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DPRK Signs Anti-Terror Conventions

The DPRK signed two UN conventions against terrorism, the Associated Press reported on November 29. The news agency quoted a South Korean Foreign Ministry official as saying that the DPRK's UN representative Ri Hyong Chol signed on November 12 the two major anti-terror treaties--the 1999 International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and the 1979 International Convention Against the Taking of Hostages. In early November, a spokesman for the country's Foreign Ministry announced that it would do so. Pyongyang has not officially confirmed its signing nor its ratification, however.

Meanwhile, referring to Pyongyang's avowed intention to ratify the two anti-terror treaties, the U.S. State Department in its November 30 statement said that the ratification of the 1999 Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism is one of the measures called for under UN Security Council resolutions relevant to the

global campaign against terrorism.

"We would welcome and encourage North Korean cooperation in international efforts to combat terrorism," the statement said. It pointed out the fact that North Korea has already signed and ratified five of the twelve international terrorism conventions and the U.S. is a party to ten of them.

According to the statement, the DPRK is a party to: 1) the 1963 Tokyo Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft; 2) the 1970 Hague Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft; 3) the 1971 Montreal Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Civil Aircraft; 4) the 1973 Convention of the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Internationally Protected Persons, Including Diplomatic Agents; 5) the 1988 Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation.

Sweeping Anti-Chongryun Campaign in Japan; Ethnic Banks' Bankruptcy Develops to Political Repression



Chongryun supporters try to prevent police from searching the association's headquarters in Tokyo's Chiyoda Ward on Nov. 29, scuffling with the police in front of the building of the headquarters of Chongryun.

Following the bankruptcy of Tokyo metropolitan Korean credit association under Chongryun (General Association of Korean Residents in Japan), the Tokyo metropolitan police authorities arrested the former director of the Financial Bureau of Chongryun's Central Headquarters on the charge of being responsible for the "evasion of inspection" of the local ethnic bank, and on November 29 ransacked the central head office of Chongryun by mobilizing over 300 prosecution and police officials. At the same time, they searched the Tokyo metropolitan headquarters and Western Tokyo headquarters of Chongryun.

Chongryun is a pro-Pyongyang Korean organization in Japan, which has been functioning as a semi-official representative embassy-like office of the DPRK with which Japan has yet to normalize its diplomatic relations. And this is the first time that the Japanese investigation authorities have raided the central head office of Chongryun.

The Japanese investigation authorities' repressive campaign in the wake of the bank failure involved searching 47 places on 56 occasions, arresting 15 persons and "ques-

tioning" more than 100 people for almost no reason. "This is nothing but a political suppression of Koreans in Japan and ethnic financial institutions of Chongryun, a crackdown prompted by racial discrimination," Chongryun condemned the Japanese authorities in its statement.

"All the activities of Chongryun are legitimate ones in line with the Japanese laws and there has been nothing illegal in the transactions with our credit associations (banks)," it said.

On December 5, a meeting of Korean residents in Japan was held in central Tokyo to denounce Tokyo's high-handed investigation into Chongryun, calling for an immediate halt to its political repression of the ethnic group.

Tokyo's Moves Represent Its Hostility To Pyongyang: FM Spokesman

An unprecedented anti-Chongryun drive by the Tokyo government caused a wave of Pyongyang's accusations. The first reaction came in the form of a statement by a

(Continued on page 4)

UN Should Play Key Role to Solve Terrorism Issue: Rodong Sinmun

Pyongyang called on the United Nations to enhance its role in order to fairly solve international issues such as a terrorism-related problem. Rodong Sinmun in its December 3 signed article said: "The United Nations should play a leading role in solving the issue of terrorism which is now being hotly debated in the international arena."

Reiterating Pyongyang's principled and consistent position to oppose all forms of terrorism and whatever support to it, the paper once again criticized the on-going U.S. bombings on Afghanistan by saying: "Any war killing innocent civilians or harassing a regional situation and regional stability cannot be justified in combatting terrorism." "Arbitrariness of some forces behaving like international police in dealing with international disputes is dangerous in that it may degrade the UN prestige and, therefore, may reduce the UN to a mere

name," it warned.

