

1990

South Korea

Population over 14 years	41,057,000
Female Population	19,126,000
Male Population	19,979,000
Unemployment	450,000
Rate of Participation in Vocational Activities	58.4%
Employment	2.5%
Medical Expenditure	10,440
Medical Mortality of Korea	

Medical Expenditure	4,165
Automobile	112,579
Number of Mastered	134,127 (among 6,687,821)
Rate of Mastered	1.98% (in 1989)
Number of Presenters	1,349

Number of Mastered - 134,127 (among 6,687,821)
 Rate of Mastered - 1.98% (in 1989)
 Number of Presenters - 1,349

Basic Statistics on the Living conditions of South Korean Workers

유기호 자료
A3 113
by KTUC

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[Ref.] Statistics (1990)

Number of Organized Laborers	Economical Population, Etc.,
Railroad 31,478	Population over 14 years : 31,057,000
Textile 128,169	Economic Population : 18,129,000
Mine 20,608	Employed : 17,679,000
Electric Power 25,553	Unemployed : 450,000
Foreign Capital 34,321	Rate of Participation in
Communication 58,336	Economic Activities : 58.4%
Harbor-Transportation 30,789	Rate of Unemployment : 2.5%
Maritime 77,491	
Finance 120,982	(Data : Bureau of Statistics, "Sta-
Tobacco-Ginseng 10,440	tistical Monthly of Korea")
Chemical 183,552	
Metal 330,519	
Publication 4,485	
Automobile 112,579	
Allied 156,249	
Sight-Seeing 24,848	
Post 23,639	
Insurance 20,997	
Taxi 10,958	
Rubber 73,188	
Total 1,565,182	

(Data : Ministry of Labor, "Year-book of Labor Statistics")

3. INDUSTRIAL DISASTER

Number of Disasters - 128,138

Number of Disastered - 134,127 (among 6,687,821)

Rate of Disaster - 1.92% (in 1989)

3-1. Fatal Disaster (Death) : Number of Disasters - 1,649

Number of Death -1,724

4. MINIMUM COST LIVING (of 4 Person Family) *1990.12.*

	F. K. T. U.		K. C. T. U.
	Consumption Expenditure	Ratio	
Consumption Expenditure	Won778,931	89.0%	Won249,185
Foods \$ Beverage	278,154	31.8	

Housing	203,466	23.2	227,119
Fuel, Light & Water	31,383	3.6	47,165
Furnitures	29,825	3.4	41,230
Clothing	49,914	5.7	67,417
Medical Care	46,532	5.4	30,160
Education	64,930	7.4	45,000
Transportation & Communication	26,237	3.0	23,200
Culture & Recreation	48,490		
Barber or Beauty Art			35,850
Miscellaneous			69,350
Non-Consumption Expenditure	96,553		
Saving	34,000	3.9	
Tax	62,533	7.1	73,562
Total	875,464	100.0	909,238

Note: F.K.T.U. - Federation of Korean Trade Unions
K.C.T.U. - Korean Confederation of Trade Unions

[Ref.] Composition of Labor Family

	Non-Laborer's	Laborer's
No. of Employees per Household	1.41	1.30
Average Age of Householder	38.21	37.22
Average No. of Family	3.98	4.09

Data : Economic Planning Board

[Ref.] Composition of Wage

Year	Total	Regular Payment			Overtime Allowance	Special Allowance
		Basic Pay	Allowance	Total		
1987	100.0	55.6	16.0	71.6	12.6	15.8
1989	100.0	52.9	16.5	69.4	11.1	19.5

[Ref.] Hours of Work per Week

	Total	Regular	Overtime

Survey on the imprisoned trade unionists during Mar. '88 - Apr. '92

by KTOC

All Industries	48.0	41.7	6.3
Manufacturing	49.5	41.8	7.6

[Ref.] Household by Sort of Housing (10,000 families, %)

	One's Own	By Key Money	By Rent	Others	Total
Nationwide	512.7(53.6)	220.2(23.0)	189.3(19.8)	34.9(3.6)	957.1
Cities	261.7(41.3)	197.0(31.1)	155.5(24.6)	18.9(3.0)	633.1
Seoul	94.9(40.8)	85.6(36.8)	45.7(19.7)	6.2(2.7)	232.4

[Ref.] Laborers' Household by Sort of Housing (%)

	One's Own	By Key Money	By Rent	Others
Total	17.8	57.0	21.6	3.6
Householder	22.8	61.1	14.8	1.3

[Ref.] Rate of Price-Hikes of Land, House and Key Money Rent

	1987.12	1988.12	1989.12	1990.9	1990.9*
Land	14.7%	27.5%	32.0%	16.5%	241.2
House	7.2%	13.1%	14.6%	17.4%	158.8
Key Money Rent	19.2%	13.8%	17.8%	18.9%	199.8

* : 1985.12 = 100.0

[] Trade Union

1. Number of Unions : Unions - 6,432

Chapters - 3,667

Branches - 2,494 (as of Dec. 1990)

2. General rate of organization

* Non-Agricultural - 23.7%

* All Employed - 18.7%

Whereas the number arrested in 1988 was 79 when the government firstly launched the number has largely increased since 1989. On 28 December, 1988, the President Roh ordered a special instruction to stabilize industrial relations.

The peculiar aspect of unionists arrest is that the time of arrest is concentrated on between March and July, when the collective bargaining is usually going on in Korea.

In case of the dismissal, the number of dismissal is also generally high between April and July.

Survey on the imprisoned trade unionists during Mar. '88 - Apr. '92

by KTUC

President	270 (18.1)	33 (18.5)
Officer	646 (53.0)	114 (63.8)
Rank & File	354 (23.0)	20 (11.3)
Dismissed etc	55 (3.8)	11 (6.2)
Sub Total	1,325 (100.0)	178 (100.0)
Unidentified	192	38
Total	1,729	216

The sources of this survey data are the reports mainly from the KTUC member unions and partly from sympathetic trade unions. Accordingly, the actual number of arrested unionists would be more than this survey results even if we consider that the majority of the arrested is usually members of the KTUC. A little difference between this data and previous data is owing to those identified newly during this survey. - Research and Statistics Department, KTUC.

Total number of the unionists arrested by Roh Tae-woo government for 4 years (Mar.'88 - Apr.'92) is 1,729 (1,940 if the members of labour movement organisations other than trade unions are included). It averages 35 persons a month and 1.1 person a day. The unionists imprisoned in jail as of 30th of Apr., 1992 are 216 (314 as above) and one was killed in prison.

On the other hand, under the Roh Tae-woo Regime, 4,573 workers have been dismissed for their union activities by the management, only 177(3.9%) among which have been reinstated.

Unionists arrested per year/month

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	unknown	Total
1988			0	1	36	8	8	12	1	2	0	6	5	79
1989	17	11	59	84	64	113	51	28	42	28	43	31	31	602
1990	18	13	35	62	132	80	33	32	29	12	10	12	17	485
1991	4	22	39	37	43	146	100	20	26	16	24	9	0	486
1992	21	27	5	24									0	77

* In 1992, the number of the arrested in spring is few in comparison with that of previous years during same season. It is because the wage bargaining is being delayed due to the government's decisive wage curb policy.

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Union Positions of the Workers arrested

	Unionists arrested Number (Ratio)	Unionists in Jail Number (Ratio)
President	278 (18.1)	33 (18.6)
Officer	846 (55.0)	114 (63.8)
Rank & File	354 (23.0)	20 (11.3)
Dismissed etc	59 (3.8)	11 (6.2)
Sub Total	1,537 (100.0)	178 (100.0)
Unidentified	192	38
Total	1,729	216

Among the unionists arrested whose positions are identified, the union officers including representatives are 73.1 percent. The number of president arrested is 278 persons(18.1 percent).

21 persons of the total 25 Executive Officers and Central Committee members of the KTUC have been arrested, among whom 8 persons including the President Dan Byung-ho have been arrested more than two times. The Executive Officers and Central Committee members now in jail are 7 persons.

In case of dismissal, nearly 78.1% of the dismissed workers are union officers.

Charges applied

Interference with Business, Criminal Law	887 (55.5)
Violence, Criminal Law	561 (35.1)
Labour Disputes Adjustment Law	393 (24.6)
Law on Assembly and Demonstration	302 (18.9)
Interference with Public Officials' Conduct, Criminal Law	122 (7.6)
National Security Law	94 (5.9)
etc	244 (15.3)

* The arrested whose charges are identified are 1,599 persons. The charges applied on a person are calculated separately.

To arrest unionists, the criminal law is more often applied than the labour laws. It means that the government arrested unionists on the charge of violating the criminal law, with a view to isolating them from working places and checking the trade union movement even when they did not commit an offence even under the current narrow labour laws. It is also proved from the statistics that the arrested are mostly released within 5 months by the sentence of suspension. Nevertheless, Korean government will allege that the arrest is justifiable in that the victims have violated the current laws and their offenses are not concerned with union activities. Here some typical examples should be referred to understand the reality.

