

3차 아시아 연대회의
< 영어 자료 >

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The 3rd
Asian Women's Solidarity Forum
on "Military Sexual Slavery by Japan"

**Topic ; Why the issue of "Military Sexual Slavery by Japan"
remains unresolved for 50 years.**

Conference Women's Mission Center(14th floor Auditorium), Seoul, Korea
Feb. 27(Mon) - March 1(Wed), 1995

Program
=====

- 2/27(Mon) 8:00 Breakfast
8:30 Registration
10:00 Opening Ceremony, Welcoming Events
Moderator : Kim, Hee Won
Opening Remarks : Lee, Hyo Chai
Words of Encouragement :
Lee, Oo Chung(Congressperson)
Lee, Sae Jung(Chair, Korea Bar Association)
Park, Yong Kil(Chair, Korean National Congress for Reunification)
Lee, Yeon Ok(Chief Director of Women's Mission Center)
Park, Joong Kun(The Federation of Korean Trade Unions,FKTU)
11:00 Country Report I(Moderator : Kwon, Hee Soon)
"Why oppose sympathy-money?"
Ishikawa Itsuko[Japan]
Yang, Young Ji[Korean resident in Japan]
12:00 Lunch
14:00 Resume Country Report I
"Why oppose sympathy-money?"
Park, Young Shim[Korea(North)]
Committee of Measures for Compensations to "Comfort Girs[for the
Army" and Victims to the Pacific War [Korean(North)]
Julia Porras, Nelia Sancho[Philippines]
15:30 Tea Time
16:00 Pi-Mei Chang, Yu-Fang Chiau[Taiwan]
Kim, Sun Duk, Kim, Kyung Hee[Korea(South)]
17:30 Questions and Answers
18:00 Break Time
18:30 Dinner
20:00 Halmonis(survivors) Solidarity party

- Moderators : Kim, Hye Won/ Chung, Sook Ja
- 2/28(Tue) 8:00 Breakfast
- 10:00 Country Report II(Moderator:Carter, Aiko)
 "What are the Strategies for Resolving the Problem?"
 Committee of Measures for Compensations to "Comfort GirsI for the
 Army" and Victims to the Pacific War [Korean(North) Report]
 Nelia Sancho[Philippines]
 Chen Yi-Chen[Taiwan]
 Kim, Young Hee[Korean resident in Japan]
- 12:00 Lunch
- 14:00 Korean Folk Dance & 'Salpuri' Dance
 (Handure & Kim, Kyung Ran)
- 16:00 Resume Country Report II
 "What are the Strategies for Resolving the Problem?"
 Tsuburaya Kyoko[Japan]
 Chi, Eun Hee[Korea(South)]
- 15:40 Questions and Answers
- 16:00 Adoption of the Conference Statement(Moderator:Lee, Mi Kyung)
- 17:30 Press Conference
- 18:00 Dinner
- 19:00 Free Time
 ① Watching Video tape about "Military Sexual Slavery"
 ② Visitation of "Sharing House"
- 3/1(Wed) 8:00 Breakfast
- 10:00 Visitation to Park "Pagoda"(optional)
- 11:30 Leaving for Japanese Embassy at the Lobby by Bus
- 12:00 155th Wednesday Demonstration at Japanese Embassy
 Closing the Conference

Why We Oppose
Civil Fund Raising
by Ms. Itsuko Ishikawa

Although we are opposed to the Japanese government's proposal to provide civil based non-governmental funding as a means of compensating the victims of World War II who were exploited by a militarism induced system of sexual slavery, the Japanese government has not yet taken any legal steps in relation to its culpability in this regard. I feel this reality is my responsibility, having been unable to change the government's decision relative to the idea of civil or private based funding. As a matter of fact, before the survivors of war and their supporters had spoken out about the serious problems caused by Japan, we Japanese women should have known about these problems and should have made all efforts to reveal the facts to our citizenry. We continue to petition the Japanese government to provide a public apology for the brutality inflicted and to provide compensation for each individual victim.

1. Japanese Governmental Attitude

On December 22, 1994, Prime Minister Murayama replied as follows to questions related to compensation on an individual basis for the brutality inflicted through sexual slavery by the Japanese Imperial Army:

- (a) The government has not given any consideration to the question of individual compensation to the victims of war, for Japan has followed faithfully the terms of the San Francisco Peace Treaty and other bilateral agreements.
- (b) The government believes that the policies that were in place relative to the "comfort women" system were not violations of international law.
- (c) Although investigations were carried out faithfully, there were no relevant materials found in the National Police Agency files.¹

The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) published their final report entitled, "Report of a Mission" on November 22, 1994. The report states that the Japanese Imperial Army retains responsibility for the problem of militarism instituted sexual enslavement and that the Japanese government bears the legal obligation to provide individual compensation to the victims of war.² However, Prime Minister Murayama has completely ignored the report.

On September 2, 1994, the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) requested that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan examine the draft of the ICJ report, but the ministry hid the report from government administrators and the sub-committee on the "comfort women" issue in the governing party. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs first insisted that they had not received the report, and later altered their

stance by indicating that the statement had been received, but that it had been written without Ministry of Foreign Affairs consultation.

Immediately, the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) sent two delegates to Japan to prove to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that the Ministry had indeed been consulted with respect to the proceedings leading up to the final report. Later, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had to apologize to the ICJ delegates for ministry fabrications.³ However, one month later, what the Prime Minister was saying about this issue had not in any manner been altered in relation to earlier Ministry of Foreign Affairs fabrications. Mr. Murayama has no real self-hood as Prime Minister because he only follows Ministry of Foreign Affairs resolutions.

On December 27, 1994, several delegates from fifty-two women's organizations for the United Nations International Women's Year, went to see Prime Minister Murayama in relation to the "comfort women" issue. At that meeting State Secretary Mr. Igarashi, who was with Mr. Murayama, made the following statements:

- (a) Diplomatic understandings are, that compensation for war victims has already been completed through bilateral treaties. Because the Republic of Korea did not agree to receive individual compensation from the Japanese government, the Japanese government has created the idea of civil or private based fund raising.
- (b) In the 1995 National Budget, 500 million yen has been requested for office expenses and publicity for the establishment of a Citizens' Foundation for the "comfort women".
- (c) The Japanese Red Cross will cooperate in distributing the funds. The government has requested Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) and Labor Union (Rengo) cooperation in this project.
- (d) With the inclusion of Taiwan, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Holland, we wish to hand out a letter written by the Prime Minister to individual former "comfort women."

The Republic of Korea has indicated that it will cooperate in meeting individual victim demands.⁵ Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has stated that although rights of national protection against further war reparations have been mutually affirmed, rights to individual claims are not erased by national laws.⁶ Yet, the Japanese government insists that the reason why individual compensation has not been paid to the victims of war, is that States have not requested such, thereby the responsibility has been removed from the Japanese government.

It is planned that war victim funds will be channeled through the Japanese Red Cross, an institution in which Imperial family members assume the positions of honorary president and vice-president but within a historical situation in which the Showa emperor retained supreme authority to wage the wars of invasion which

constituted World War II.

On January 24, 1995, Japanese defense counsel for former Republic of Korea "comfort women," took a request for compromise to the Japanese Government in order to present said compromise to the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA). International jurisprudence is one avenue of approach in solving the issue of sexual slavery establish by the Imperial Army and Government of Japan. The Japanese government has rejected this compromise by suggesting that Japan has completed its reparations obligations under the San Francisco Peace Treaty and other related treaties.

On January 25, 1995 the Women's Action Network on Militarism and Sexual Slavery Issues met with five delegates of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in order to protest the government's conclusion relative to the Permanent Court of Arbitration, but the response was the same as the government's conclusion of the previous day. During the meeting a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs commented that there was "nothing new in terms of content" in the report by Ms. Radhika Coomaraswamy, the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. Regarding the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) Report, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs response was; "These are not orders nor instructions. We have no legal obligation to follow these recommendations." The final report (July 2, 1993) by Mr. Theo van Boven, Special Rapporteur, UN Human Rights Commission, has been ignored by the Japanese government. Japanese governmental officials are not aware that Japan was the oppressor and invaded other Asians and their countries.