It also stressed that the UN Security Council should be reformed so as to enhance the authority of the UN General Assembly.

Meanwhile, the paper condemned Washington by saying: "It should never be allowed to label those countries which call for equal sovereignty as 'terrorism-sponsoring states' and to infringe upon sovereignty with unilateral military interference and sanctions and inflict untold pain upon people, allegedly to oppose terrorism."

Earlier, the paper in its November 30 issue referred to the reform of the UNSC by saying: "The purpose of the UNSC reform is to fully ensure the representation of developing nations and make the UN conduct its activities for global peace and security and for the establishment of an impartial world order strictly on a fair basis."

International Conference in LA on Japan's Crimes against Humanity

Research Discloses Deep Involvement Of Government and Big Business in Japan's Wartime Sex Slave System

The entire Japanese government, not just the military, was involved in the decision to provide sex slaves called "comfort women" for Japanese soldiers before and during World War II, scholars and researchers said at an international conference on Japan's war crimes held in Los Angeles.

The conference, named the "International Conference on Japanese Crimes Against Humanity: Sexual Slavery and Forced Labor," was held in the Radisson Wilshire Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles, sponsored by the Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of California Riverside. Participated in by more than 60 scholars and researchers and officials concerned from the U.S., south Korea, China and Japan, the conference shed important light on Japan's

wartime responsibilities.

The research disclosed at the international conference provided new and higher estimates of the number of women who were exploited as "comfort women" by the Japanese military as well as details about the involvement of broad sectors of the Japanese government and private businesses in the system.

"The establishment and development of the 'comfort women' system...was carried out not only by the total involvement of every section of the military but also by the administrative machinery at every level of the Japanese state," said Hayashi Hirofumi, professor at Kanto-Gakuin University in Yokohama, Japan. "In addition, we should not overlook the fact that Japanese compa-

nies were their accomplices."

Because large numbers of sensitive documents were destroyed by the Japanese government, Hayashi said that he could not ascertain whether Japanese Emperor Hirohito personally signed an imperial document on the sex slave system. The emperor, as head of state, was the "supreme commander" of the government so that he certainly had the power to stop it, Hayashi said.

Another research presented at the conference indicated that the actual number of sex slaves may have been close to 400,000 rather than as 200,000 previously estimated by a United Nations human rights agency.

The comfort women system "was one of the greatest crimes committed against humanity during World War II," Su Zhi Liang, a history professor at Shanghai Teachers University, said.

Arimitsu Ken, coordinator for the International Campaign for Redress, said that nothing less than international pressure, especially from the U.S., can change the government's position.

Victims and survivors of Japan's war

crimes, who were former "comfort women" and forced laborers, made testimonies about their sufferings. An exhibition of monochrome photographs showing Japan's wartime atrocities was also held during the two-day conference.

Edward T. Chang, professor of Ethnic Studies at UC Riverside and organizer of the conference, said that he hoped the international conference would help inform the American public of the truth of Japan's war crimes and create an international network of scholars and researchers to do joint researches. "Americans know much about the Nazi atrocities against the Jews, but they know very little of the atrocities committed against Asians by the Japanese military," he added.

Survivors and human rights activists demanded that Japan make a formal apology and compensation. The Japanese government has rejected them, establishing a privately funded organization to pay limited sums to surviving "comfort women" instead of admitting state responsibility.

(See a related article on page 3)

DPRK Grateful to U.N. Appeal for Humanitarian Aid

The DPRK welcomed on Dec. 3 the new United Nations appeal for a humanitarian aid package worth \$258 million, saying that it would continue to closely cooperate with U.N. food organizations, NGOs and donor countries.

"The U.N.'s appeal for humanitarian aid is a manifestation of the international community's concern about the DPRK for which it feels thankful," a spokesman of the DPRK Flood Damage Rehabilitation Committee said in his statement issued on Dec. 3.

Saying that the aid by the U.N. to the DPRK in recent years has encouraged the Korean people in their efforts to overcome temporary difficulties caused by natural disasters, the committee expressed the hope that the international community will continue to render support and aid to the

Korean people in their efforts to eradicate the aftermath of the natural disasters and bring the people's living to normal.