Interference of Business : the president of Yakurt Trade Union, Kim Nam-soo had been arrested when he refused holiday work; the president of Daeha Dyeing Trade Union, Park Young-bae and 2 officers had been arrested when they refused holiday work to condole upon the union member's death by industrial accident; the chief of Daewoo Electronic Trade Union's Incheon branch, Kim Jong-cheon and deputy chief had been arrested when the union branch called holiday on the

scheduled athletic meeting day after handing over the expenses to the fellow workers of Kwangjoo factory over a fire at Kwangjoo factory; 4 officers of Dongkyung Electronic Trade Union had been arrested when the union ordered the members to work to rule to protest against the management's unfair dismissal of a union member; the warrant of arrest on the charge of IB against the acting president of Hwasung Trade Union, Lee Mi-kyung had been dismissed two times by the court but at last the prosecutor arrested her in spite of her 8 months pregnancy.

Violence : the arrested unionists on the charge of V as of Apr. 1991 were 411, of whom women workers are 54; 2 women officers of US Magnetics Trade Union had been arrested when a minute conflict was occurred between them and a Labour Ministry officer during their requesting to set up a measure on the wages in arrears; the president of Hanmi Hospital Trade Union had been arrested when she urged the management to recall an unfair dismissal; a union member of Youngtae Electronic, Park Woong-yong had been arrested when he, after being dismissed from the management, went to the company to meet his fellow workers and quarreled with company guards.

Third Party Intervention : the president of Daewoo Motor Trade Union, Lee Eun-koo and other 6 union leaders of large factory unions had been arrested in charge of the 'Third Party Intervention' when they met together with 60 union officers for training and were likely to discuss about supporting methods for Daewoo Shipyard's strike. The Daewoo Shipyard's strike was later settled in peace.

National Security Law : the chief of Pacific Chemical Trade Union's branch had been arrested when she copied and delivered the writings of one who was prosecuted in charge of NSL to union members; the editing director of Hyundai Precision Trade Union, Kim Sang-myung had been arrested when he published an article, 'what is USA', of a university bulletin in the union organ; the president, Kim Ki-ja, and 3 officers of Myungsung Electronic Trade Union and Lee Seung-phil, the president of Daelim Motor Trade Union had been arrested in charge of 'possession and reading of publications benefiting enemy' of the NSL when they kept the books lawfully published in the union bookshelf.

Others Laws : Lee Mi-duck, the women workers director of Daewoo Electronic Supplies Trade Union, had been arrested in charge of 'Interference with Public Official's Conduct' in the Criminal Law when she protested against a labour inspector's investigation into the union internal affairs; Park Sang-kwon, a member of Daewoo Shipyard Trade Union, had been arrested on the charge of 'Production of Illegal Record' when he provided the Hyundai Shipyard Trade Union with a recording tape of union song made by the union; Baek Sung-hwa, Education Director of Won Electronic Trade Union, had been arrested on the charge of 'Larceny' when she boiled rice of messroom during strike; Lee Sang-keun had been arrested on the charge of 'Forgery of Private Document' on grounds that 4 years ago he had once engaged in a company for 4 months by stating false career in resume.

Arrest period

Term(Month)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12-24	24-36	unknown	Total
Released	11	72	168	347	162	50	53	19	24	26	22	9	71	4	477	1,513
In Jail	24	5	25	20	6	15	6	15	8	15	35	6	26	9	0	216

73.3% of the arrested was released within 4 months. It means the government made use of arrest to isolate the active unionists from the working places where labour disputes was being progressed.

The business conglomerates which produced a number of arrested unionists are Hyundai(175),

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August 1990

PICO KOREA WORKERS STRUGGLE

Greetings from the Staff

Hello to all supporters of the Pico Korea workers and their struggle. First, we'd like to thank you for all of your messages of solidarity and support, as well as the contributions which you generously sent. We apologize for the delay in communication but we hope that through this newsletter we will be able to keep you up to date on the progress of the campaign in the future. If you have any questions whatsoever or need more information please don't hesitate to contact us by phone or mail.

Throughout the campaign we have been so encouraged and strengthened by all your support. Often, when times were tough, the many actions which you took on behalf of the workers inspired us to continue the struggle. We feel moved and privileged in seeing real solidarity come to life and to be experiencing its strength. Again, thank you.

In solidarity,
Pico Korea Workers Support Comm. staff

Nora Choi Simone Sagovac
Nora Choi *Simone Sagovac*

As you may know already, the three representatives from Pico Korea Union departed for south Korea on August 17, after a three month struggle in the U.S. They felt that this was a good time to be reunited with their families as well as to carry on the work in south Korea. Before leaving, the workers and their supporters from throughout the US and Canada held a week-long "Fast for Justice." This fast was simultaneously carried out by supporters in L.A. and the remaining Pico workers in Korea. Though we had a great deal of media coverage and gained support from all across the world, the fast failed to move Hitchcock to negotiate with the workers. Thus, the Center for Constitutional Rights filed a lawsuit in Federal court on behalf of the Pico Korea Union.

The Lawsuit

A Complaint was filed with the Federal District Court in Binghamton, New York on August 12, 1990 by Frank Deale, an attorney at the Center for Constitutional Rights, on behalf of the Pico Korea Union against Pico Products, Inc. and Bernard Hitchcock. The primary charge in the complaint is that Pico Products and Mr. Hitchcock did not honor the collective Bargaining Agreement existing between the Union and Pico Korea management, which was signed by representatives of both parties in November of 1988. Also charged is that the company failed to notify the workers in advance of the plant closure in accordance with the Plant Closures Act which went into effect in early 1989.

The response to the complaint came on the last possible date, and basically denies all the charges. Mr. Hitchcock's lawyer is Mr. Gerald J. Mathews, of Menter, Rudin & Trivelpiece, P.C., located on 500 South Salina Street, Suite 500 in Syracuse. Our attorney, Frank Deale, has been in contact with Mr. Mathews regarding the amount of assets left at the Pico plant in Korea. Upon filing the lawsuit the workers decided that they were no longer interested in safeguarding the Pico plant or property within and notified Mr. Hitchcock, giving the company a date in advance as to when someone should assume responsibility. In a recent press release Mr. Hitchcock claims that nearly \$1.8 million in assets are missing from the Pico Korea plant. He is accusing the workers of having done away with this amount and states therefore any money he owes to the workers should be taken out of the missing assets. According to the Korean Embassy, the only sellable assets left in the factory were a number of used cars that would not amount to even a third of the workers' backwages. The workers note that Hitchcock quoted figures from a January 1990 report, a full month before the pullout, thus, not accounting for items shipped or taken out of the country during the month of February. On the initial inventory listing which the workers provided, some items were merely overlooked and not accounted for; additions have been made since. Furthermore, Mr. Hitchcock is trying to hold the workers responsible for assets which he negligently left behind while running away more than a year and a half ago.

The Korean Government's Response

Until recently, the Korean government had been sympathetic but not helpful in this matter. When the workers returned to Korea, however, due largely to the support that they gained in the US, the ruling party of the government, Minjadang, made a special visit to the Union. They apologized for not being more helpful in the past and pledged their full cooperation in the future. Following this visit the Labor Attache at the Korean Embassy in Washington, DC, Mr. In Nae Ko called us in Syracuse to discuss a letter he was sending to Bernard Hitchcock on behalf of the Korean government. The content of the letter stated that according to the Korean Standard Labor Law, which Mr. Hitchcock had violated, Pico owed the workers a minimum of \$427,000. The letter further stated that this amount had to be paid in cash, not in the form of assets or any other substitution. The government noted that the question of the assets left in Korea was a matter for Mr. Hitchcock to handle and that the Union had no responsibility whatsoever. Mr. Ko also pledged his support and cooperation with the lawsuit now in progress. We were pleased to hear the government's official position on this matter.

Pico Korea Union Struggle

The U.S. State Department

In addition to the Korean Embassy urging Mr. Hitchcock to negotiate, the U.S. State Department has appointed someone to specifically handle the Pico matter. This representative placed repeated calls before recently speaking with Mr. Hitchcock and encouraging him to settle.

Re-Organizing of Campaign & Future Address Change

With the workers having returned temporarily to Korea and the lawsuit filed, there was a need to change the focus of the campaign, with more emphasis on the national level. On August 12th representatives from many of the support committees as well as the interim coordinating body (see minutes from meeting for details) met with the workers to discuss this matter. It was decided to keep a coordinating body with Nora Choi as the staff person for the campaign working out of NYC. Thus, the headquarters of the campaign itself will be moving to NYC by the first week of September. When a definite address and phone number are established we will be sure to notify you. In the meantime, if you are sending us any mail or packages, please call us first for the appropriate address: 315-474-3350.

Workers Return to U.S.

We have set the tentative date of the workers return to the US for sometime in the middle of October, 1990 to give their testimonies for the deposition.

St. Vincent: New Old News

Apparently this isn't the first time Pico has been involved in Union busting tactics and exploiting workers overseas. In fact, Pico was cited as an example of multinational exploitation in a textbook! See "PICO's Union Busting in the Caribbean."

National Solidarity

The following are just some of the hundreds of supporters that sent messages of solidarity- We thank you!

Striking Greyhound Workers, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, U.A.W., National Rainbow Coalition, United Steel Workers of America, U.E., International Ladies Garment Workers Union, The Southeast Center for Justice, Methodist Federation for Social Action, Church Women United, Federation for Industrial Retention and Renewal, Columban Fathers, Labor Notes

A letter from the Union President *July 27, 1990*

To our Brothers and Sisters throughout the country who support the Pico Korea Union struggle:

Having had to leave behind the heavy burden of our struggle with you, I found the joy of being reunited with my loving son to be only temporary. Since our return we have been extremely busy here with getting the truth out about our struggle and so I find that my first correspondence to you has been quite delayed.