2. How the Civil or Private Fund Raising Idea Came About

On August 12, 1994 the Murayama Administration had established a policy of dealing with the problem of Japan's military "comfort women" and related issues through civil or non-governmental fund raising measures.⁷ On the same day, former Environmental Agency Chief Mr. Sakurai said, "It was not Japan's intention to invade other countries. However, other Asian countries became independent from their European colonial rulers because of it."⁸ This incident explains quite symbolically, where actual Japanese understandings are.

In 1994, there were other politicians making reckless remarks. The former Minister of Justice said, "The rape of Nanking was a frame-up. The 'comfort women' system was legalized prostitution, and the Americans and the British were doing the same thing."⁹ Mr. Hashimoto, the Minister of International Trade and Industry said, "It is a delicate matter as to whether or not the war in Southeast Asia and the Pacific region was aggression or invasion."¹⁰ Sakurai and Nagano lost their positions in the government and were replaced by others, but the Murayama Cabinet treated the remark by Mr. Hashimoto, the president of the Japan War Bereaved Families, as a "non problem."¹¹

Intent upon affirming and praising the war of invasion against other Asian nations, nineteen Prefectural Councils, including Ehime and Shiga, adopted

resolutions expressing commemoration and appreciation for the war dead.¹² On January 31, 1995, 143 Diet members of the Japan Liberal Democratic Party established an Association to Oppose any Resolutions for Public Apology within the confines of the National Diet.¹³ It should be noted that there have been many incidents in which the national dress worn by Korean high school students living in Japan has been slashed by Japanese persons while these students were on their way to and from school.

Fifty years ago on August 14, 1945, Japan accepted the Potsdam Declaration. At noon on August 15 of that year, the Showa Emperor announced Japan's surrender through a radio address stating that "this war was inaugurated to defend Japan and obtain Asian stability, but Japan did not seek to nullify Asian national sovereignty or to invade Asian territory."¹⁴

Under Allied occupation the first Japanese National Diet session opened with the establishment of a post-surrender Prince Higashikuni cabinet. The Prime Minister, who was chosen from the imperial family, underscored the Showa Emperor's contribution to bringing an end to World War II, and asked for repentance on the part of all Japanese people because Japan had been defeated in the war.¹⁵ Newspapers reported on the necessity of repentance on the part of 100 million Japanese people, but never gave any thought to the ten million Taiwanese and twenty million Koreans who suffered under Japan's colonial rule.

Only three days after the end of the war the Ministry of Home Affairs ordered local governments to establish "comfort stations" for the occupation army. On August 26, 1945 a Special Comfort Association was organized and located in front of the plaza of Imperial Place in Tokyo with legalized brothel operators being provided with 100 million yen in government funds. This measure was created by the ruling elites who were fearful that the emperor system could be compromised by unarmed Japanese soldiers coming back from war and reacting to the open sexual transgressions committed by the occupation army against Japanese women. In order to sustain the emperor system, Japanese women were offered to the occupation army as human sacrifices. The Japanese government was pimping for the occupation army and women were once again victimized by the state.¹⁶

Japanese politics has been continued by the same old men who do not believe that Japan invaded other Asian countries and who have no sense of remorse regarding the many crimes committed against other Asian peoples. Instead of paying compensation to the victims of war in Asian countries, the pensions system for Japanese soldiers was created and war bereaved families continue to receive pensions which increase every year.¹⁷ The 1995 pension budget provides ¥5,514,000 per veteran with injuries and ¥1,878,900 per family which had experienced a soldier's death. 1,510,000 war bereaved families will receive an added ¥400,000 as special condolence money provided this year from the 1995 national budget.¹⁸

Japan concluded its obligations for reparations with respect to other Asian countries through economic cooperation projects which were designed to bolster

Japan's economic progress. This is contrary to the situation with Germany where said government paid individual compensation to individual victims of Nazi war atrocities.¹⁹

The Japanese people do not understand that it was the resistance of the people of Asia which defeated Japanese militarism. On the contrary, the Japanese, with their superiority complex, altered their behavior only slightly so as to become money-makers. Loyalty to the state was converted to loyalty to money-making enterprises and an economic society was created where money is the first priority over life and people.

The Japanese remain on a course which is characterized by prejudice against other Asian peoples, discrimination against women and the worship of money. Ms. Fuyuko Uesaka says that the "'comfort women' system was originated as a part of the business of war"²⁰ and that "the system was a necessary evil for sustaining a minimum of security and order in military life."²¹ The Japanese mass media has treated Ms. Uesaka as a well accepted and popular writer in Japan.²²

In spite of the Japanese government's unwillingness to assume responsibility for the "comfort women" and related issues, scholars who were once recognized as conscientious in their understandings, have moved to the government position and have begun to cooperate in the civil fund raising plan because it is said by them that the war was the responsibility of both the citizenry of Japan as well as the Japanese government.²³

We have come to the conclusion that our movement in opposition to the government idea of civil fund raising has not been understood by many people nor has it had the power yet to change Japanese government policy.

3. Why We Oppose Civil Fund Raising

The Japanese government does not retain any adequate understanding of the "comfort woman" system as an obviously gross violation of human rights and as a monstrous crime against women which was perpetrated on a massive scale. The Murayama Cabinet, an alliance of three political parties, was established after many problematic compromises with the Liberal Democratic Party which still retains a majority of seats in the Diet and supports Japan's war of invasion.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs believes that the issue of postwar compensation is a hurdle which Japan must jump over in order to become a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs believes that paying individual compensation to "comfort women" will open up the issue of paying individual compensation to other victims of war, and that such does not serve the national interests of Japan. The government orientation is that gross violations of human rights should remain uncompensated and that war crimes are not to be considered. This results in more evil and more profit for Japan.

Let us imagine a scenario in which men had imprisoned girls and raped them

ceaselessly and then had not been questioned in relation to their crimes. If civil funds collected from the citizenry were to be provided to the women who had been raped as a substitute for the prosecution of the crimes committed, how would these women feel who had to live with the pain of these wounds remaining deep in their hearts?

This is the Japanese government, that is, Japanese governmental authority planned the "comfort station" system and conducted the massive crimes against women, but the Japanese government is trying to conclude these war crimes on the basis of funds collected from the Japanese people. This is the ultimate in governmental irresponsibility. The oppressor without any recognition of its responsibility for the war could say, "those women are poor and should be silenced with whatever money is given." The Japanese government is looking down on the victims of war.

For Japanese companies which used the slave labor of other Asians in wartime, civil based goodwill fund raising is preferred to apologies and compensation by the government, for corporate donations may be exempted from taxation.

From 1946 to 1947 the Japanese mining, construction and ship-building industries imported elicited labor from China and Korea. These industries took their cases to the Japanese government for compensation, for the industries were saying that the quality of the elicited labor was not up to specifications and the labor had to be returned. These very industries received huge amounts of compensation from the government.²⁴

The oppressive industrial forces which used elicited labor, received compensation from government funds. If we establish the example of presenting very nominal monetary gifts as a civil coverup for Japanese government initiated war crimes blatancy, we will be testifying to the validity of this fearful historical fact, and such could lead to a repetition of the same injustices over and over again.

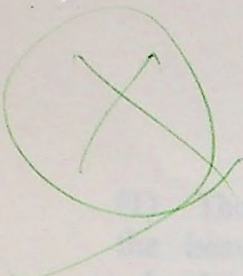
What Japan needs to do now is to investigate and reveal the facts of history while always making careful and deeply abiding evaluations relative to the question of why did Japan act in such terribly mistaken and destructive ways. This is necessary so that the same mistakes are not repeated again. It is necessary for us Japanese to realize that in the present situation the oppressors are economically prosperous and living without any evaluation of the past while the victims of war have continuously suffered from physical pain in the midst of poverty.