The appeal called on the international community to give humanitarian aid worth about 260 million U.S. dollars for the rehabilitation of agriculture and for health and other fields in the DPRK.

The United Nations on Nov. 26 issued an appeal for 258 million U.S. dollars in aid for the DPRK in 2002. According to the U.N., last year it sought \$383 million.

The committee also said that this year the grain production of the DPRK "showed an increase of over one million tons over last year thanks to the positive efforts of the government." But 1.47 million tons of grain is still short to meet minimum requirement.

DPRK, UK Commemorates 1st Anniversary of Establishment of Diplomatic Ties

An exhibition of British books and scientific and technological invention was held on December 14 at the Grand People's Study House on the occasion of the first anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the DPRK and the UK.

Present there were Jon Yong Jin, Vice-Chairman of the Korean Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries who is also chairman of the Korean Committee for Friendship with the British People, Jong Tae Gyong, officials concerned and working people in Pyongyang.

Present at the exhibition were James Edward Hoare, British charge d'affaires ad interim, and embassy officials.

Participants saw books introducing the UK and materials showing scientific and



technological invention and other successes. The DPRK and the UK normalized their diplomatic relations on Dec. 12 last year.

PK Report from Pyongyang

April 26th Animation Studio of DPRK

Korean-made Cartoon Films Win Popular Acclaim among Animation Film Fan in Europe



The studio realizes computerization of the process of the production of films.



Creators drawing background of cartoon films' original pictures.

"Original Pictures by SEK Studio" are seen often in the credit titles of animated cartoons recently aired in European countries including France, Italy and Spain. It is already widely known among persons concerned with cartoon films and cartoon fans that SEK Studio means the April 26th Children's Film Studio of the DPRK.

The April 26th Children's Film Studio has been receiving orders for production of animated cartoons from European countries since 1986.

The studio has built up a firm position and won a reputation in Europe, producing a lot of masterpieces, such as "Gargantua and Pantagruel", "Arabian Nights", "Les Miserables", "Lion King," the "Titanic,"

and so on.

The production of animated cartoons goes through three processes. The first process includes production of a scenario, a storyboard, drawing of character models and backgrounds and making of an x-sheet and a mouth code. The intermediate process includes the making of layout, animation celluloids, scanning, coloring and composition. The final process includes the recording and dubbing of music, sounds and characters' words.

The Korea April 26th Children's Film Studio undertakes the first and intermediate process. French and Spanish companies mainly place orders for the intermediate process, and Italian companies commission

KEDO Progresses Despite Obstacles; Signs Accord with DPRK

Ambassador Charles Karman, Executive Director of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO), during his four-day visit to the DPRK, on December 3 signed the Quality Assurance and Warranties Protocol between the U.S.-led international consortium and the DPRK with his counterpart, Kim Hui Mun, Director of the DPRK General Bureau for the Light-Water Reactor Project. According to KEDO's press release dated December 3, this protocol outlines, among other things, principles for the establishing and implementing quality assurance activities, as well as KEDO's warranties for generating capacity, major components, nuclear fuel quality, and specified civil construction works for the project.

During his stay between December 1 and 4, Kartman, former U.S. ambassador for governmental talks with Pyongyang under the Clinton administration, discussed with Pyongyang officials including his former counterpart Kim Gye Gwan, vice foreign minister, methods for resolving ongoing disputes over the wages of North Korean workers at Sinpo, the construction site located on the country's east coast. Other issues included the establishment of a satellite communication network linking Sinpo and foreign countries, the South Korean newspaper Korea Herald reported.

Another Protocol on Indemnity for Accidents

In its executive board meeting held on December 6 and 7 in Seoul, KEDO decided to conclude a protocol with the DPRK next year on indemnity for nuclear accidents and

to extend the European Union's executive board membership for another five years, as the EU intended to increase its annual contribution from 15 million euros to 20 million euros, the paper said. The two-day meeting also discussed the 2002 KEDO budget bill, under which its executive members--South Korea, the U.S., Japan and the EU--will shoulder the financial burden for the project.