We apologize to all of you in the U.S. who are continuing to carry on the struggle of Pico Workers. We hope that you are all well.

Our comrades here would also like me to express their appreciation to you. The passionate help given to us by all those organizations of conscience and supporting brothers and sisters throughout the U.S. has shown results even in this country. Your efforts and support helped to bring about a heightened level of consciousness and awareness of our struggle which forced even the Min Ja Dang (the ruling party) to act on our behalf. This, we could not trade for any amount of money. I cannot help but feel joy in knowing that the tears of the Pico mothers' were not shed for nothing. Though we know for truth and always stressed that the Pico struggle represents the sorrow of all the workers in this world and that it also is a question of national dignity, the fact is that without the warm love and solidarity of all of you in the U.S., all of this would not have been possible.

Here, in Korea, workers are involved in a battle for their very survival. The government is decreasing the number of public holidays and trying to pass laws which state "no work, no pay" (this in effect would take away all of the benefits that workers have fought so hard for). Truly, the future worries me.

Brothers and Sisters! Let us be healthy so that we can all together go on this road which is far and rough, showing each other the way, and keeping each other up until we reach that world which we are all hoping for. Let us meet soon to defeat Bernard Hitchcock who has provided this historical battle in which brothers and sisters in our land can be in direct solidarity with those in the U.S.

Let us not forget that our strength comes from when we are organized and that we can win only when we unite.

Please do take care.

Yoo, Jum Soon
President, Pico Korea Union

Pico Korea Union Struggle

Summary of Events

June 30 Korean Culture Night in Syracuse with authentic Korean dinner and traditional music - 180 people attended, \$1880 raised

July 5 -12 "Fast for Justice"

As a final moral appeal to Hitchcock to negotiate, Pico Korea workers began a week-long fast both in front of Pico headquarters in Liverpool, NY and at the abandoned plant in Buchon, south Korea.

Representatives from the currently banned National Teachers Union of Korea who were touring in the US for support visited during an opening Candlelight Vigil ceremony to offer messages of solidarity.

Beginning on day 2, others came to Liverpool to join in fast and support from NY, NJ, Boston, Chicago, Toronto, LA, D.C. Syracuse and other regions. The number of fasters in NY increased to 12, and people began to fast in solidarity in LA.

On Saturday morning a group of 50 - national and local supporters - picketed Hitchcock's residence and a number of people canvassed the neighborhood. A delegation approached his door attempting to speak to the Pico CEO. While they got no answer at the door, they did from the roof when Hitchcock appeared with a water hose trying to spray the demonstrators, with all of the local media present to capture the scene. The papers and all three major t.v. networks covered the incident. (see editorial and Hitchcock's comments, pg.6) Complaints against Hitchcock for harassment were filed with the local District Attorney by a number of the local demonstrators.

Liverpool Police arrived Monday morning and forcibly confiscated signs that were staked into the ground, as violations of a town structures ordinance. The already weakened President collapsed and was rushed by ambulance to a hospital where she underwent several tests with inconclusive results. She regained consciousness on her own after 3 hours and was released from the hospital on the condition that she not continue the fast.

That evening, while the President rested, fasters and others attended the Salina Town Council Meeting where the Union's local attorney, Alan Rosenthal, asked the Council's permission for the fasters to erect temporary shelter. The Council, fearing potential liability, officially took "no action," thereby effectively upholding the structures ordinance. Fasters and supporters had to continue sleeping both outside and in the back of a U-haul van.

Later that night, a car made several passes by the Pico fast site and showered the fasters who were lying exposed with smoke bombs. Police were called and patrolled the area throughout the night along with supporters who kept watch in shifts.

The President joined the picket on Tuesday to continue with the fast, and a delegation of local supporters attempted to meet with Mr. Hitchcock at Pico to deliver the thousands of petition signatures, letters of support and endorsements received to date. The local citizens were not permitted to enter Pico, despite the entire local media presence. Police were called in to arrest supporters, but arrests were avoided.

Locals later held a rally at Pico which began with the Community Choir and had several speakers representing labor, church and solidarity groups, who talked about the significance of the Pico Korea Union struggle. A message from Jesse Jackson to the workers was presented by the National Rainbow Coalition.

On this last eve of their fast, the entire fasting group as well as supporters held an all night silent vigil in front of Hitchcock's residence. He did not appear to be home, but the media came to cover the demonstration.

July 12 Fast End - Filing of Lawsuit

The Complaint charging Hitchcock and Pico with breach of contract and unlawful plant closure was filed by the Center for Constitutional Rights on behalf of the Pico Korea Union at 8:45am. A press conference announcing the filing and the breaking of the fast was held outside the Federal District Court at 10am. After, fasters and supporters marched through town to Plymouth Community Church where they broke their fast with rice porridge provided by the local Korean community.

At 3:30pm Hitchcock held a private press conference at his Pico office, in which he reiterated his previous claims that the workers are "communists," and "terrorists" with unreasonable demands, and ruled out any type of negotiation.

A national strategy meeting was held that same day to review the campaign and discuss a further course of action. An interim coordinating committee was established to come up with a proposal for the continuing campaign structure.

The three Union representatives held a press conference on Saturday, July 14, announcing their departure to Korea and their promise to return soon. They left Syracuse for New York City the next day, where a farewell gathering was held for them, and a press conference with the Korean press in NYC.

July 17 Workers depart to Korea

Upon their return to Korea, the workers were met by the press at the airport. They have since had several interviews and continue to give talks about their experience in the U.S. Currently, the workers are touring throughout Korea with a drama about their struggle.

Pico Korea Union Struggle

July 25 Locals Picketed Pico

Syracuse locals held a picket at Pico as a reminder to Hitchcock that the struggle isn't over. Several news stations covered the event.

August 3 National Rally and Strategy Mtg

Supporters from NYC, NJ, Boston, D.C. and Toronto came to Syracuse once again to picket at Pico and to discuss the national campaign strategy. A National Coordinating Committee was established and Nora Choi will serve as staff person for the campaign. See summary minutes for further information.

[Copies of detailed update available upon request.]

National Strategy Meeting August 3, 1990 Summary Minutes

I. Outcome from 7-12-90 Strategy Mtg:

- \$1700 from total funds would be left in Syracuse as a buffer for rent, bills and operating expenses
- Interim Coordinating Committee established to discuss proposals for continuing structure of the campaign

II. Continuing campaign structure

Decision: Maintain a Coordinating Committee (CC) with representatives to include: Peter Kardas-Syracuse Support Committee; Jinsoo Kim-Center for Constitutional Rights; Serk Ha Chang-Korean-American Christian Youth Council; Mili Kang-North American Coalition for Human Rights in Korea; Michael Chwe-Chicago SC; Pharis Harvey-International Labor Rights Education Research Fund; a representative from Young Koreans United (pending); and Nora Choi-campaign staff.

The CC will be able to make decisions in the interim of national strategy mtgs. (National meetings will continue to have open attendance.)

III. Financial Report

All accounts were assessed and remaining funds, approximately \$6200, will be transmitted to the Union in Korea. L.A. Support Committee will be sending funds separately. The campaign nationally raised \$29,000 with \$19,000 in expenses. We were able to give the Union in Korea a total of \$10,000. (All figures do not account for funds from the L.A. Support Committee.)

IV. Legal Report

Most of the discussion centered around speculation about a potential default judgement, in the case that Hitchcock did not file a response to the complaint, which was then overdue.

Litigation for the present lawsuit can take anywhere from 1-2 years or more, depending on

whether or not the court's authority to judicate the case is challenged.

The presiding judge for the case will be Justice McAvoy of the Federal District Court in Binghamton, NY. (see Legal Report on pg. 1)

V. Press Strategy

Regarding logistics: Staff person will coordinate future press releases, but all committees should make press contacts.

VI. Syracuse Presence

The Syracuse Support Committee plans to hold pickets every few weeks and will continue meeting regularly to discuss any other actions.

VII. Workers Return

Mid-October was the time set for the workers to return to the U.S. Individuals on the CC will be looking into the possibility of a national speaking tour.

VIII. Fundraising

Funds primarily need to be raised to continue with the campaign. Some ideas presented were:

- Bowl-a-thon/Dance-a-thon
- including a letter in different organizations' newsletters or mailings with a funding pitch
- cultural dinner
- church service & events collections
- brochure on struggle with pitch
- T-shirt sales (see add in this publication)
- Posters with t-shirt design
- Letter to major unions

IX. Corporate Campaign - M. Chwe, Chicago Suggestions for Corporate Campaign:

(1) Raise issue at local Cable Commissions across country. Show national consequences of Pico's actions as an example, especially in Korean community. Once a supportive statement is given, publicize it widely.

(2) Urge companies to give statements asking both sides to negotiate

(3) Work on consumer pressure regarding the "Perfect Trap," Pico's hope for the future. Find out how it is used and how to exert consumer pressure.

(4) Write to companies doing business with Pico. Notify them of Pico's irresponsible actions and about the lawsuit.