The establishment of a civil fund only serves to hide the real issues of historical reality and to prevent the establishment of true friendship with other Asian persons and peoples, based on an admission of culpability in perpetrating government organized sexual violence against Asian women and children. With the cooperation of our Asian sisters we continue to struggle for a true and meaningful solution to this deep and abiding problem by not allowing a government escape route but by seeking rather to instill in all of us, the reality of Japanese

governmental culpability and responsibility in this matter.

Notes:

1. Naikaku Sanshitsu, 131 #13, Prime Minister Murayama, December 22, 1994
2. "Comfort Women" An Unfinished Ordeal, Report of a Mission, International Commission of Jurists, Geneva, Switzerland, November, 1994
3. Asahi Shinbun, December 10, 1994 and Zenkoku Fujin Shinbun December 12, 1994
4. "I" Onnanshin Shinbun, January 31, 1995
5. Korean Government's Answers to Questionnaire by The Korean Council for the Women Drafter for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan
6. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Answer at the House of Councilors on August 27, 1991
7. Asahi Shinbun August 13, 1994
8. Ibid
9. Asahi Shinbun May 5, 1994 and May 7, 1994
10. Answer by Mr. Hashimoto, The Minister of International Trade and Industry at the Tax Reformed Committee, The House of Representatives, October 24, 1994
11. Asahi Shinbun October 26, 1994
12. Shiga Prefecture Resolution #3
13. National Land Agency Chief's Speech
14. Tanaka Nobihisa, Document Showa Tenno, Rokufu Shupan, Tokyo
15. Ibid
16. Ibid
Suzuki Yuko, Jugun Ianfu to Sei Boryoku, Miraisha, Tokyo
17. Tanaka Hiroshi, Nihon Wa Senso Sekinin Ni Do Taishite Kitaka, Sekai Magazine February, 1994
18. 1995 Budget
19. Asahi Shinbun January 1, 1995
20. Shukan Post, March 6, 1992
21. Ibid
22. Suzuki Yuko, Feminism to Chosen, Akashi Shoten, Tokyo, 1994
23. Group Sei To Tennosei O Kangaeru, Ima #2, October, 1994
24. Zaikan Hibakusha Mondai Shimin Kaigi, Imakoso Sengo Shorio, #10, Feb. 28, 1991
25. Tanaka Nobihisa, Document Show Tenno, Rokufu Shupan, Tokyo



Why do we oppose sympathy money by a private fund ?

Yang, YoungJi
(Korean resident in Japan)

I. Introduction

The issue of military sexual slavery by Japan is a national crime of the Japanese, a crime of sexual violence in the situation of war and a violation against humanity. Working from this basic premise, it is obvious that the Japanese government should pay reparations to victims in accordance with International Law. However, in spite of supporting organizations' and victims' strong demands, the Japanese government has ignored all activities and demands which have been made so far, and proposes "sympathy money" by a private fund as a resolution. In this report, I would like to consider the Japanese government's proposal of "sympathy money" by a private fund and to clarify the reason why it can not be a solution in the perspective of a Korean resident in Japan.

II. The Background of the decision for " Sympathy Money "

On August 31, 1994, Murayama expressed that a private fund would be a means through which Japanese people could share the blame for their responsibility for actions in the war. The plan for this fund was decided at the interim report of the small committee for the issue of " comfort women " on December 7, 1994. The small committee decided that they would not compensate any individual or person. This means that there is no way for survivors to receive reparations.

At present, the Japanese government is planning to form an " Asia Peace Friendship Fund for Women " (supposedly collected through civil fund raising). The Japanese government is planning to raise the fund between April and October 1995, along with business organizations such as Mikimusego, Guroyanakydeasego and Yosinagayoure. The arrangement being that organizations give their collective money to victims through any cooperative organization at a specific place, Korean Red Cross in Korea and with headquarters at the Japanese Red Cross. The main axis of this "Asia Peace Friendship Fund for Women " which is based on O.D.A., is to protect women's human dignity and they attach only a small part of this project to giving money to victims. Furthermore, the title of "military sexual slavery " is avoided, thus acting as a great counterplan to avoid acknowledging the historical truth of military sexual slavery by Japan.

III. The factors which make possible the idea of a private fund.

(1) The Japanese government's principle of not compensating any war victim and the heavy wall of bureaucracy surrounding the Japanese government.

In the interim report, the small committee explains the reasons why there is a need for Japanese people's broad participation in raising "sympathy money". In regards to the demand of reparations for Asian Pacific war victims, including former "comfort women", the Japanese government has tried earnestly to cope with the issue through international law and in accordance with the San Francisco Peace Treaty and other related treaties. Therefore, since they believe they no longer have any legal obligations all that remains is a moral responsibility. Thus the Japanese government encourages Japanese people to participate as much as possible with this plan which relies on public conscience.

The main principle with which the Japanese government persists is that they can not compensate individual war victims. The underlying assumption of this is that if Japan does compensate individual war victims, it would most likely result in other victimized countries making demands in the near future. Understandably then, the Japanese government wants to solve this issue as quickly as possible while countries such as China remain silent.

(2.) Withdrawal attitude of the Korean government

On August 4, 1993, the Korean government announced its second report on this issue and requested that the Japanese government recognize their involvement in military sexual slavery and reflect what had previously been expressed by Prime Minister Gono as a will to apologise. Following this the Korean government would not make further demands for redress.

The Korean government may be presuming it can keep national faith by withdrawing from making further demands, but on the otherhand it means that the Korean government is unable to demand any legal responsibility of the Japanese government over this issue. For example, the Japanese Foreign Affairs Ministry distorted the words of Kim, YoungSam, President of Korea. President Kim said, "we do not need compensation, rather we demand thorough fact finding". The Japanese government distorted this statement in such a way that they claim they can not give any compensation because the Korean government does not want to receive any reparations. Therefore the Japanese government attributes the irresponsibility for individual reparations to the Korean government.

The Korean Foreign Affairs Ministry responded to an inquiry by the Korean Council about this matter as such; "Even if the Korean government does not ask for reparations at a national level, we have a deep concern and support for the demand of reparations at a civil level and support this movement". With serious differences between the Japanese government's and Korean government's opinion in regards to the terms of individual reparations, The Korean Residents in Japan Women's Network wishes to express its support for the Korean government. The real meaning of President Kim's statement was to urge the Japanese government to resolve this issue as a matter of moral conscience. Therefore, it

is not seen as necessary for the Korean government to order the Japanese government to do this and to do that.

Regardless of the fact that the Korean government has appealed to the Japanese government on a matter of upholding moral principles, the Japanese government claims it is because of the Korean government's attitude that they can not compensate individual victims.

Further to this, the Japanese government has ignored the movement which is demanding that the issue go to the Permanent Court of Arbitration, as well as demanding the punishment of responsible persons and reparations, which are all recommendations of the I.C.J (International Commission of Jurists), the United Nations and other international human rights organizations. The Japanese government has concluded that the only solution to this issue is to be sympathy money raised by a private fund.

IV. Why do we oppose " sympathy money "?

We believe that the plan for sympathy money by a private fund is a deceptive solution and is a distortion of the truth. Victims and supporting organizations fiercely disagree with it because;

(1) It makes the Japanese government's responsibility unclear.

(2) It is not any solution. The money means nothing to victims without the apology and individual reparations. The restoration of victims' honor is impossible with "sympathy money".