Under a 1994 deal between Pyongyang and Washington, KEDO has funded the reactor construction project in return for the former's promise to freeze its own nuclear energy project based on graphite-moderated reactors. The Bush administration has called for an inspection of North Korea's nuclear facilities, while Pyongyang has demanded U.S. compensation for the long-delayed construction of two LWRs, one of which was supposed to be completed by 2003 under the 1994 Agreed Framework.

U.S.-DPRK High-Level Talks Likely to Resume: Kartman

Charles Kartman called his recent meeting with Kim Gye Gwan "productive," saying that he got the impression Pyongyang would resume a dialogue with Washington through a channel other than North Korean diplomats attached to the UN in New York.

In his interview with the South Korean daily "Joong-Ang Ilbo," the executive director of KEDO said: "Kim Gye Gwan, the North Korean vice foreign minister, and U.S. special envoy John Prichard are likely to become the logical partners if the dialogue does take place."

the studio to do the work for the first and intermediate processes. At present, more than 70 companies have dealings with the studio and they show and broadcast animated cartoons, which were produced by the studio, in theaters and on TV.

"More than 1,000 young creators including producers, art directors and animators work in our studio. Their animation work is highly regarded in Europe, noted as good as Disney's works," said Mr. Chong Chol Ho, 43, who works for the studio's external affairs department. The studio computerizes the scanning, coloring of original pictures and background, animation, editing, special effect and the composition of pictures.

Besides cartoon films for export, domestic cartoon films, such as "Clever Badger," "Boy Hercules," "Princess Rakrang," are also recently getting popular in China and Southeast Asian countries. "Our cartoon films win a great popularity at home and abroad. This is because we select wholesome themes and idea of films which will help children establish healthy views of the world and represent them artistically," Mr. Chong Chol Ho said.

In addition to the production of custom-made cartoon films, the April 26th Children's Film Studio plans to enter its original ethnic film in an annual international animation film festival. "This is still just in a planning stage. But we are capable enough to carry out this plan," Mr. Chong added.

The Korea April 26th Children's Film



A scene of "Arabian Nights"

Studio started in 1985 to receive orders from and develop collaboration with foreign companies.

Last year, the studio produced a number of cartoon films on order from foreign firms, such as "Sandocan," "Child of Toromiro" and "Narigota," each of which is 26-volume work, and the 14-volumed "Billy the Cat," and so on.

Introducing various and fresh patterns and techniques according to children's aesthetic sense and their childlike innocence, cartoon films made by the studio draw audiences' attraction. "Adventures of Pig Hercules," "Bloodsucker Ernest" and "Gandahar," famous animated cartoons in the world, were also produced by the April 26th Children's Film Studio. The studio is actively promoting collaborations, contract-basis work and technical exchanges with foreign enterprises in the international cartoon films market and also in the international cartoon film festivals.



A scene of "Les Miserables"

CONTRIBUTION

Forced Conscription and Forced Labor Is War Crime

Mr. Hong Sang Jin, Secretary General of the Investigation Team on the Truth about Forced Korean Laborers in Japan, was invited to participate as a speaker at the "International Conference on Japanese Crimes against Humanity: Sexual Slavery and Forced Labor," sponsored by the University of California Riverside, held in Los Angeles, on Nov. 29-30, 2001. But he could not participate in the conference because of the U.S. State Department's refusal to issue a V-1 visa to Mr. Hong.

The People's Korea introduces the results of his research to be read in the conference. Translation is ours. (Original in Japanese) -- Ed.

Hong Sang Jin

Secretary-general

The Investigation Team on the Truth about Forced Korean Laborers in Japan

During World War II, millions of people in Asian countries, which were occupied and colonized by Japan, were forcibly taken abroad to engage in forced labor. The Japanese government has refused to make an apology and take responsibility for its past war crimes as well as to inquire into the truth about the war crimes. The Japanese government has evaded legal responsibility of the State for its war crimes, while concealing documents and materials related to its past war crimes.

1. Definition of Forced Conscription And Forced Labor

Forced conscription is conducted by abduction, coercion by authorities and fraud under physical and mental compulsion.

The ILO "Convention concerning Forced or Compulsory Labor" (No. Co29) provides, "the term *forced or compulsory labor* shall mean all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily." (Article 2)

The Convention bans labor in underground, women's labor, labor by those under eighteen years of age and wage discrimination. Forced labor imposed by Japan clearly violated ILO Convention No. 29 and it was slavery labor.