(5) Put direct pressure on BOD
#1 and #3 above suggested as most cost-effective

X. Legislative Strategy

Discussed possible letter-writing campaign aimed at targeting larger accountability and involving more supporters in direct actions other than fundraising. Staff and others will work on ideas to mobilize supporters for more direct action.

Pico Korea Union Struggle

PICO's Union Busting in the Caribbean

The following is an excerpt from an article recently discovered in a book entitled The Caribbean: Survival, Struggle and Sovereignty, by Catherine A. Sunshine, published in 1985 by EPICA. Though Bernard Hitchcock continues to try and portray himself to the press as a victim of "terrorists and communists," we see from this past example that sudden closure was his policy in dealing with unions. As far as we are aware, the plant in St. Vincent is still in operation. We are attempting to make contacts there as well as in St. Kitts and Taiwan. Any assistance in furthering these efforts would be greatly appreciated. [Clarifying notes have been added in brackets].

The Pico Affair

Minimum wage in St. Vincent and the Grenadines is US\$5.00 per day for men and \$3.85 per day for women. Women make up the majority of the work force in the handful of electronics and garment firms operating outside Kingstown. Like many Caribbean countries, St. Vincent promises investors a "cooperative" industrial climate, and there is no compulsory trade union law. [When Pico Korea was first set up in 1985 unions were illegal in foreign owned companies. It was only after the mass workers' struggles in 1987 that the labor laws were revised to allow unions to exist in these companies].

In February 1984, a dispute broke out between the CTAWU [the Commercial Technical and Allied Workers Union - the largest union in St. Vincent] and Pico Ltd., a New York-based electronics firm assembling cable TV parts in St. Vincent. It centered on the firing of a CTAWU shopsteward, Louise Glasgow, who was subsequently judged by the Labour Commissioner to have been unfairly dismissed. Pico refused to reinstate her and instead closed the plant, locking out 136 employees and demanding as a condition for reopening that the union no longer represent the workers. Company officials actually left the island, leaving matters in the hands of their lawyer who was also a parliamentary senator of the Labour party.

Three weeks later, a "settlement" was reached in a meeting between Pico, CTAWU officials, and Prime Minister Cato, and the company reopened its doors. Under the terms of the settlement, Pico agreed to rehire 90% of the locked-out employees in return for a "cooling off" period of several months in which union activity would be replaced with negotiation by an internal grievance committee.

The ink was hardly dry on the Cato-Pico agreement when it became clear that the company had pulled off a masterful stroke of union-busting. Instead of rehiring 90% of the workers - a provision which in itself would have permitted the exclusion

of union activists - Pico selected some 60 workers of whom less than 40% were union members. Within a week of their employment, pressures were brought to bear on the latter group, and the CTAWU received a batch of nearly identical letters from the workers saying they no longer wanted the union to represent them. With the union out, the "grievance committee" set up by Pico looked suspiciously like a precursor to a company union.

As Vincentians reflected on what had happened, their anger rose. Everyone knew that wages paid by Pico had risen because of the presence of CTAWU at the plant; yet the company had been able to bust the union simply by threatening to leave the island. Since foreign investors use only imported materials and do not pass technical skills on to nationals, St. Vincent probably could not have continued to operate the plant if the company pulled out. The incident therefore aroused emotions of anti-Americanism unusual for St. Vincent, with Pico seen as typical of U.S. corporations which exploit cheap Caribbean labor and refuse to respect unions.

The second major impact was to raise doubts about the CTAWU leadership, its links to the ruling party and to the United States. People felt that Bonadie [leader of CTAWU] had given in too easily and saw this as reflecting his closeness to the Cato regime, which in turn had proved willing to sell out the workers' interests to a U.S. corporation. [Burns Bonadie also served as head of the Caribbean Congress of Labour until 1983, under the American Institute for Free Labor Development.] At a deeper level, therefore, people began to perceive the contradictions of a situation in which the company, the union, and the government were all directly or indirectly tied to the United States.

International Solidarity

Messages have come from around the world. A sampling of the supporters follows:

15 members of the Japanese Diet, the National Council of Churches in Japan, the Asian Women Workers' Center in Tokyo, the Center for the Progress of Peoples in Hong Kong, Asia-Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development in Malaysia, Asia Pacific Workers' Solidarity Link of Sri Lanka, Anglican Church of Canada, Grassroots Women Workers' Center in Taiwan, The Bonded Liberation Front in New Delhi, Women & Development Unit of the University of the West Indies

ACTION REQUEST: What you can do . . .

- Buy T-shirts - Call: 315-474-3350. \$10 donation each. Order in bunches to sell in your area. Slogan: "Defend Workers Rights, Support Pico Korea Workers" (picture of woman holding up fist, black & red on white 100% cotten T-shirt)

- Rally at Pico - Liverpool, NY September 13th, 3:30 - 5pm. Call Peter Kardas at AFSC in Syracuse for more info. about local rallies: 315-475-4822.

- Protest! Demand that Hitchcock and Pico pay up!
CALL: 1-800-822-7420 or 315-451-7700
FAX: 315-451-7904
WRITE: 103 Commerce Blvd., Liverpool, NY 13088

- Spread the word! Contact local unions, etc. for endorsements and contributions. Let the media know about this historically significant campaign.

- Contact your local Cable Commission Expose Pico's illegal actions, publicize support. Call for cable industry campaign "kit": 315-474-3350.

- Fundraise to continue the campaign. (See some suggestions in summary minutes.)
Make checks payable to:
Pico Workers Support Committee.
Call for mailing address: 315-474-3350.

"I missed," said Hitchcock, chief executive of Pico Products Inc. "I couldn't reach them." He said he wanted to wet them "just for the fun of it."

"If they came back, I'd do it again," he said.



SYRACUSE
HERALD-JOURNAL
IN OUR OPINION
Tuesday, July 10, 1990

**PICO PRODUCTS PRESIDENT
His weapon is a garden hose**

The Pico Products Inc. story is a complex one. The Liverpool-based company, manufacturer and assembler of cable television parts, closed its South Korean factory in 1989. It left behind a stack of bills and bad feelings among workers who say Pico owes 312 employees \$1 million. The company says it does not. Someone isn't telling the truth.

Where the story gets nasty — or nastier — is when it turns to the shameful behavior displayed by chief executive of Pico Products Inc., Bernard K. Hitchcock of Syracuse. Former workers, some of whom are on a hunger strike, and their American supporters, picketed in front of Hitchcock's home over the weekend.

Hitchcock displayed all of restraint and charm of Bull Conner, the infamous Birmingham, Ala., police commissioner who let loose fire hoses and dogs on civil rights protesters in the '60s.

Company President Hitchcock, armed with a garden hose, sprayed water on the picketers "just for the fun of it."

For an added treat, a child riding with a departing Hitchcock taunted the crowd. The youngster pulled his eyes back to make them appear slanted. Now how did this young boy come up with the ethnic

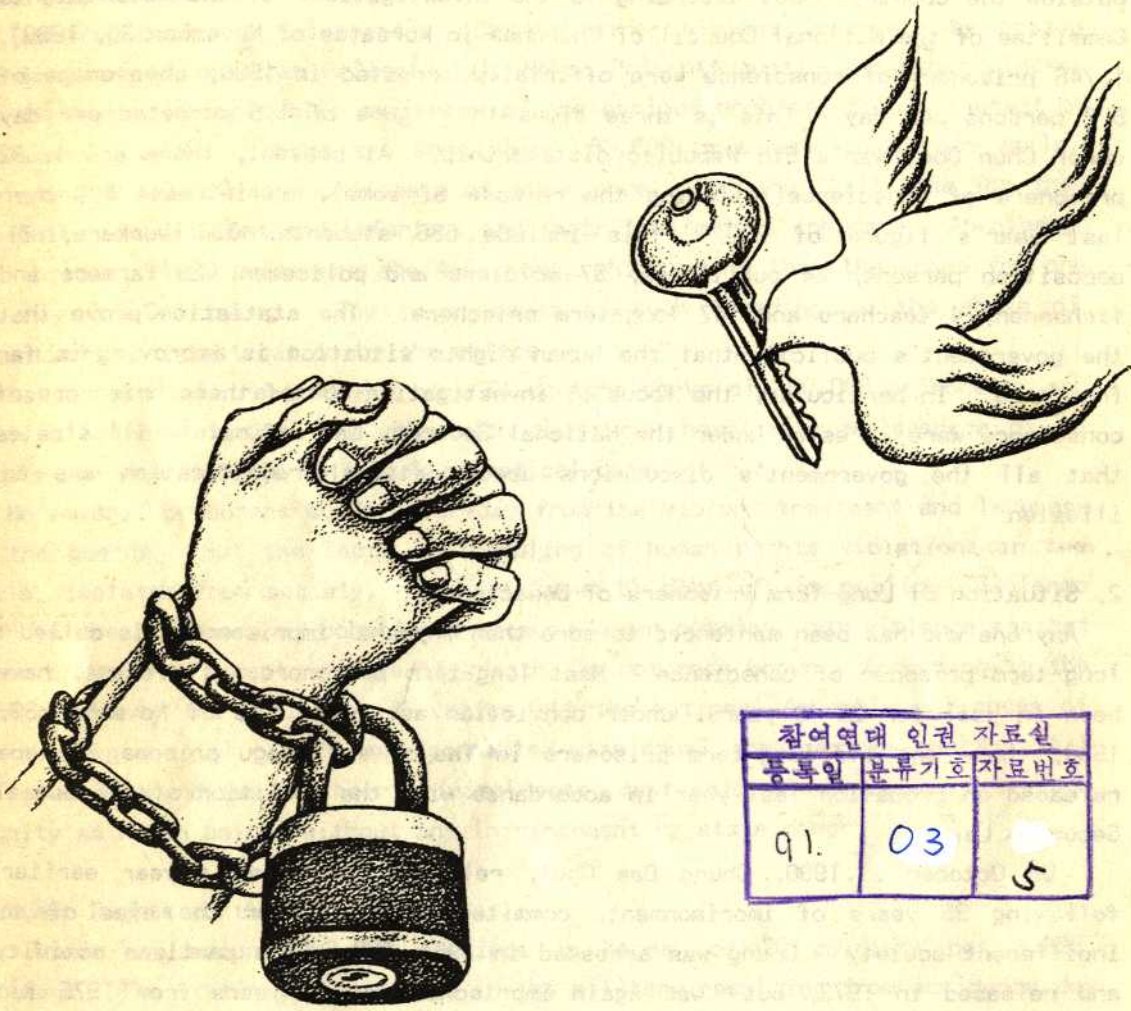
slur that is clearly meant to denigrate Asians? And why was he allowed to get away with such disrespectful, racist behavior?