(3) It will become a Japanese national charitable work. It will therefore not be clear that the responsibility is of individuals as well as a nation. If we ignore this fact and accept the "sympathy money" then we will never reach our goals of fact-finding and correcting history. We remember how only recently Japanese cabinet ministers have distorted history by attempting to rationalize and justify Japan's criminal war activities. Moreover, on Jan 31, 1995, when 143 members of the National Assembly met to establish the "National Council for Protecting Japanese", they were able to express their total opposition to the anti-war movement. This method of history distortion and the admiration of war, merely encourages the discrimination of Korean people in Japan as well as former Korean "comfort woman".

Song, SinDo, who resides in Japan, said that she would not accept " sympathy money ", if she were to do so then she would only be further despised by Japanese people. By accepting sympathy money through a private fund, the restoration of Song's honor will never be possible and the reality of history will remain distorted. Therefore, it is the right of victims to receive reparations that are not part of a charity fund.

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AWARD COMPENSATION FOR COMFORT WOMEN'S SUFFERING

JULIA PORRAS(Filipino Comfort Woman)

Solidarity greetings from Lila-Pilipina, an organization of Filipina survivors of military sexual slavery by Japan.

I am Julia Partosa-Porras, 66 years old. I am a native of Davao, one of the cities in the Southern part of the Philippines. My family resettled in Manila in 1982.

I am glad to attend the Third Asian Conference for Comfort Women and to share with you my story as one of the survivors of World War II, specifically of forcible abduction by the Japanese Army to provide sex service for its soldiers.

I was in the southern province of Davao when the war came. I was 13 years old when the troops of the Japanese Imperial Army (JIA) occupied Davao. As a young girl, I was a witness of the cruelties of war, of how women were raped and children killed by the soldiers. But I also witnessed how the Davaoans defended their people and our native land.

In 1944, when I was 13 years old, a truckload of soldiers came to our house. I was then cooking food for lunch, while my sister was washing clothes by the river beside our house.

I was brought to a tunnel in Ising, about 43 kilometers away from our hometown. Tunnels were used as a hide-out of the soldiers. Two women there when I arrive. I learned later that all women, including myself, were being used as toys by the soldiers to assuage their lust.

I never forget how I trembled in pain and fear as I sat in a corner, thinking about how the soldiers raped me. I would also feel numbed and lifeless sometimes, shouting aloud as I think of ways on how I could end my ordeal. Then I would think of ending my life. But I continued to bear the pain after the war ended. As time wore on, there was only numbness.

An officer whom I knew as Muri Sang was the one who first raped me. He would come regularly, sometimes three or four times a week.

For eight long months, I was imprisoned inside the tunnel, without adequate food, rest and water. There was no toilet, even where I could clean myself. Once I was given only a pail of water to wash my face and private parts.

The war ended in 1945, leaving behind a broken life for me. I lived in silence for more than 50 years, keeping to myself my horrible experience. My dignity was lost, but I lived on and survived.

X

When the first survivor, Rosa Luna Henson spoke in the open in September 1992 about her experience of sexual slavery during the war in the hands of the soldiers of the Japanese Imperial Army (JIA), I trembles and felt nervous as I start to recall my painful past. Then I summoned my strength to talk about my experience.

My husband encouraged me to reveal my past. He suggested that I contact the Task Force on Filipina Victims of Military Sexual Slavery by Japan which is now known as Lila-Pilipina.

For the first time, I have experienced being cared for at Lila-Pilipina. Other people, my relatives and neighbors, ridiculed me upon knowing that I was a comfort women.

Since I joined the movement to restore the human rights and dignity of former comfort women, I learned more about myself and on how I could gain justice. I joined rallies and unashamedly spoke about my past. I attended meetings and became friendly with other comfort women like me. And yes, I cried and cried, casting out the pain until I completely outgrew the past

I want justice. Justice for myself and for other comfort women like me.

We call on the Japanese government to grant direct compensation to us. The plan of collecting charity money form the private sector will never resolve the issue of the comfort women.

We are not asking for dole-outs. What we are demanding is the direct compensation to us for actual and real damages done to our personal integrity and dignity, and the subsequent personal suffering after the war which we continue to endure.

Where is justice if the Japanese government do not face up to their political and legal responsibility to the Asian war victims, particularly the women? Only through granting direct compensation to us, the Victims, can justice be done.

X

STATEMENT OF LILA-PILIPINA

(Task Force on Filipino Comfort Women)

on the Japanese Government's plan to Collect "Charity Money"

Nelia Sancho
(Chairperson, LILA-PILIPINA)

Women Survivors of rape and military sexual slavery who have filed a claim for individual compensation and apology from the Japanese government are not beggars! They are women who fight to recover their humanity and to reclaim their human rights. They are entitled to a sincere and dignified apology and compensation from the Japanese government as well as reparation of all the sufferings, and damages inflicted.

LILA-PILIPINA opposes the Japanese government plan to set up a 'fund' sponsored by private sectors. This idea allows the Japanese government to evade its responsibility to the women survivors for direct compensation.

It was the Japanese government which started the war. It was the Japanese Imperial Army, before and during World War II, which had set up a vast network of comfort stations for the exclusive use of its forces. The Japanese military provided brothels to its troops wherever they were located. Chinese, Korean, Filipino, Malaysian, Indonesian and Dutch women and girls were put in these military brothels and sexual services were extracted from them under duress. The Japanese which had strict control of its forces and all passages and transportation, bears the responsibility for trafficking in women. This responsibility should be accepted by the present government of Japan. The vast scale in which these atrocities were perpetrated is truly appalling. Equally appalling is the kind of life in the military borthels that the women had to endure a living hell! The women were beaten and tortured, in addition to being raped by 15, 20 ro 30 soldiers a day, and by the officers at night, day after day, for periods ranging from three weeds to eight years. Living conditions were cramped and shabby. Although medical check-ups by army doctors took place occasionally, many women were afflicted with sexual transmitted diseases. Women and girls, who were healthy in body and spirit before they were abducted, left the brothels diseased in body, crippled in spirit.

The Japanese government, is order to sincerely resolve the issue, has to restore the honor and dignity of the women it did violence to. The women's honor and dignity could not be restored if the Japanese government simply promotes "charity money" or "condolence money" from private citizens of Japan. Where is its own political and moral responsibility? The Japanese government should confront its own guilt, and not transfer this to ordinary citizens and make the letter responsible for a war crime against women which the government had

committed.

The issue of official individual compensation to the war victims by the Japanese government has been left unsettled for nearly half a century. All wartime documents and records in the possession of Japan and the former Allied countries are still not made public. A thorough investigation, including interviews with the victims, is still to be conducted by the Japanese government.

Japan has granted compensation only to Japanese nationals. Japan should offer reparation for damages inflicted through direct compensation. Japan must acknowledge these crimes to ensure that wars and militarism and the degradation and violation of women will never happen again. And in order that such a crime may never be repeated, atrocities committed by the Japanese Imperial forces must be remembered. Proper education must be conducted in homes and schools, both in Japan and in the Philippines.

The Filipino, Korea and all comfort women who have publicly spoken out, have dared to call rape and military slavery by Japan a war crime. They seek reparation and renewal from the Japanese government. They seek redressal for the crimes against women, for the human rights violations committed against their persons.

We, the supporters, advocates of women's rights and for peace with justice can do nothing less but to continue the campaign and the social movement for all the victims and survivors of violence on women in war and armed conflict situations.

Why oppose "Sympathy Money"?

Taiwanese Comfort Women Want Justice

By Yu-Fang Shiau
(Taipei Women's Rescue Foundation)

we oppose "sympathy money"

We object to the plan of "private fund" and "sympathy money", because it is not a proper reparation for the Comfort Women. It also reveals that the Japanese government was not sincere and regretful at all, though it has expressed its "sorrow and sympathy" for the Comfort Women several times before.