2. Trial of Major War Criminals Before the International Military Tribunal, Nuremberg

In the Trial of the Major War Criminals Before the International Military Tribunal, Nuremberg, which punished Nazi war crimes, forced labor imposed on civilians by Nazis were punished as war crimes.

The Indictment of the Nuremberg Trial specified that "to deport citizens from occupied countries to Germany and to other occupied countries for the purpose of slave labor upon defense works, in factories and in other tasks connected with the German war effort" is war crime. (The Indictment of the Nuremberg Trial **Count Three - War Crimes (B) Deportation of Slave Labor And For Other Purposes of The Civilian Populations Of And In Occupied Territories**)

Nazis had forced five or six million civilians in its occupied areas into slavish labor. The number of civilians enslaved in Nazi-occupied territories are estimated of five or six millions.

In the Nuremberg Tribunal, Nazi leaders -- Hermann Goering, who demanded conscription of slave laborers in order to make them work in underground airplane factories, and Alfred Rosenberg, who gave orders to arrest tens of thousands of juveniles to secure work forces -- were found guilty of their "war crimes" and "crimes against humanity."

	U.S.A.	UK	Australia	Netherlands	France	The Philippines	China	Total
Cases	456	330	294	448	39	72	605	2244
Number of defendant	1443	978	949	1038	230	169	883	5700
Ill-treatment of internees	4	11	49	93	2	1	2	162
Ill-treatment of internees resulting in death	1	6	4	31	2	1		45
Ill-treatment of civilians	115	497	49	573	170	92	319	1315
Ill-treatment of civilians resulting in death	19	360	34	383	46	4	81	927
Compulsory military service							1	1
Forced conscription for construction							18	18
Compulsory labor			2			3	20	25
Compulsory labor on military works directly related to Japanese military operations	24	6	8	2	5	1	13	59

Table 1: Result of Investigation into Charges in the Trials of BC Class War Criminals (Excerpts)
(Source: A Gist of War Crime Tribunals, 1973, Judicial System and Research Department of the Ministry of Justice of Japan)

Subsequent Nuremberg Proceedings also punished Nazi-committed forced labor of foreigners and forced deportation of other ethnic groups for "war crimes" and "crimes against humanity."

3. International Military Tribunal for the Far East and Trial of BC Class War Criminals

Article 5 of the regulations of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East (IMTFE) defines Crimes against Humanity as "murder, extermination, enslavement, deportation, and other inhumane acts committed against any civilian population, before or during the war."

(See Table 1) The Japanese government now denies public access even to the above-mentioned documents as well as to specific materials, for reasons of the protection of privacy of war criminals.

Under such limited conditions, we have tried to gather and analyze all available materials.

In the tribunal by the U.S., 115 war criminals were prosecuted for "maltreatment" of "civilians." The tribunal punished *the Hanaoka Incident. (*986 Chinese laborers who were forced to work in a mine in Hanaoka in Odate city, Akita Prefecture, northern Japan, during World War II operated by Kajima-gumi, the predecessor of Kajima Corp. Japanese major construction company. Harsh working conditions led to an uprising of Chinese forced laborers on June 30, 1945. The uprising was later suppressed by Japanese military police. More than 130 Chinese laborers were killed. Even after the end of World War II, Chinese laborers were forced to engage in forced labor, and after all, 418 of 986 forced laborers died at Hanaoka.) The accused of the Hanaoka Incident were punished for crimes against humanity-- "acts of enslavement and other inhumane acts"-- and sentenced to prison. (Case No. 230)

The tribunal by Australia indicted 49 suspects for "ill-treatment to civilians." A case that the Japanese military imposed forced labor on thirty Chinese laborers was prosecuted to the tribunal. The tribunal in

Rabaul sentenced two Japanese military officers to prison according to the laws and customs of war and customary international law. (Case No. 126)

In the tribunal in the Philippines, two Japanese servicemen, who had kidnapped eight-year-old Philippine child and forced him into slave labor, were sentenced to life imprisonment. (Case No. 61)