The actions at the Hitchcock home doesn't do much for the image of Pico Products as a responsible corporate citizen. And it gives credence to the contention by former Korean workers that Pico was and is an uncaring, insensitive company.

Hitchcock dismisses the workers as "Korean Communists" and "Communist criminals," perhaps as a way of obscuring the real issues. Funny, though, it's the North Koreans, not the South Koreans, who are supposed to be the Communists. And if what Hitchcock is saying is true, then when did the workers become Communist criminals — before or after Pico hired them to work in its factory?

Hitchcock ought to be embarrassed by his "ugly American" act. He is not. In fact, he calls the workers "anti-American" and vows to douse them again if they return to picket his home. Maybe "just for the fun of it," the company president will throw in a few dogs to show the anti-Americans how real Americans behave.

Human Rights Situation 1990



참여연대 인권 자료실		
등록일	분류기호	자료번호
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**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
IN KOREA**

Human Rights Situation 1990

1. Situation of Prisoners of Conscience in 1990

"There are no prisoners of conscience in Korea." Following his inauguration in 1988, President Roh Tae Woo made this statement at public meetings inside and outside the country. But according to the investigation of the Human Rights Committee of the National Council of Churches in Korea (as of November 30, 1990), 1,746 prisoners of conscience were officially arrested in 1990, an average of 5.2 persons per day. This is three times the figure of 1.6 arrested per day under Chun Doo Hwan's 5th Republic dictatorship. At present, there are 1,332 prisoners of conscience (following the release of some), an increase 50% over last year's figure of 900. This includes 686 students, 334 workers, 71 opposition persons, 24 publishers, 37 soldiers and policemen, 29 farmers and fishermen, 4 teachers and 147 long-term prisoners. The statistics prove that the government's publicity—that the human rights situation is improving—is far from true. In particular, the focus of investigation—40% of these prisoners of conscience were arrested under the National Security Law—definitely illustrates that all the government's discussions about national reunification are an illusion.

2. Situation of Long-Term Prisoners of Conscience

Any one who has been sentenced to more than 7 years' imprisonment is called a long-term prisoner of conscience. Most long-term prisoners, at present, have been in jail for 20-40 years, under conviction as spies. As of November 30, 1990, there are 147 long-term prisoners in Taejon and Taegu prisons 52 were released on probation last year in accordance with the abolition of the Social Security Law.

On October 21, 1990, Chung Dae Chul, released less than a year earlier following 35 years of imprisonment, committed suicide under the eyes of an indifferent society. Chung was arrested in 1951 due to his partizan activity and released in 1973, but was again imprisoned for 14 years from 1975 for refusing to "recant his ideology". In October 1989 he was released again, and from that time had made his living doing unskilled labour. But he had lost his social adaptability, and suffered from illness caused by his long imprisonment. What was worse, he had no relatives to care for him, and at last he ended his own life.

The conception of "spy" in Korea is a product of the division of the nation; consequently, a "spy" is a victim of the division. Therefore, human rights problem of long-term prisoners is closely connected with overcoming the situation of national division, and further, the reunification of Korea. Their release must be achieved, at the earliest possible moment, from a humanitarian point of view, especially reflecting on the fact that there is no similar case in the world of someone's being kept in prison for more than 20 years due to matters of ideology or conscience. Consequently, working for the release and return to society of long-term prisoners is an important contribution to the

unification movement and the improvement of human rights.

3. Violations of Prisoners' Human Rights

The cruel punishment applied to the prisoners in Seoul Prison this past August 21 showed how seriously the human rights of prisoners are being trampled. Several dozen prisoners among a total of about 70 were injured by this violence. The incident resulted from the prisoners' protest against the illegal prohibition on "sending books to prisoners". Several other violent incidents by prison guards occurred in Masan Prison (July), Mokpo Prison (August), and other places, all of them stirring public awareness of the serious problem of infringement of prisoners' rights. There are more than 50,000 prisoners in Korean jails, including the 1,300 some prisoners of conscience. But the facilities for them are quite insufficient and inferior, and their treatment is inhumane. An average cell holding 10-20 prisoners are 4-5 pyong, which means that the space for one is only 0.2-0.4 pyong. The major cause of such crowding is the abuse of detention and investigation by the police.

As for medical treatment, a mere 54 doctors serve all 50,000 prisoners, and since all these doctors are busy with their own hospitals, an average of 20 people per year die due to a lack of medical care.

Moreover, prisoners suffer everyday from the violent treatment and language of the guards. But the facts of trampling of human rights violations in the jails, isolated from society, are not known by most of the public. Violence done to the prisoners of conscience because known outside, but violence against other prisoners, except in case of death, is not made known. According to the 1989 report by the Ministry of Justice to the National Assembly, 21 cases of death among a total of 127 were connected with cruel treatment by guards. All prisoners, regardless of their criminal acts, must enjoy their basic rights and dignity as human beings without any infringement by state power.

4. Human Rights in the Military

There are around 900,000 soldiers in Korea, or 20 soldiers per 1,000 citizens. The statistics on deaths in the military resulting from accidents due to weapons or other causes clearly illustrates the frightful situation of human rights in the military. Assault and battery and disciplinary punishment for the maintenance of the uniformed order are carried out publicly in spite of formal prohibitions. From January 1, 1980, to July 31, 1988, the number of deaths in the military was over 9,060 soldiers: 3,723 by safety-related accidents, 2,670 by arms-related accidents. In particular, 2,254 soldiers committed suicide at the rate of society as a whole.

On the other hand, the number of soldiers arrested for their movement to democratize military is 40, as of December 1990. Theirs is the largest numbers next to students and workers, and their arrests were mainly in retaliation for declarations of conscience, for movements democratization in the military, distribution of printed matter, and previous movement activities in society. During investigation they are forbidden to meet with lawyers; for example, Chung Kwang Min was barely allowed to meet with his lawyer after 25 days, during

investigation he was treated harshly, and finally he was given a heavy penalty. In the Military Prison, they are assaulted with inhumane insults, sexual torture and beatings, and in everyday life they face the danger of accidents because of the bad working conditions and environment.

The mysterious deaths of six military personnel was occurred in 1984 when compulsive conscription was started under the name of the Tree-Planting Campaign. By now, the number of mysterious deaths has reached 22. These mysterious deaths cause their families deep despair. For example, on November 12 a father committed suicide, demanding investigation of the cause of his son's death. Especially through the declaration of conscience of Yoon Suk Yang, it was clearly revealed that immoral acts such as forced spying are persecuting soldiers in their isolated situation. It is time to pay attention to the problem of human rights in the military.

5. The Problems of Human Rights Raised by DSC Surveillance of Private Citizens and the "War against Crime"

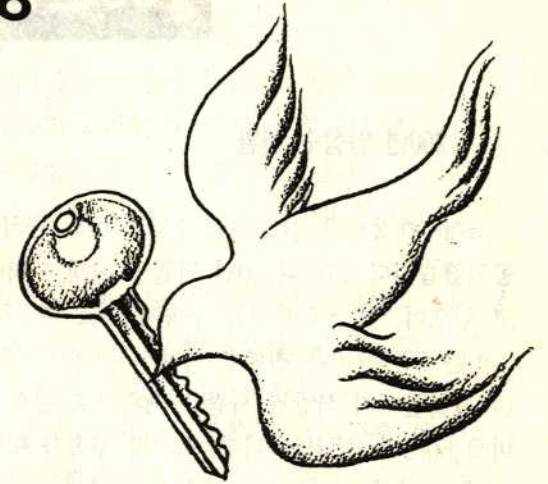
The declaration of conscience of Yoon Suk Yang revealed the immorality of the 6th Republic to the whole world. He exposed the wicked surveillance of about 1,700 persons by the Defense Security Command, with the obvious underlying purpose of eliminating them for the maintenance of the present political power. This surveillance of private citizens by the Agency for National Security Planning and the National Police Headquarters, as well as by the DSC, costs an enormous sum of money, and is not connected with the public security. But in spite of this serious crime encroaching on the private lives of citizens, the government has taken no action to prevent its recurrence. This is proof that the government has no intention of respecting human rights or achieving real democracy.