We oppose this plan because the Japanese government attempts to avoid from taking responsibility and stigma as a "criminal nation." By using a "private fund", the Japanese government does not admit that Japan has ever involved or committed the crime, But the truth is that the Japanese government established, owned and managed a large-scale sex slave system over all Asian-Pacific areas during World War II. This guilty country does not want to give proper reparations and extend formal apology to the victims. Ironically, it offers a small amount of "sympathy money" to the surviving victims as mercy or welfare assistance. This plan is both an insult and a humiliation to the victims.

What the victims demand is returned justice and dignity from the Japanese government. They are not poor beggars demanding money from the Japanese government. The Taiwanese Comfort Women do not and will not accept the "sympathy money."

Why we oppose "sympathy money?"

The draft of the Comfort Women is a systematic crime committed by the Japanese government. The nature of the crime is forced sex slavery and systematic rape. It is a gross violation of human nature, violation of the War Law and the Law of trafficking of Children and Women. These women were physically and psychologically assaulted, or even dead in the War. Their lives have been totally changed since these assaults.

Therefore, the Japanese government should repair these women for the crime it had committed, according to the laws. The Japanese government should provide a proper reparation to these women according to the severeness and nature of the crime. Otherwise, there is injustice for this issue.

The proper reparation should be individually paid to these women and the resource of money should come from the government, instead of being provided by a private fund. The reparation is the responsibility of the Japanese Government, neither any

other people nor any organization. The proper reparations for these women should include both material and spiritual reparations. Therefore, the amount of the reparation money should be high enough to make equal to the nature and damages of the crime. Taiwanese Comfort Women have requested the amount of the reparation at least should be twenty million Japanese Yens.

The plan of "sympathy money" and "private fund" is not a proper reparation at all. These women, for all their lives, in their old age and in their death beds, are waiting for justice. Justice at least should include the return of their dignity, the formal apology from the Diet of the Japanese government, the fully investigation on the issue, and the proper reparations for these women. For a long time and many times, these women from different victimized countries have made their requests very clearly.

In the plan of "private fund," the Japanese government announced it individually repaired the former Taiwanese soldiers drafted by Japan in War World II. Though the paid amount still is regarded as improper. The Japanese government also passed a law to repair per person about two hundred thousand Japanese Yens for the former Taiwanese soldiers who were either dead or handicapped in the War. Then, where is the human right of the Comfort Women? The Japanese government should be shamed of its discrimination and injustice on the Comfort Women.

"We Want Justice," demanded by Taiwanese Comfort Women.

Why oppose Sympathy Money?

Kim Kyung Hee

(Korean Council for the Women Drafted
for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan General Secretary)

The year of 1995 is a meaningful year for Koreans as well as all of Asia. It should be the year of "Jubilee" to heal the wounds of all the war victims in Asia. It should be the year all of us rejoice in celebration that it is 50 years since the second World War ended. But why are we still struggling to awaken the conscience of the Japanese Government to their legal responsibilities for war victims?

It is now the right time for Asian women activists and victims together to share what we have done so far and what are we going to do at this point since we have fought for four years together.

First of all, we must explain why we are opposed to the plan for "Sympathy Money". The Japanese Prime Minister, Mr. Murayama, announced a plan to resolve the problem of Asian war victims through a so called "Peace Exchange Fund for Asian Women". It will be one thousand million Yen (Y1000,000,000) raised by private fund and the Japanese Government will provide five hundred million Yen for administration costs. Each victim is supposed to get one million Yen if it is carried out. However we strongly oppose this plan for "Sympathy Money". The Japanese Government should withdraw it immediately for the following reasons;

1. In order to restore friendly relationships with neighboring Asian countries the Japanese Government should pay individual reparations to war victims.

The reparations should not only be reasonable for victims according to International Law, but also be on the basis of the Japanese Government's conscience and repentance for past wrong doing. Otherwise, it is not possible for Japan to restore relationships of trust with other Asian countries. By providing only money, no matter how much it is, it will not be helping at all. It is no wonder that the Japanese Government has not gotten any support for their becoming a member of the U.N. Security Council from neighboring Asian countries. It is the revelation of the whole truth and a formal apology for the crime of military sexual slavery that will be the starting point for restoring a friendly, trusting relationship with other Asian countries. The plan for sympathy money is an insult to victims unless it includes such an apology and revelation of the whole truth.

2. The plan for "Sympathy Money" by a private fund will remit the Japanese Government of the crime of military sexual slavery.

The military sexual slavery by Japan is a "crime against humanity" and a "war

crime". These crimes are still punishable under international customary norms and domestic laws. In addition, Japan is also punishable for these crimes under many other international instruments such as the International Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic (1925) and The Forced Labor Convention (1930).

The I.L.O.(International Labor Office) stipulates forced military sexual slavery as forced labor according to the Report of the Committee of Experts on the Applications of Conventions, International Labor Conference, 81st Session, 1994. Furthermore, the Japanese Government is responsible for "impunity" since they have chosen not to punish those who were involved in the crime. On November 22, 1994 the I.C.J.(International Commission of Jurists) sent their recommendation to the Japanese Government that they pay individual reparations to the victims of Japanese military sexual slavery.

Not only has the Japanese Government neglected to do this but it has not made any effort to release information materials related to the war period. This neglect to do so only further reflects the belief that the Japanese Government has something to hide. They have not conceded to any demands to release materials related to the issue which are currently closed to the public. They are trying to avoid clarifying where the responsibility lies by establishing this plan for "Sympathy Money,". If the money is raised by Japanese civilians in a fundraising program, it will be remitting the Japanese Government of their legal responsibility for war victims.

3. The survivors of military sexual slavery by Japan are women who should not be objects of sympathy or pity, rather they should be offered apologies and reparations under International Law in order to restore their human dignity and honor.

These survivors are living history of military sexual slavery by Japan. They are still struggling with what they have gone through and their deep wounds. So called "Sympathy Money" or any other measure has nothing to do with their healing if it is not the expression of a sincere apology and reparation. Besides this, nothing can restore their human dignity. When the Japanese Government tries to deal with this issue as a money matter, it steps on the survivors' human dignity again because it distracts the focus from the issue of the Military Sexual Slavery, and instead belittles the reparations to donations to poor women in poor Asian countries.

Therefore, survivors, activists and other militants have been demonstrating in front of the Japanese Embassy. The 155th demonstration will be held on March 1, 1995. Survivors are still screaming: "We don't need sympathy money." "Give it to your Japanese beggars!" "Give me back my youth!" "I don't need such money, even all the money in Japan is no compensation without an official apology."

When one victim testified her experience in Canada, a Japanese journalist stood up and said in tears that those comfort girls were drafted at the age of her own daughter.

It is true that there is a lot of raping of women by occupying soldiers. But is there any other case which was as deliberate, long term, and systematic as that which

Doctors Women Organize for Their Health

was planned, designed, and enforced by the Supreme Commander of the Japanese army?

I strongly believe that this kind of Military Sexual Slavery should not have happened in our history. If the Japanese Government truly wants to have peaceful friendly relationships with other neighbouring Asian countries, they first have to show that they respect International Law. The Japanese Government must withdraw the plan for "Sympathy Money" immediately and must pay reparations to individual survivors with an official apology. Furthermore, they must record and teach this to younger generations. I have conviction that we will achieve the goals through our Asian sisterhood solidarity work. Let's work together!

The Japanese Government should pay reparations to the survivors of Military Sexual Slavery and should also pay reparations to the survivors of the Japanese Imperial Army's War Crimes.

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ACTIVITIES OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT AND THE JAPANESE PEOPLE

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Comfort Women Organize for Their Rights

Nelia Sancho Rios

Brief Background ;

LILA-PILIPINA stands for "Lign ng mga Lolang Pilipina". It is an organization of Filipino comfort women and rape survivors as well as individual advocates of redress for human rights and justice to the Filipino comfort women survivors. It coordinates the efforts of various Philippine-based organizations and networks which support the struggle of the comfort women for justice.