The tribunal by China held in Guangzhou, China, found a case of forced recruitment of Chinese juveniles guilty. In the Singapore tribunal by the UK, a case of maltreatment of POWs and civilian laborers, who had been forced to serve in the construction of the Taimen Railway Line, linked Thailand to Burma (Myanmar), was found guilty. (Case No. 84)

As is generally known, Japan "accepts the judgments of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East and of other Allied War Crimes Courts both within and outside Japan" in Article 11 of the Treaty of Peace with Japan (*San Francisco Peace Treaty, April 28, 1952*). The four above-mentioned judgments will serve as valuable precedents for creating a global standard--that is, forced deportation and forced labor are war crimes and these are punishable crimes.

However, these trials were insufficient to judge enormous numbers of cases of forced conscription and forced labor committed by Japan in Asia. Forced conscription and forced labor committed by Japan were not dealt with at all in the Trial of A Class War Criminals. Even in the trials of BC class war criminals, less than one percent of all the number of prosecuted cases were treated as cases of forced labor of civilians. Crimes committed against Koreans in particular were not punished at all. Insufficient punishment of war crimes committed against Koreans became a hot issue and raised the problem of non-punishment.

4. Problematic Points

The draft indictment of the IMTFE (The draft indictment made by the U.S. side, February 1946) said that the applicable areas of prosecution for "conventional war

crimes" and "crimes against humanity" included Korea, China, Hawaii, the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand. (*Awaya Kentaro and others *War Responsibility, Post War Responsibility* July 1994)

But Japan's war crimes were not completely punished by the IMTFE, because the Cold War had already started when the Tribunal began.

Fritz Sauckel, Plenipotentiary General for the Utilization of Labor, who planned Nazi's project of forcible labor mobilization (Nazi's slave-labor system), was sentenced to death by hanging for his war crime and crime against humanity. Though Kishi Nobusuke, Japanese wartime cabinet minister in charge of forced labor, was arrested as a suspected A class war criminal, he was found not guilty and acquitted. (*According to the recent declassified U.S. document, "*International Prosecution Interrogatory*," the IMTFE was preparing to indict Kishi for crimes against humanity.) In sharp contrast to Germany, Japan has not punished these crimes of its own accord after the end of the IMT.

Another noteworthy problem is that Japan was not accused of its colonial rule in Asia.

Because Germany had no colonies, it was accused of its rules over its occupied territories. In the case of Japan, its colonial rule over Asian countries ought to have been tried. For instance, Nazi's war crimes began with genocide against other ethnic groups. Nazi occupied Czechoslovakia as a protectorate, threatening the latter's state delegate into concluding a mutual treaty. The IMT Nuremberg found Nazi's occupation of Czechoslovakia a war crime.

Japan had already begun to commit German-like acts in the Korean Peninsula since 1905. The 1905 Treaty, (called Ulsa Five-Point Treaty or Ulsa Protectorate Treaty in Korea, called the Second Japan-Korea Treaty or Japan-Korea Protectorate Treaty in Japan) the beginning of Japan's colonial rule over Korea, had been invalid since the conclusion of the treaty, because it was concluded as Japan threatened state repre-

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Anti-Chongryun Campaign**(Continued from page 1)**

spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of North Korea on the following day. It said:

It goes to prove that such search was an intentional political plot to attack Chongryun itself. As far as the issue of the Korean bank is concerned, it is the matter caused by the Japanese economy in depression, not by any illegal transactions or "evasion of inspection."

A large number of businesses in Japan are now undergoing a financial crisis.

Chongryun has repeatedly clarified to the Japanese government that there has been nothing in violation of the Japanese laws in its transactions with the Korean credit associations and all their activities have been legitimate ones in line with them.

This notwithstanding, the Japanese authorities exaggerated only the issue of the Korean bank in particular, and forcibly searched even the Central Headquarters of Chongryun, a dignified overseas citizens' organization of the DPRK, deliberately pulling up it without any legal ground. This was a high-handed criminal act and a despicable political crackdown upon Chongryun and Korean compatriots in Japan, and, furthermore, a flagrant infringement upon the sovereignty of the DPRK.