The government-proclaimed "war against crime" is an attempt to restore its moral image, lost with the expose of civilian surveillance, but frightful crimes are increasing day by day. In addition, there is frequent abuse of official power by the police, who threaten and torture innocent citizens in their efforts to produce "results." In a recent case, police at the Chongnyangni police station had announced their arrest of three suspects when it was discovered that the police themselves had rented an air gun from a gun shop to use as "evidence". In other recent example, some ruling party assemblymen, judges and prosecutors were found to have conspired with gangsters, which proves that the proclaimed intention of the government to protect citizens from crimes is a fabrication. Therefore, we recognize that the government's war is actually against human rights.

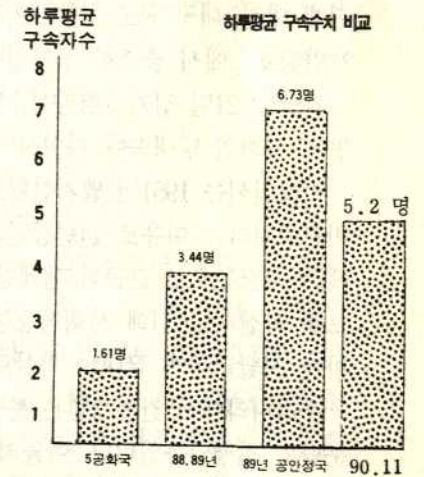
In addition, there are many other human rights problems to be solved, such as the right to survival of workers, farmers and poor people.

The situation of human rights in our society can be improved only when all of us keep watch for infringements and dedicate ourselves to the continuous improvement of those rights.

'90년 인권현황



참여연대 인권 자료실		
등록일	분류기호	자료번호
91	02	13



국가보안법, 집시법, 노동관계법 등 각종 악법으로 구속된 양심수가 하루 평균 5명, 전국교도소에 수감된 양심수만도 1300여명, 세계 최장기복역수(?)로 일컬어지는 만델라의 27년형보다 더많은 형량을 선고받고 수감중인 147명의 장기복역 양심수, 이들은 바로 독재와 분단의 죄책을 대신 짚어진 분들입니다. 우리는 이분들의 석방을 바랍니다.



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'90인권현황보고

1. 1990년 양심수 현황

노태우대통령은 취임이후 줄곧 국내외 공식석상에서 “한국에는 양심수가 한명도 없다.”라고 공언했습니다. 그러나 90년 11월말 현재 본회에서 파악한 구속자의 누계만해도 1746명에 이르고 있으며, 이를 하루평균 구속자 수로 환산하면 5.2명입니다.

이는 5공과 같은 철저한 독재정권때의 하루평균 구속자 1.6명의 3배를 넘는 수치입니다. 90년 11월말까지 석방된 사람을 제외하고 현재 구속된 사람의 수는 1332명으로 작년 900여명에 비해 50%가 늘어났습니다. 직업별 구속자 수로 분류하면 학생 686명, 노동자 334명, 재야인사 71명, 출판인 24명, 군인, 전경 38명, 농어민 29명, 교사 4명, 장기수 147명입니다. 이와 같은 통계는 인권상황이 날로 개선되고 있다는 현정권의 선전이 거짓임을 증명하는 것입니다. 뿐만 아니라 국가보안법으로 구속된 수가 전체 구속자 40%에 이르고 있다는 사실은, 현정권이 떠들어대는 통일이 얼마나 허구적인가를 잘 말해주고 있습니다.

2. 장기복역 양심수 실태

장기복역 양심수는 7년 이상의 형기를 선고 받은 사람들입니다. 이들 대부분은 20년에서 40년까지의 옥고를 치루고 있습니다. 이들에게는 현재 대체로 간첩혐의가 걸려 있습니다. 11월말 현재 대전, 대구 교도소등에는 147명의 장기양심수가 복역하고 있으며, 작년 사회안전법폐지로 보안감호소에서 출소한 장기양심수는 52명입니다.

지난달 21일 장기복역양심수였던 고 정대철씨는 35년여의 옥살이 후 자유의 몸이 된지 1년 만에 사회의 냉대속에 자살하였습니다.

정대철씨는 1951년 빨치산활동혐의로 21년의 옥살이를 한후 1973년 출소했으나 다시 1975년 비전향자라는 이유로 14년동안의 보안감호생활을 하다가 작년 10월에 출감하였습니다. 출감후에는 막노동으로 근근히 생계를 유지하였습니다. 그러나 돌보아줄 가족과 친지도 없을 뿐더러 오랜 옥살이로 인해 사회적응능력을 상실하였고, 설상가상으로 장기간의 옥로로 말미암아 병마에 시달리다가 끝내는 자살로 한 많은 인생의 막을 내렸습니다.

우리나라에서 간첩개념은 분명 조국분단으로 말미암은 개념이며, 따라서 간첩들은 분명 조국분단의 희생양들입니다. 이들의 인권문제는 곧 분단상황의 극복내지는 조국 통일의 문제에 직결되어 있습니다. 또한 세계 어느나라에서도 사상과 양심의 문제 때문에 20년이상 장기구금을 시키는데가 없음을 볼때 이들의 석방은 인도주의적 견지에서라도 조속히 이루어져야 합니다. 결론적으로 장기복역수들의 석방과 사회복귀를 위해 일하는 것은 곧 통일운동에 일조하는 것이요, 인권신장에 기여하는 것입니다.

3. 재소자의 인권문제

지난 8월 27일 서울구치소 폭력사태는 재소자들의 인권이 얼마나 심각하게 유린당하는가를 잘 보여주었습니다. 법으로도 보장되어있는 재소자들의 권리인 도서차입을 불허한 데 대해 항의했다는 이유로 70여명을 구타하여 장명국씨등 수십명의 부상자가 발생하였습니다. 뿐만 아니라 7월의 마산교도소, 8월의 목포교도소 폭력사건은 이제 온 국민이 재소자들의 인권문제를 중대하게 받아들여야 함을 시사해 주고 있습니다.

지금 전국교도소에는 양심수 1300여명외에 5만여의 일반수들이 수감되어 있습니다. 그러나 수용시설을 비롯한 기타 재소자들의 처우는 매우 열악합니다. 일반 재소자들이 수감되어 있는 거실의 크기는 보통 4~5평인데 보통 10~20명이 수용되어 1인당 0.2~0.4평을 차지합니다. 이런 과도한 수용의 원인은 마구잡이 구속수사의 남용에 있습니다. 또한 의료 상태를 살펴보면 전국 5만여명의 재소자들을 상대로 54명의 의사가 근무하고 있으나 이들 전부는 개인병원을 운영하고 있어 재소자들에 대한 진료는 거의 형식적으로 이루어 집니다.

이로 인해 해마다 20명이상이 의료혜택을 받지 못해 사망하고 있습니다.

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4. 군대인권

우리나라의 군인수는 90만 정도로 국민 1000명당 20명 꼴입니다.

군에서의 안전사고 군기사고로 인한 수많은 병영내 사망자 수는 인권상황의 열악함을 단적으로 드러냅니다. 공식적인 금지에도 불구하고 획일적인 조직을 유지하기 위하여 구타·기합등이 공공연히 일어나고 있음이 그 엄청난 숫자로도 알수 있습니다. 80.1.1.부터 88.7.31일까지의 병영내 사망자수는 총 9,060여명으로 이중 안전사고로 3,723명, 군기사고로 2,670명이 목숨을 잃었으며 특히 자살로 보고된 자가 2천 2백 54명이나 되 군대내 자살률은 사회의 25배에 이르고 있습니다. 한편 군민주화운동 구속자 숫자는 90년 12월 현재 38명으로 학생, 노동자 다음으로 많은 구속자를 보이고 있으며 구속유형은 양심선언, 군대의식화, 유인물, 사회활동의 보복등입니다. 이들은 수사도중 변호사 접견도 이루어지지 않았는데 정광민 일병의 경우 구속된 지 25일 후에야 접견이 가능하여 심한 가혹행위 고문등이 이루어졌고 무거운 형을 선고 받았습니

다. 사단영창에서는 비인간적인 성추행 및 모독 등이 이루어지고(31사단) 군교도소내에서 노역조건과 환경이 아주 열악해 안전사고 위험이 높다고 할 수 있습니다.

끊이지 않는 군대내 의문사는 84년 강제 징집을 통한 녹화사업으로 6명이 발생하면서 현재 까지 접수된것만 해도 22건이됩니다. 특히 윤석양 이병 양심선언에서 밝혀진 것처럼 어느곳에도 피할 곳 없는 병사들에게 프락치 강요등 반인륜적 행위들이 지금 현재에도 진행되고 있다는 것입니다.

이러한 죽음들은 자식을 잃은 부모들의 가정파탄과 지난달 12일 의문사한 아들 이이동군의 진상규명을 외치며 자살한 이춘원씨의 예처럼 부모를 자살케하는 상황으로까지 내몰고 있는 실정입니다. 이제는 군대의 인권문제에 대한 관심을 더이상 미룰 수 없습니다.