On July 13, 1992, the Task Force on Filipino Comfort Women was founded to provide a national support mechanism to the comfort women's campaign for justice. The TFFCW functioned with a General Assembly composed of the members which met regularly for planning the programmes and activities and conducting evaluation. The membership increased from 7 to 15 organizations. A national served the day to day coordination needs of the campaign. For two years, AWHRC provided the venue for reception needs at the Filipino comfort women as well as a volunteer secretariat force.

On May 16, 1994, a national assembly and consultation of TFFCW members and FCW survivors resulted in the decision to form LILA- PILIPINA. The organization will stimulate the development of a broad and multifaceted national movement of advocates for women's human rights in times of war and armed conflict situations.

The Filipino comfort women filed their lawsuit against the Japanese Government, which serves as the first case to be filed by the victims themselves. It was made on the basis of the following legal basis; the Hague Convention of 1907 on War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity.

REPORT OF LILA-PILIPINA and TFFCW'S ACTIVITIES AND ACTIONS ;

On October 29, 1992, TFFCW and AWHRC paid tribute to the first Filipino comfort women survivors during a movint Solidarity Gathering for the lolas.

In 1992 and 1993, Fact-Finding Missions were held by Japanese Lawyers in the Philippines, consisting of interviews with survivors.

In April, 1993, LILA-PILIPINA held a press conference at the Foreign Correspondents Club in Tokyo.

On July 31, 1994, LILA-PILIPINA hold a protest meeting and General Assembly hosted by the 7th Fact Finding Mission of Japanese lawyers. There was a Solidarity Dance and distribution of Department of Hoalth Memo and Medical Cards.

On June 15, 1994, a Peace Keeping Operation Bill anniversary rally was held in front of the Japanese embassy in coordination with progressive organizations like

BAYAN, KMU(Trade Union movement), League of Filipino Students, Nuclear Free Philippines Coalition, SCMP and Gabriela.

On May 13-16, 1994, LILA-PILIPINA held its national planning and consultation meeting.

On June 3, 1994, LILA members attended the fourth court trial for the lawsuit of the Filipino comfort women, conducted at the Tokyo District Court. A march which mobilized 700 people was held on June 6 together with representatives of the Korean comfort women and Japanese solidarity groups and individuals.

On June 25, 1994, LILA-PILIPINA held its Quarterly General Assembly and Lola's birthday celebration. There was a presentation of quilts during the multiple celebrations.

On July 8, 1994, LILA-PILIPINA held a Relief Rummage Sale, which was to be followed later by subsequent rummage sales.

LILA-PILIPINA was also an active participant in the drafting of declarations and statements addressing international bodies such as the United Nations. LILA participated in an Appeal to the UN last September 13, 1994 protesting Japan's bid for a permanent member of the Security Council. On July 18, 1994, LILA wrote a letter to the Prime Minister of Japan, the Honorable Mr. Tomiichi Murayama, entreating his government to 1) withdraw its plan for an "Asian Center", and 2) express a sincere apology to all individual victims of war and provide due compensation to each and every war victim as soon as possible.

LILA-PILIPINA is currently working on its participation in the Quilt Making Project for the Beijing World Conference on Women. Workshops were conducted among the different group formations of the lolas in Navotas, Antipole and from the different parts of Metro Manila to conceptualize the design and size of the quilt they would make. The quilts told the lolas' stories of sexual violence during the war.

LILA-PILIPINA was an active participant in the Asia Tribunal on Women's Human Rights held in Tokyo held last March 12, 1994. During the tribunal, a Declaration was produced which condemned the horrendous crimes of organized and systematic rape, torture, detention, forced displacement and abduction. The Declaration named Japan's "Operation Comfort Women" as a war crime, and condemned this and all acts of military sexual slavery. It expressed deep concern over the unprecedented proportions of trafficking in women, including the Devadasi system in India, the sex workers in Japan, and profiteering in the sex industry which perpetuates the massive export of female labor for entertainment and prostitution.

The Tokyo Tribunal also produced a plan of Action which included ; data collection, education / information, Lobbying, and victim support and assistance. Specific to the Issue of Comfort Women, the recommendations included: full investigation and data gathering, trial and punishment of criminals, guaranteed compensation for survivors, public education, and strengthening of international solidarity.

In the month of February, 1995, LILA-PILIPINA is coming out with a paid ad in Filipino national newspapers dramatizing the lolas' demand for justice and compensation. Entitled "We are Not Beggars; No to Charity Money, Yes to Compensation", the ad expresses the lolas' protest over Japan's intent to give

charity money, for they would settle for no less than compensation and apology from the Japanese government for every individual comfort women survivor. The ad aims to popularize the issue and garner strong support for the lolas' demands.

RESONS TO HOPE:

Since the start of our movement, we at LILA-PILIPINA have received the support of many Asian women's groups and international human rights organizations, including the International Commission of Jurists and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

The comfort women system has brought shame, disrepute, and unspeakable trauma to the women who were victimized by this heinous crime. We know by now that comfort women were raped on a torture and human degradation. For almost 50 Years, the Japanese government sought to hide this reality. For almost 50 Years, we the survivors bravely lived in silence, bearing the stigma of their ordeal despite the absence of any support system. We continue to live with the violence of its memory to this day, our grievance still without redress. It is a violence made invisible by governments and the societies to which we belong.

Our hope lies in our resolve to pursue our campaigns on the national and international levels, using the Japanese court as one avenue, and the United Nations system as another channel, to seek redress for grievances of the comfort women. We must increase the pressure on Japan to recognize and admit its involvement in drafting the women victims and maintaining the atrocious system, and to issue a public apology for its crime.

The aim of our lawsuit against Japan is not only to secure financial compensation but also to seek a recognition from the world community of sex slavery as a war crime. By so doing, it seeks the restoration of the honor and dignity of the victims of this crime.

In 1995, there will be and intensification of our activities as they lead to the historic Fourth World Conference of Women in Beijing, China in September. We invite women's organizations to join the workshops and projects we have lined up.

Throughout Asia, we will continue to raise our voices high, across distances of our vast continent. Ours are voice of hope and struggle. Ours are the eyes of those who believe that there are other ways of knowing the world, different from the existing condition of domination based on objectification and subjugation. By so doing, ared transforming a world that has known suffering for so long, wherein we hope there will be war no more.

What are strategies to resolve the problem

Chen Yi-Chen

(Taipei Women's Rescue Foundation)

This year is the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War and Japan's defeat. As such, Japan wants to resolve all outstanding responsibilities relating to war time compensation claims by the end of this year.

As far as Taiwan is concerned, these compensation claims include war time compensation for Taiwanese citizens who were drafted to serve as Japanese soldiers, and for the postal savings and insurance funds of ordinary citizen's during the colonial period. However, the fact that differences remain between the Japanese and Chinese sides with regards to the amount of compensation to be granted means that no agreement has yet been reached.

However, the issue of compensation for comfort women is not included in the Japanese government's compensation policy described above. Japan's Coalition government has already decided to use a private fund program as a way of making symbolic payments for damage received by individuals and households in terms of living costs and medical expenses, but not official compensation. Naturally we acknowledged the desire to avoid an official apology. However, women in both Japan and South Korea have been working vigorously for the interests of comfort women victims. As such, the issue has been internationalized, with a petition being made to the United Nations Human Rights Council, and further steps are being made to take out a law suit at the international Court in the Hague.

Taiwan finds itself in a more difficult situation, not being a member of the United Nations, and having no international position or outlet to speak of. Nevertheless, private groups have still been working exceptionally hard, using their participation at various international forums and conferences, as a way of breaking through the restrictions faced.

In terms of strategy in the pursuit of compensation for former comfort women, I propose using both the process and experience of application for compensation from the Japanese government for Taiwanese citizens drafted into the Japanese army, as a way of dealing with this problem.