It is universally known that the Japanese authorities applied the "Anti-Subversive Activities Act" to Chongryun and escalated its suppression under various pretexts whenever the situation in the surrounding areas grew tense.

However, we cannot but follow this incident with particular vigilance as this is the first undisguised political suppression of

Chongryun since its formation and this took place at a time when Japan was putting into practice its wild design for overseas expansion in real earnest, taking advantage of the "anti-terror war."

We will never tolerate such a tyrannical act as seriously mocking at and antagonizing the DPRK and aggravating the regional situation, nor will we remain a passive onlooker at the escalating anti-DPRK moves.

The Japanese authorities should stop at once the fascist suppression of Chongryun, apologize for this and unconditionally and immediately release the unreasonably arrested people.

Media, Mass Rallies at Home and Abroad Denounce Tokyo

A Pyongyang meeting took place on December 1 to denounce the Japanese authorities' crackdown upon Chongryun, which was followed by local residents in North Korea such as people in Wonsan, Kangwon Province, and different trade unions like the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea. A reporter at the Pyongyang rally said that the Japanese government's move was stirring up bitter national resentment not only among the Chongryun organizations and the Korean community in Japan but among all the Korean people. The meeting was attended by Yang Hyong Sop, Vice-President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly, and Ryang Man Gil, chairman of the Pyongyang City People's Committee, and other leaders of different political parties and social organizations.

And statements condemning Tokyo were issued one after another by overseas Korean organizations including the General



Koreans in Japan hold a general meeting in Tokyo on Dec. 5 to protest against Tokyo's high-handed investigation into Chongryun, calling for an immediate halt to the political repression of Chongryun.

Association of Koreans in China, the United Confederation of Koreans in Russia, and the Society for Cooperation of Koreans in Germany, the Western Regional Federation of Koreans in the U.S., the Council of Korean National Movement Organizations in the U.S., and so on.

In its statement on December 1, the United Confederation of Koreans in Russia said that the Japanese authorities' recent repression of Chongryun was not different from the brutal action of countering the crisis caused by the natural disaster of the Kanto Earthquake of 1923 with the bitterest tragedy, a mass murder of Koreans.

In the meantime, Rodong Sinmun, organ of the Workers' Party of Korea, and Minju Joson, organ of the DPRK government, slammed the Japanese government for its anti-Chongryun campaign. Rodong Sinmun in its December 3 signed article said: "The Japanese authorities are recklessly suppressing the Koreans in Japan, the direct victims of Japan's forcible drafting in the period of its occupation of Korea, and Chongryun, their legitimate organization, though they have not redressed its crime-woven past. This is, in fact, a double crime."

Roundup of Major Events about DPRK**November**

October 27 - November 4 -- The 8th Wugiao International Acrobatics Festival of China was held. "Golden Lion Prize," the highest prize of the festival, was awarded to DPRK aerial acrobatic piece.

5 -- A delegation of the Korea Agriculture Worker Alliance visited China.

6 -- General Secretary Kim Jong Il enjoyed a performance given by the art squad of KPA unit No. 264.

7 -- Mongolian Friendship delegation visited the DPRK.

7 -- Kim Jong Il visited Musan Mining Joint Enterprise.

9 - 14 -- The 6th north-south ministerial talks were held at the foot of Mt. Kumgang. The talks ended with no results.

9 -- Kim Jong Il inspected unit No. 165 of the KPA.

10 -- KPA friendship delegation visited China.

10 -- Kim Jong Il visited chickens factory No. 112.

12 -- The DPRK made a formal sign to the "international convention for the suppression of the financing of terrorism" and the "international convention against the taking of hostages."

12 -- Kim Jong Il inspected unit No. 397 of the KPA that was given a title of "O Jun Hup 7th regiment."

13 -- A delegation of the House of People's Representatives of Indonesia and government trade delegation of Thailand visited the DPRK. The Indonesian delegation had talks with a delegation of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly at the

Mansudae Assembly Hall on Nov. 14.

13 -- Germany donated 6,000 tons of frozen beef to the DPRK.

16 -- Prime Minister Hong Song Nam had talks with the government trade delegation of Thailand at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

18 -- Mt. Kumgang tourism business marked the 3rd anniversary of its inauguration.