5. 민간인사찰과 '범죄와의 전쟁'등으로 인한 인권문제

지난 10월 4일 윤석양 이병의 양심선언으로 현정권의 부도덕성이 만천하에 드러났습니다. 정 권유지를 위해 1700여명에 이르는 사람들의 일거수 일투족을 감시하고, 위기시에는 제거라도 하겠다는 현정권의 사악한 의도가 폭로되었습니다.

보안사의 사찰 뿐만아니라 안기부, 치안본부등도 막대한 자금을 동원해 국익과 민생 치안과는 하등의 관계가 없는 정치사찰을 하고 있음이 증명되었습니다.

위정당국이 국민의 사생활을 침해하는 명백한 범법행위를 저질렀음에도 불구하고 이를 방지 하기 위한 단호한 조치가 취해지지 않았음을 볼때 현정권이 인권을 존중하고 민주화를 정착시킬 의지가 없다는 것이 증명되었습니다.

보안사 사찰과동으로 실추된 정권의 도덕성을 회복하기 위해 '범죄와의 전쟁'을 선포했지만, 오히려 그전보다 끔찍한 사회범죄가 늘어가는 현상을 보여주고 있습니다. 뿐만 아니라 실적을 강요하는 치안풍토로 무고한 시민들을 협박하고 고문하는 공권력 침해사건도 빈번하게 발생하고 있습니다. 비근한 예로 지난 11월 서울 청량리 경찰서는 강도피의자 3명을 검거했다고 발표 하면서 범행에 사용한 증거품이라며 공기총을 인근총포사에서 급히 빌려오는 조작수사까지도 자행했었습니다. 현직 여당의원, 판검사와 깡패조직과의 결탁사건은 범죄와의 전쟁의 허구성을 드러내 주었습니다. 이러한 부도덕한 정권이 범죄와의 전쟁을 선포하겠다는 것은 곧 인권과의 전쟁을 하겠다는 의미로 밖에 볼 수 없습니다.

이밖에도 노동자, 농민, 빈민들의 생존권등 우리가 해결해야 만 할 인권문제는 산적해 있습니다. 온 국민이 단결하여 인권침해를 감시하고 그 방지를 위해 헌신할 때만 우리사회의 인권 상황이 개선될 것입니다.

1991 KOREA HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION

참여연대 인권 자료실		
등록일	분류기호	자료번호
92.	02	14



**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
IN KOREA**

1991 KOREA HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION

1. Situation of Prisoners of Conscience in 1991

The Korean Government still denies the fact that there are many prisoners of conscience in Korea. But according to various reliable sources including our own research, 1140 prisoners of conscience were officially arrested and prosecuted in 1991, an average of 3.1 persons per day. This is two times the figure of 1.6 arrested per day under Chun Doo-Hwan's 5th Republic dictatorship. At present, there are 1103 prisoners of conscience in south Korea. They include 496 students, 334 workers, 85 opposition persons, 20 publishers, 40 soldiers and policemen, 7 farmers, 5 teachers and 96 long-term prisoners, and 20 others. In July, 1991, the number of prisoners of conscience is the highest it has been since the beginning of the 5th Republic in 1980. But Roh Tae-woo's government says, "We have no political prisoners."

According to the above figures, those imprisoned under the Anti-Firebomb Law and Law on Assembly and Demonstration are the largest in number next to those jailed under the National Security Law. This proves that the basic rights of the people, such as the freedom of assembly and demonstration, are severely blocked by the government. Students and workers comprise the largest categories of political prisoners.

2. Situation of Long-term Prisoners of Conscience

Anyone who has been sentenced to more than seven years' imprisonment is called a long-term prisoner. Most long-term prisoners have been in jail for 20-40 years, under conviction as spies. 52 long-term prisoners were released in 1989 in accordance with the abolition of the Social Security Law. This leaves, at present, 96 long-term prisoners still in jail.

On Nov. 21, 1991, Choi In-Jung, who had anxiously been looking forward to meeting with his family in north Korea, died of cancer. Choi was arrested in 1965 due to his espionage activities, and was released in 1988. Following his release he made a living as a laborer. But he suffered from illness caused by his long imprisonment, and moreover, he had no relatives to care for him. What he wanted above all else was to meet with his family in the north before he died, but his life ended without the realization of his dream.

On Nov. 19, 1991, NCKK opened the "House of Love" for released long-term prisoners. This will be a home for them; will enable their independent living; will help them recover their lost years to some extent; and will assist their readjustment to society.

The conception of "spy" in Korea is a product of the division of the nation; consequently, the "spy" is the victim of the division. Therefore, the human rights problem of long-term prisoners must be solved by overcoming the situation of national division, and ultimately by the reunification of Korea. Thus, working for the release and return to society of long-term prisoners is an important contribution to the reunification movement and to the improvement of human rights.

3. Violation of Prisoners' Human Rights

At present, there are more than 50,000 prisoners in Korean jails. But the facilities for them are quite insufficient and inferior, and their treatment is inhumane. An average cell holding 10 to 20 prisoners is 4-5 pyong (about 4 m x 4 m in area), which means that the space per person is only 0.2 to 0.4 pyong (1 sq. meter, more or less). The major cause of such overcrowding is the police's abuse of their detention and investigation functions.

As for medical treatment, a mere 54 doctors serve all 50,000 prisoners, and since these doctors are busy with their own hospitals, an average of 20 prisoners per year die due to a lack of medical care. Moreover, prisoners suffer every day from the violent treatment and language of the guards. But the facts about the trampling of human rights in the jails, isolated from society, are not known to most of the public.

In November 1991, farmers' movement member Hoh Yun-Ha was chained to the bars of his prison cell, with his arms up in the air and his feet barely touching the floor, and was beaten. He was kept in this situation for several days, and during this time was not allowed to eat regular meals. This incident brought shocked reactions from many citizens.

It is an internationally recognized convention that all prisoners, regardless of their criminal acts, must enjoy basic rights and dignity as human beings without any infringement by state power.

From September, NCKK has been raising funds for the provision of clothes, blankets, etc., for a warm winter for all Korean prisoners. The funds gathered up to mid-December were sent to many prisoners on Christmas day.

4. Question of Kang's Handwriting

Kang Ki-Hun, staffer of the National Alliance for Democratic Movement (Chonminyon), was sentenced in December to three years' imprisonment, charged with having forged the suicide note of Kim Ki-Sol, his fellow Chonminyon staffer who set himself afire and leaped to his death last May 8. Kang has consistently maintained his innocence. During many days of investigation by the prosecution, he was deprived of sleep. The 17 lawyers who are defending him have criticized the prosecution for trying Kang without having concrete evidence.

NCCK requested the assistance of Onishi Yoshio, Japan's top handwriting expert, who showed that Kang did not write Kim Ki-Sol's suicide note, and that Kim himself was the writer. Onishi examined six samples of Kim's handwriting, and according to his analysis, "Kim Ki-Sol's suicide note and Kang Ki-Hun's handwriting are fundamentally different." This was in sharp contrast to the investigation carried out by Korea's National Institute of Scientific Investigation. The Korean prosecution immediately rejected Onishi's analysis, saying, "It's meaningless since it was done by a foreigner."

5. Kang Kyong-Dae Incident

A twisted justice system let off lightly the five riot policemen who beat student Kang Kyong-Dae to death last April 24, and has punished Kang's father, Kang Min-Jo (age 49) for contempt of court. Furthermore, when Kang's mother protested the arrest of her husband, she was hit with clubs by riot police and had three of her front teeth broken. She reportedly suffers from health problems following the shock of her son's death.

At the first court hearing for the five policemen charged with the killing, their defense lawyer asked one defendant, "Is it correct that Kang Kyong-Dae was about to throw a firebomb when you hit him?" and the policeman said, "That's right." This touched off a big commotion by Kang's family members and others, and resulted in the prosecution of Kang's father for contempt of court. South Korean courts are notorious for their pro-government decisions in most political cases.

On Dec. 5, NCCK presented its 1991 Human Rights Award to Kang's family, in token of their struggle for the democratization of Korea. Kang's mother accepted the award. She said, "I keep expecting to hear his voice, keep expecting to see him walk in the door...Recently I started going to church; this was my son's wish, and it gives me comfort."

1993 HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN KOREA

참여연대 인권 자료실		
등록일	분류기호	자료번호
93	02.	11.



Human Rights Committee
National Council of Churches in Korea

Rm 708 Christian Bldg 136-46 Yunchi-dong, Chongro-ku, Seoul 110-470
Tel 764-0203, 744-3717 / Fax 744-6189

Human Rights situation in Korea

(As of Sept. 20, 1993)

Since the new government has started in Korea, many people at home and abroad may think that there are no longer problems in the human rights area.

To some degree, it may be true that there has recently been relative improvement toward the liquidation of the authoritarian political environment of the past.

It is also true that many people have become optimistic about the human rights situation, based on the above. Especially in christian circle, that kind of optimism has been prevails.

But when we look into the depth of the human rights situation of our country, as below, it is hard to say there has been true improvement in the human rights situation.

1) First of all, there are 359 political prisoners as of Sept. 20, 1993.

This reality is far from the prevailing view in our society that there are no political prisoners at all.

What is especially noteworthy is the fact that 69 people have been newly imprisoned.

