

November 29, 1971

Letter, Ozbudun to Narasimhan

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Summary:

Kim Jong-pil calls for the strengthening of the ROK defense posture because of North Korea's war preparations.

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THE NEED FOR STRENGTHENING THE CAPITAL'S DEFENCE

Dear Mr. Narasimhan,

On 27 November, in reply to the question by an NDP Assemblyman, Park Pyong Bae, before the Budget-Settlement Committee, as to whether the Government was trying to create a sense of crisis by emphasizing the need for strengthening the Capital's defence, Prime Minister Kim Jong Pil said that there were good reasons to believe that the north Koreans had completed by last March their war preparations, and were awaiting a chance to launch a "surprise attack". The north Koreans, in a surprise raid, could destroy most of the ROK's strategic facilities with their 90 twin-engined supersonic bombers. He added that if another war broke out in Korea, unlike the prompt response at the outbreak of war in 1950, the ROK could hardly expect immediate military support and material aid from her allies. Therefore, the ROK should strengthen the defence posture of Seoul and carry out all the necessary preparations against a possible invasion by north Korea.

I will report to you on this matter if and when warranted.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ahmet H. Ozbudun", is written over the typed name.

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