During the Second World War over 207,000 Taiwanese men served in the Japanese army, either as soldiers or in secretarial functions. Of these, around 53,000 either died or were unaccounted for as a direct result of the war. That is approximately 25%.

Since the end of the war, compensation laws drafted by the Japanese government have been restricted to those of Japanese nationality, there by

excluding colonial soldiers who served as Japan was defeated. As such, compensation claims from such individuals were denied by the Japanese government.

In August, 1977, a seven-man group, made up of Taiwan human rights activists, Japanese scholars, members of government circles and the Japanese liberal human rights association, assisted 14 Taiwanese nationals who had served as soldiers in the Imperial Japanese Army, to take up litigation in the Tokyo District Court, asking for 5 million Yen compensation for each person. The fifteen years up to 1992 saw their three cases defeated three times in the Japanese legal system.

Nevertheless, after the defeat of the first case, related people in Taiwan and Japan established a "Compensation research Committee for Taiwanese Who Served as Japanese Soldiers". This organization began immediate promotion of lobbying activities within Japanese political circles. Advisors to this advisory committee included members of the Japanese Diet, and other political figures. The need for a dual policy of political lobbying hand in hand with legal moves. Thus, a further legal appeal was launched, whilst wider political lobbying was also undertaken. Thus, after the litigation was defeated for a second time in 1985 and a Diet "Compensation Committee" was established. After three years of hard work, the Japanese Diet passed laws in September 1989 relating to "financial Assistance for the Relatives of Taiwanese Who died in the War."

In the middle of December, a bill was also passed granting those who died or were seriously injured in battle, assistance of 2 million Yen. Moreover, the release of such compensation funds began at the following September, in cooperation with the Taiwan red cross association.

After assesment of the legislative background of these compensation measures, it was generally found that long term lobbying methods proved most effective, and that legal process had a definite effect on political institutions.

The "Private Funds" program proposed by the Japanese government is intended to ensure that private institutions replace the government in paying for the abovementioned assistance. However, these private organizations can not represent the government as such. Therefore, it may be possible to use Japan's domestic and international opinion and the influence of other groups to form lobbying groups in the Diet, encouraging the discussion of compensation for comfort women and the passing of an official compensation bill.

Furthermore, it is possible to use the desire of the Japanese to complete war time compensation payments by the end of this year, and the networking of women's groups across Asia, to maintain a standpoint where national compensation to individuals represents Japanese that the constant pressure of time will make the Japanese government to accept it.

What are the Strategies for Resolving the Problem?

Chi, Eun Hee

Chair, Planning Committee

The Korean Council for Women Drafted for Military Sexual
Slavery by Japan

I. The Goals and Activities of the Korean Council for Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan

1. The Goals of The Korean Council for Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan.

The Korean Council for Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan (hereafter The Korean Council) has had three goals for the movement since the Korean Council formed on Nov. 16, 1990.

First, a crime against humanity like military sexual slavery by Japan should not happen again in the history of the world. Therefore, we must set a precedence for any future violations so that perpetrators will always be punished and victims restored of their human dignity and honor.

Military sexual slavery by Japan was not simply the individual raping of women which has often occurred during many wars. It was a planned, long-term, and systematic institution which was planned, designed, and implemented by the Supreme Commander of the Japanese government. Asian girls between the ages of 13 to 18 were drafted for military sexual slavery to serve the Japanese occupied areas. About ten- to twenty-thousand girls were taken from all over several Asian countries, 80% of whom were Korean. These girls were forced to commit suicide or were killed after the ceasefire. The Japanese Army destroyed most of the records concerning this sexual exploitation when they were defeated.

We demand that those involved in this crime should be punished to prevent the possible recurrence of such a war crime as the Military Sexual Slavery by Japan. It is urgent that while some of these victims are still alive they may rightly be restored of their honor and dignity.

Secondly, it is our goal to right the relationship between Korea and Japan. As long as

Japan ignores its violations and crimes with the Military Sexual Slavery issue, and, refuses any official apology and reparations, the relationship between Korea and Japan will not be on equal ground.

Thirdly, we demand an official apology and repentance from the Japanese government for its war crimes to realize peace in all of Asia. Otherwise, Japan's economic affluence and presence can translate into the threat of possible remilitarization.

Therefore, we of the Korean Council feel it is essential to uphold this mission to examine and keep alive the issue of Military Sexual Slavery shrouded for so long, and to demand just resolution to the problem. It is in this way that we may contribute to maintaining women's human rights in Asia and to balance the relationship between the Korean and Japanese governments.

Upon the fulfillment of our demands, we hope to be one step closer to achieving peace in Asia.

2. Activities of the Korean Council

The Korean Council has made seven demands to the Japanese government: to acknowledge the crime of the Korean women drafted for sexual slavery by Japan; to reveal the atrocities of the crime; to apologize formally and officially about the crime; to erect a memorial tablet to honor the victims of the crime; to record the crime and teach younger generations; and finally to punish the criminals.

1) Activities against the Japanese Government

We of the Korean Council have attempted to convey our demands to the Japanese government through lobbying Congress members, testimonial meetings, peaceful rallies and demonstrations, seminars, etc... The Korea Council has held demonstrations every Wednesday in front of the Japanese Embassy since Jan. 8th, 1992, and March 1st, 1995 will mark the 155th demonstration.

We of the Korean Council have attempted to file a lawsuit in Japan against the perpetrators, but the case was prohibited from even registering.

We of the Korean Council have proposed to the Japanese government that the issue goes to the International Court of Arbitration to resolve the dispute, but this proposal was officially rejected by the Japanese government on Jan. 24, 1995.

2) Activities of the United Nations

We of the Korean Council have sent delegates to the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities to call their attention to the issue of the Military

Sexual Slavery by Japan since Aug., 1992.

As a result, the Military Sexual Slavery by Japan has been proven to be and declared a crime against International Law, and reports surrounding this issue have been submitted to the UN Sub-Commission, the UN Human Rights Commission, and the UN Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery stating that the Japanese Government still owes legal obligations (including apology, reparations, and punishment of criminals) for this issue.

The UN Sub-Commission adopted a resolution to include this issue in the investigation by Mr. Teo Van Boven, the UN Special Rapporteur, on the right to restitution, compensation, and rehabilitation for the victims of gross violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Aug., 1993. The report was adopted by the UN Human Rights Committee in Feb., 1994.

In Aug., 1994, the UN Sub-Commission invited Ms. Linda Chavez to submit a working paper on the situation of systematic rape, sexual slavery, and slavery-like practices during war, including internal armed conflict. Ms. Chavez is scheduled to visit Korea from May 21-25, 1995 for a formal investigation.

In Feb., 1994, the UN Human Rights Committee appointed Ms. Kumaraswami as a Special Rapporteur on Violence against women. She included this issue in her first report submitted in Feb., 1995. When her report about the violence against women during wartime is revealed at the end of 1995, it will include in detail the issue of Military Sexual Slavery by Japan.

The UN Sub-Commission decided to recommend that the Special Rapporteurs on the Question of the Impunity of Perpetrators of Violations of Human Rights take into consideration the information on the sexual exploitation of women and other forms of forced labor during wartimes.

On September 23, 1994, Mr. P.N. Vagwaty, who is a member of I.L.O. (International Labor Office), Committee of Experts, insisted that the military sexual slavery by Japan is in fact forced labor since the Japanese Government admitted their involvement in their second formal report on Aug., 1993.

In June, 1994 at the Asian Pacific Ministerial Meeting, the Jakarta Declaration included the issue of punishment for the perpetrators in situations of war and armed conflict.

In Nov. 23, 1994, the International Commission of Jurists announced its report that the Japanese govern has legal and moral responsibility for their involvement in Military Sexual Slavery. The ICJ recommends that the Japanese government has an obligations to the reparation and the rehabilitation for each woman who came forward. The report states that the Korean and Japan Treaty of 1965 did not include the specific problems concerning "comfort women" and individual human rights.