2) 341 people are still under police search. The new government has announced its intention to imprison at least 80 of them. If this government is truly democratic, it must tolerate and embrace those who were politically suspect under the dictatorial regimes of the past.

3) There are more than 5,000 persons who were expelled from schools, colleges or industrial factories for political reasons. The new government so far is not democratic enough to restore them

unconditionally to their old jobs.

4) What is more important than these facts is the continued existence of undemocratic laws which can reproduce political prisoners and expelled people again and again in the future.

The new government says that institutional reform will follow the present urgent task of liquidating the chronic irregularities and corruption that have flourished under the 30 years of military dictatorship.

We are all longing for a truly democratic society with no human rights violations, as the present government is promising to achieve through institutional reform. But nobody can yet affirm when or if that society will be realized.

**** Details of the human rights situation in Korea as of Sept. 20, 1993 ****

1. The situation of political prisoners

1) Total number: 359

2) Position

Leaders of democratic organizations:	117
Long-term prisoners (more than 7 years):	77
College students:	75
Industrial workers:	64
Soldiers and policemen:	24
Farmers:	2

3) Applied laws

National Security Law:	253
Labor related laws:	48
Anti-Violence (Criminal Law):	47
Demonstration and Assembly Law:	29

Interference with Official Affairs (Criminal Law):	26
Military related laws:	15
Law against Fire Bombs:	6
(Including double application)	

**** Total number under the new government:** 69

National Security Law:	51
Anti-Violence:	47
Interference with Official Affairs:	26
Demonstration and Assembly Law:	22
Labor related laws:	16
Military related laws:	10
Law against Fire Bombs:	1
(Including double application)	

To conclude, we can say that there has been no significant change for political prisoners, though the mass media made a fuss over the two f amnesties (March 6 and May 27) granted by the new government.

**** Typical cases of political prisoners under the new government**

* 8 former riot policemen and soldiers who had earlier left their camps and released a written declaration of conscience demanding democratic reform of the military, staged sit-in strike for 58 days (May 25-July 21). They spent have lived underground life for 1-4 years, under police search.

During the sit-in strike, they appealed to the authorities for removal of the police search, and the chance to join in the democratic reforms of the new government.

Despite this appeal, all of them were taken to military police camps on July 21, and are now under trial.

* 10 persons including Mr. Moon Young-Chan(29), Mr. Paek Sung-Ki(29) and Mr. Hwang were arrested on May 11 and June 12, related with the case of the South Korea Socialist Laborers Federation (Sanomaeng case) and

were charged under the National Security Law. Mr. Cho Kook,(29) professor of law at Ulsan University, was arrested on June 23, also suspected to be connected with the Sanomaeng case. He denies this strongly.

* Mr. No Tae-Hoon(28), staff person of the Korean NGOs' Network for the UN World Conference on Human Rights(KONUHC) was taken to the Agency for National Security Planning on July 15 together with 7 other activists in the of human rights movement, immediately upon return from the Vienna Conference.

At first it was thought that the ANSP would try to fabricate a spy case, but it was judged that would find this impossible because they had no proof, and that they would arrest only Mr. No, on the charge of possessing documents benefiting the enemy, as prescribed by the NSL.

The "senstive documents" are a series of booklets entitled "Time and Tide Taken Away", which contain memos of the released long term prisoners including Mr. Lee In-Mo, who was repatriated to the North. These booklet were prepared by our committee together with three other organizations (Political Prisoners' Families Association, HRC of the Catholic Church and Methodist Association for the Suppressed). The ANSP would have the public believe that the four organizations are benefiting the enemy through producing such "sensitive documents".

Mr. No's attorneys insist that the ANSP took and confined him without proper legal procedures, and treated badly, for example, they deprived him of sleep for a long time, and did not allow him to meet his attorneys.

* The ANSP detained Mr. Kim Sam-Suk(29), staff person of the preparatory committee of the Pan National Rally, and Ms. Kim Eun-Ju(26), his sister, without showing warrants. The two were sent to jail after 30 days investigation, on Oct. 8.

Kim's wife, Ms. Yun Mi-Hyang is appealing the harsh treatment. His attorney found that he had been wounded severely through self-injury on Sept. 20, in protest of his forced confession of guilt.

Again on Oct. 7, he appealed to his attorney that he was tortured sexually, that is, they stripped him naked and scrubbed his sexual organ with a tooth brush. They also humiliated him with insulting and indecent talk.

* 300 political prisoners in 34 jails across the country staged hunger strike, on Aug. 3-5 to demand abolition of the NSL, and landered to the limitation on receiving books from their families and the censorship of newspapers.

Mr. Hwang Sok-Young, a famous writer, demanded the right to write in his sell.

**** There are still 341 people who are under police search**

NSL:	109
Demonstration and Assembly:	119
Labor Related Law:	60
Presidential Election Law:	38
Others (leaders of democratic org.):	15

The new government demands their "unconditional surrender". Even if they surrender, more than 80 of these persons are doomed to be imprisoned.

** Our committee together with other two organizations demanded the repatriation of Mr. Kim Kook-Hong (68) and Mr. Ham Se-Hwan (62) for humanitarian reasons. The two came down from the North as members of the People's Army, and spent more than 30 years in jail. They hope to spend the remainder of their life with their own family members. But the government has made no response.

***** Right of Survival**

* 1800 teachers and professors have been expelled from their schools and colleges, for the reason that they joined the National Teachers Union (Chonkyojo). They suffer from a lack of income to support their

families' livelihood illness, and even family bankruptcy, because of their long term of unemployment.

Like the past regime, the new government regards the Teachers' Union as illegal, and is trying to force its members to secede, but the teachers are not giving in despite of their severe suffering.

* 3400 industrial workers who were involved in the labor movement, were expelled from their jobs under the past regimes. They are all in a crisis of survival, some workers of the defense industry are at a danger of arrest or draft into the military.

About 100 leaders from 40 workshops across the country, including Hyun Dai Auto Co, Dae Woo Shipping Co. and Moon Hwa Broadcasting staged a hunger strike in the office room of our committee for 18 days from April 17 this year.

They had gotten the promise of the Minister of Labor that he would do his best to back the reinstatement expelled workers to their own jobs and to end the police search for the 60 workers who have lived underground life for 1-5 years.

When they realized that the promise was vain and 13 of their leaders were arrested, they decided that they had no choice but to enter a sit-in strike and now they are sitting in for 130 days.

In spite of the action it, there is no reponse from either the government or the companies, and 10 of them were staging hunger-strike, on its 28th days as of Oct. 8.

* 284 Workers of Wonjin Rayon Co. who suffer from occupational disease, finally lost their workshop when the owner of the company closed it suddenly, this August.

Among them, Mr. Kim Bong-Hwan died on March 19 and Ms. Ko Jong-Ja on May 23, from poisoning by carbon disulfide.

The workers have struggled for three years already, through the

"Wonjin Rayon Emergency Committee of Occupational Disease and Expulsion of Workers", but in vain.

* 20 mine workers in Jongsun and Samchok are appealing for compensation for their occupational disease of pneumoconiosis.

Oct. 26, 1993.

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FROM HUMAN RTS WATCH, DC

T-078 P.02

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인권 자료실	22
등록일	B8



Congressional Human Rights Caucus

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20513

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Congressman John Porter (IL)
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Washington, D.C. 20515
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October 30, 1990

President Roh Tae-Woo
The Blue House
Seoul
Republic of Korea

Tom Lantos
TOM LANTOS, M.O.

Dear Mr. President:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Gary L. Ackerman (NY)
Les Aspin (WI)
Helen Delich Bentley (MD)
Ben Carrido Blas (Guam)
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Jack W. Buechner (MO)
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Dana Rohrabacher (CA)
Charlie Rose (NC)
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James H. Scheuer (NY)
Gerry Sikorski (MN)
Gerry E. Studds (MA)
Guy Vander Jagt (MI)
Frank R. Wolf (VA)

In honor of the recent anniversary of your country's National Founding Day, we rejoice with the Korean people that progress is being made towards reconciliation with North Korea. We remain concerned, however, about the large number of long-term political prisoners and about the increasing number of detainees being held under the National Security Law in South Korea, including Kim Keun-tae and Jang Myung-guk.

We understand that as many as 1400 persons are imprisoned for politically-motivated activities and an estimated 435 individuals are being held under the National Security Law. Detainees under the National Security Law are reportedly pressured into signing "recant-conversion" statements to confess their alleged offenses and renounce their alleged communist or "leftist" political beliefs. The prisoners who do not comply risk being denied visitation and other rights. In addition, there are reliable reports of severe use of torture in prisons. These actions are in violation of internationally recognized standards of human rights, including the rights to freedom of expression, personal and physical integrity, due process and fair judicial process.

Furthermore, we are deeply concerned about the welfare of 57 "nonconverted" political prisoners who are long-term prisoners in Taejon Prison. A list of these prisoners is enclosed. We urge you to review these cases. In particular, we are disturbed by the continued incarceration of fifty-one of the prisoners who are serving life terms and have been denied the possibility of parole. Thirty-five of them are between the ages of 60 and 70. Forty-seven have already spent between twenty and thirty years in jail and are suffering from chronic health problems. One prisoner is paralyzed from the waist down. We are concerned that the conditions

OFFICE

House Annex II, Room 590
Washington, D.C. 20515

FROM HUMAN RTS WATCH, DC

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