19 -- The World Health Organization (WHO) opened its office in Pyongyang.

19 -- Protocol of the 21st meeting of the DPRK-Cuba inter-governmental economic and scientific and technological consultative committee was signed.

19 - 20 -- The 8th congress of the Korean Journalists Union (KJU) was opened in Pyongyang.

19 -- Pak Kil Yon was appointed as permanent representative of the DPRK to the United Nations to replace Ri Hyong Chol.

19 -- Yang Hyong Sop, Vice President of the Presidium of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, met and conversed with Wojciech Kaluza, new Polish ambassador to the DPRK.

20 -- The north, south and overseas headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (PONMINRYUN) released a joint statement on the occasion of its 11th founding anniversary.

21 -- The friendly city relations was established between Pyongyang and Kathmandu of Nepal.

24 -- The DPRK-China agreement on border-crossing points and their manage-

Forced Labor**(Continued from page 3)**

mentatives of Korea into signing the treaty. The invalidness of the treaty was backed up by a report of the UN International Law Committee in 1963. Japan occupied Korea on the basis of the 1905 Treaty, and in consequence, Japan's war crimes, such as "comfort women," "forced labor," started in Korea and spread to and escalated in Asian countries.

5. Reaction of Japanese Government

As mentioned above, the forced conscription and forced labor committed by Japan are war crimes and these are crimes committed by the State like the "comfort women" crime. It is an international obligation for Japan as an injurer to compensate the injured countries for their damages.

However, the Japanese government had intentionally covered up the materials and fabricated them, and now Japan openly rejects its obligation of compensation.

Just after the defeat in World War II in August 1945, the Japanese authorities destroyed lots of related documents and materials day after day for fear of being punished as war criminals. (**Stenographic Notes of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East* No. 148)

After the end of World War II, the Japanese Foreign Ministry had made false reports. The Foreign Ministry of Japan made a report on forced conscription of Chinese people in accordance with the Allies' demand. This report was compiled from on-spot reports made by researchers. But the final report deleted passages regarding wartime atrocities committed by the Japanese Imperial Army.

The Ministry of Justice had conducted researches in materials concerning war tri-

ment system was signed in Pyongyang.

24 -- Rallies to bring a new peak to the production and construction holding high the "torchlight of Ranam" were held in various places in the DPRK.

25 -- Information Technology College and Mechanic Technology College were established newly in the Kim Chaek University of Technology.

bunals and gathered lots of related materials since 1955, but the Ministry has rejected to release these materials even to researchers as well as to the public for reasons of the protection of "privacy" of war criminals.

The Ministry of Labor had concealed lists of Korean forced laborers for over 40 years and declared openly that the Ministry had no such list. But recently the Ministry finally recognized the existence of such a list, faced with the investigations by nongovernmental organizations. The Ministry of Health and Welfare and the Social Insurance Agency still have deposited pensions and overdue wages, deducted from forced laborers, in the National Treasury, and the ministries have not even made contact with the victims concerned and their families and relatives.

During the Cold War era, while intentionally covering up war-related materials, the Japanese government introduced equivocal political conclusions in bilateral and multilateral treaties with victimized countries including the Japan-S. Korea Treaty.

Even after the end of the Cold War, the Japanese government maintained the standpoint, in the DPRK-Japan governmental talks on normalization of bilateral ties, that "comfort women" and "forced labor" were conducted legitimately because Japanese colonial rule over Korea was lawful at that time. Such remarks by the Japanese government will cause another crime against victims of Japan's past war crimes. The problem will never be solved unless Japan's colonial rules and its war of aggression are recognized essentially as war crimes.

It will be a contribution to the peace of Japan, Asia and of the world and Japan's friendship with the countries of Asia and of the world for the Japanese government to admit its own responsibility for its forced deportation and forced labor.

28 -- Spokesman for DPRK Foreign Ministry criticized the abusive words to the DPRK by the United States, on "verifying the possible development of weapons of mass destruction."

30 -- The DPRK Foreign Ministry released a statement denouncing the Japanese authorities' ransacking the central and local headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (CHONGRYUN).