador Lee said that without the Japanese Government's cooperation the entry of north Korean technicians, plant exports through Japanese Export-Import Bank loans, and the establishment of trade offices could not be accomplished.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

Ahmet H. Ozbudun Principal Secretary



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

CONFIDENTIAL: N. 62

28 January 1972

16TH PRELIMINARY RED CROSS MEETING

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

The representatives of the ROK and the DPRK Red Cross Organisations held their sixteenth preliminary meeting today. Some progress is indicated on the basis of initial reports.

During the meeting, which lasted one hour and forty minutes, the ROK Red Cross urged the DPRK Red Cross to accept its earlier proposal on the agenda for the full-dress meetings. It pointed out that the DPRK Red Cross proposal on "free travel" by the members of the dispersed families to south and north was unrealistic in view of the fact that the country had been divided for the past 22 years. "Free travel", in reality, could not be realized without prior confirmation on the residences of the members of the dispersed families since there would be no "target" to call on even if they were authorized to do so. Moreover, "free travel" could be used for purposes other than the search for family members. The present aim of the Red Cross talks was based on the humanitarian projects of the Red Cross. The projects of the Red Cross could not go beyond the humanitarian field. Unreasonable procdures involved in the DPRK Red Cross proposal on the agenda should be dropped.

The DPRK Red Cross persisted on its earlier proposal that "free travel" be included as an agenda item for the full-dress meetings. It said that free travel by members of separated families to south and north would create an atmosphere of mutual trust which would eventually be conducive to territorial unification. It demanded that the ROK Red Cross accept free travel as an agenda item.

After further exchange of views, the DPRK Red Cross proposed that each side present a revised proposal to the next preliminary meeting. It said that the earlier proposals presented by the two parties were unilateral and one-way proposals which could not meet the other party's demands.

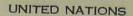
The ROK Red Cross agreed to do so.

The next preliminary meeting is scheduled for 3 February 1972.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours, A WWO Shuding Ahmet H. Ozbuduh

Principal Secretary





NATIONS UNIES

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

CONFIDENTIAL: No.63

28 January 1972

MY CALLS ON ROK POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

This week I managed to resume my courtesy calls which I had to interrupt on account of my exceedingly busy schedules involving an average of 12 hours a day, most often seven days a week.

On the Government Party side, I called on DRP Chairman Paik Nam Ok, Secretary-General Kil Chon Shik and former Premier Chung Il Koon.

On the Opposition Party side, I visited NDP President Kim Hong Il and 1971 Presidential Candidate Kim Dae Jung.

All calls were most interesting, cordial, and beneficial for the future. We cultivated and cemented excellent relations as was the case in some previous calls on other officials and chiefs of missions.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ahmet H. Ozbudun Principal Secretary



NATIONS UNIES

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

CONFIDENTIAL: No. 64

28 January 1972

UNCURK SECRETARIAT INFORMATION NOTES

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

I am enclosing herewith two Information Notes which you may find of interest.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ahmet H. Ozbudun Principal Secretary

UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA

Information Note No. 6/72

27 January 1972

Note by the Secretariat: The following article "North Korean offer to negotiate with all political parties in Seoul for a peaceful treaty" is written by Mr. Michael Hornsby, Correspondent of "The Times" of London on his interview in Tokyo with Mr. Kim Byong Sik*, a leader of the pro North Koroan Group (Chosen Soren) of the Korean residents in Japan. The article appeared in "The Times" of 22 January 1972.

North Korea is ready at any time to "hold negotiations with all political parties in South Korea for the purpose of replacing the armistice a non-aggression pact, the withdrawal of the 40,000 American troops from the South and a mutual reduction of armaments.

Peace negotiations, Mr. Kim indicated, could be held in parallel with, or as an extension of, the present talks between Red Cross representatives that are intended to lead to a reunion of families and exchanges of letters. An American withdrawal of troops need not be a precondition for the opening of such negotiations.

"Our aim is the peaceful reunification of our country", Mr. Kim explained. "But the other side is not ready for that. So, as a step, a confederate arrangement recognizing the existing social systems in the North and South and the present territorial division might be possible. But a non-aggression pact must be the first step".

The next move, according to Mr. Kim, would be the creation of a "Supreme National Council" composed of representatives of both North and South, which would supervise the conduct of "free and fair" elections throughout the Korean peninsula. The Koreans must be left alone to decide their own future.

Could there be any question of United Nations supervision of such elections as well? "No, there must be no outside interference", Nr. Kim replied firmly. "In our country the United Nations flag is the flag of the invader" (a reference to United Nations sanction of the American military presence in South Korea).

^{*} Born in South Korea in 1919 during the period of Japanese rule, Mr. Kim Byong Sik was brought to Japan as a boy, was educated and left there ever since. He is acting chairman of the General Association of the Chosen Soren Group and an expatriate member of the North Korean National Assembly. He is in fact the second in seniority of seven Korean residents elected as expatriate members to the Supreme People's Assembly in Pyongyang. According to the article, Mr. Kim was authorized to speak on behalf of Premier Kim Il Sung of North Korea.

The main points of the communique are as follows:

- The Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries recognized the important role of the Japanese suprapartisan Dietmen's League for Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship in normalizing relations between the two countries.

The Korean Society highly appraised the League's astivities in promoting friendly relations between the two countries. The Society also highly appreciated the efforts being made by the League to establish diplomatic relations.

- The Japanese Delegation welcomed the efforts of the Korean people to achieve peaceful unification of Korea with due respect for the principle of democracy and without intervention from external forces.
- The Korean Society strongly consured South Korea's moves to obstruct the peaceful unification of Korea through "repeated acts of Fascist oppression and proclamation of a state of emergency on grounds of threats of aggression from the North".

The Society also stressed that the "traitors in South Korea" must immediately stop their "deliberate attempt" to intensify tension in Korea and other parts of Asia.

- The Korean delegation said that the U.S. must immediately withdraw its troops from South Korea.
- The Japanese delegation expressed its deep regret over propaganda activities in South Korea concerning the "threat of aggression" from the North. And it hoped that foreign countries would stop interfering in the domestic affairs of the Republic and that the independent and peaceful unification of Korea would be achieved as soon as possible.
- Both the Japanese Delegation and the Korean Society expressed their firm belief that it would serve the interests and desire of the people of the two countries to improve the relations between Japan and the Republic as soon as possible.

Both Delegations also recognized the need to promote the exchange of visits as well as economic and cultural exchanges on the basis of resiprocity to expand friendly relations between the two countries.

- The Japanese Delegation and the Korean Society stressed that the Japanese Government should not make any attempt to obstruct the peaceful unification of Korea or to interfere in the internal affairs of Korea. They also emphasized that the Japanese Government should renounce its "unfriendly" policies toward the Republic.
- Both Delegations agreed that Korean residents in Japan should be allowed to return to their fatherland of their own accord, and that they should be allowed freedom of action in Japan under international law.
- The Japanese Delegation and the Korean Society expressed their belief that Japan and the Republic could develop good-neighborly relations and establish diplomatic relations if they made joint efforts toward this goal.

The Dietmen's group postponed its departure scheduled for Tuesday evening due to bad weather. It is now expected to leave Wednesday for Tokyo via Moscow.