3) Asian Women's Solidarity Work

Solidarity with North Korean Women: We of the Korean Council have worked toward the

solidarity with North Korean women through the forum which targeted the roles of South and North Korean women with Japanese women for Asian peace, as well as through UN activities.

Solidarity with Japanese Women: We of the Korean Council have attempted to promote the awareness of this issue among Japanese people and to awaken the conscience of the Japanese government through the solidarity work with Japanese women's organizations, scholars, lawyers, and civil groups.

When the Korean Council decided to take this case to the International Permanent Court of Arbitration a group for achieving the proposal of the PCA was formed in Japan, mostly by activists and lawyers. The Korean Council has had solidarity with this group in holding meetings and demonstrations to send our messages to the Japanese Government.

Solidarity with Asian Women: We held the first Asian Solidarity Forum in Seoul on August 10 - 11, 1992 and decided to hold the forum regularly from that time. Participants have come from North Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines, Indonesia, China, Japan and the Netherlands.

4) Services and Support for the Survivors.

The Korean Council established the "National Fund-Raising Headquarters for the former 'comfort women'" in December 1992. As a result, each of sixty two surviving former "comfort women" received 2.5 million won.

The Korean Government established a "Relief Policy" to support the surviving "comfort women" financially. New legislation proposed by the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs was passed on May 19th, 1993 in the National Assembly entitled "The Social Security Law for the 'comfort women' of the Japanese Army during the period of Japanese Colonial Rule". The law guarantees each survivor a monthly allowance of 200,000 won, as well as other security measures, free medical insurance, and renting priority of government housing. A communal "sharing house" for six of the survivors of the Military Sexual Slavery was established with the help of the Buddhist Committee for Human Rights, a member organization of the Korean Council.

3. The Seven Demands of The Korean Council and the Progress of Resolving the Issue of Military Sexual Slavery by Japan.

SEVEN DEMANDS

1. Reveal the whole contents of the crime of military sexual slavery by Japan.

PROGRESS

Changes in the Japanese Government's Attitude
- Total denial of the system of military sexual slavery by

- Acknowledged the existence of military sexual slavery by civilians.
- Admitted partial involvement by the Japanese Government and Army.
- Japanese Government 1st Fact-finding Report (July 6, 1992) : Denial of the system.
- Japanese Government 2nd Fact-finding Report (August 1993) : Acknowledged the coercion of victims by civilians but not by the Japanese Government or Army. Only admitted partial involvement.
- Japanese Government has not revealed material regarding the number of "comfort women" drafted, those responsible for planning, administration and operation, the system of implementation, the situation of comfort stations, and what was done after ceasefire.

2. Acknowledge the crime of military sexual slavery by Japan.

- Japanese Government acknowledged the system of military sexual slavery, but they have not admitted that the system of military sexual slavery is a crime against humanity, against the International Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic, and the Forced Labor Convention.

3. Apologize formally for the crime

- May 1990. When the Korean President, Roh of military sexual slavery. visited Japan the Japanese Emperor said "it is a lamentable thing".
- January 1992. When Japanese Prime Minister Miyajawa visited Korea he expressed "the wish to apologize and reflect".
- November 5, 1993. When Japanese Prime Minister Hosokawa visited Korea he expressed his regret.

- February 1995. A proposal of anti-war by the Japanese United Party was opposed by the Japanese Liberal Democratic Party.
 - No official apology yet.
4. Payment of reparations
 - Japanese Government's position
No compensation. It was taken care of by the Korea-Japan Treaty in 1965. They will offer "sympathy money" to former "comfort women" (less than 1,000,000Yen) to create an "Asian Peace Friendship Fund for Women"
 5. Erect a memorial tablet
 - Nothing in process
 6. Record and teach younger generations
 - Seven textbooks have been partially revised since 1994, but there is no mention of the system of military sexual slavery as a crime.
 7. Punish the perpetrators
 - On Feb 7th, 1994 a lawsuit filed by the Korean Council was refused.

II. The future direction of activities for finding a resolution

1. Demanding the withdrawal of the sympathy money

plan of the Japanese government.

In accordance with the demands of representatives yesterday, the sympathy money plan of the Japanese government, which all victims and the victimized countries have opposed to, must be withdrawn. There are four directions to our activity plan that I want to raise, to be proceeded by the withdrawal of the sympathy money plan by the Japanese government.

First, we need to organize regular rallies to demonstrate in solidarity with the victims and the victimized countries, our opposition to the plan. Secondly, we need to inform the public of the contents and meaning of the advice of the International Commission of Jurists. The Korean Council interpreted the important parts of the advice (the detailed explanation of the causes and contents of legal responsibility, reparation and the duty of the Japanese government) and distributed them to lawyers, congresspeople, important administrative offices, and the press. We also plan to organize various discussion programs. Third, we are going to expand the power of opposition toward sympathy money plan by reinforcing solidarity with those who have supported our movement in Korea and Japan. On the Feb. 9th of this year, the Korean Council held an Open Forum with the Federation of Korean Trade Unions for the purpose of discussing the Forced Labor Convention, and the issue of "comfort women" drafted by Japanese military. The members of the Korean Federation, which is the largest civil group in Korea, were able to express their direct concerns on the issue of "comfort women" through this forum. Representatives from civil groups who attended the meeting commented that the issue of "comfort women" is not only an issue of women's rights and human rights, but also an issue of conscience for all human beings, and thus should be solved through awakening the Japanese conscience. The Korean Council is planning activities to encourage the active participation of Korean and Japanese civil groups. In particular, the issue of "How do we meet the 50th year after Liberation?" is an invitation for Korean civil groups and national groups to join this movement. Fourthly, we are searching for a way to ease the spiritual and economic sufferings of the victims while they wait for a more permanent solution.

2. Demanding an agreement to a lawsuit in the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) and demanding the creation of a special law of reparation

The Korean Council made the decision to take the case of the "comfort women" drafted by Japanese military to the PCA after 25 meetings of the Executive Committee. We had to make this decision, because the Japanese government, as the guilty country, would not recognize their crime of military sexual slavery even though we had advised them of their responsibility to carry out apologies, provide reparation, and penalise responsible persons. It was the opinion of The Korean Council, along with various other human rights organizations, that the Japanese government needed to be tried objectively according to International Law about the following questions. Are the actions of Japan, a crime in the light of international law? Is it true that the Japanese insistence over the spiritual and material reparation had been resolved in the Korea-Japan claim treaty of 1965? Is there any Japanese responsibility for reparation now?

This method was however the second choice for the Korean Council. The system of "comfort women" drafted by Japanese military should be judged in the International Court of Justice. However, the right to a lawsuit in the International Court of Justice belongs only to the government of a nation. Because the Korean government does not have the will to instigate a lawsuit, the PCA is the only way a civil group can approach the international court. In this capacity, the Japanese government will have an important chance to justify their war-time actions.

We commissioned Korean and Japanese lawyers (Korean 38, Japanese 70) to reach an agreement with Japanese government to resolve the issue through the PCA. However the Japanese government vetoed our request to solve the issue through the PCA in January 1995 and thereby proved the falsehood of its assertion that it is willing to solve the issue under international law.

Therefore, at this point, the Korean Council's only option was to demand the Japanese government agree to a PCA lawsuit, or alternatively to establish the special law for providing an apology, reparation, and penalising responsible persons. (If the Japanese government is willing to follow international law, it would not be totally necessary to establish a special law. However, it is important that such a law is created in order that the apologies and reparation be carried out in detail). Compared to the Japanese government's power, our movement is very weak in its ability to make demands. However, we believe a resolution should come from the Japanese' moral conscience and not because of the strength of our movement.

3. Strengthening activity related to the UN

- Since Oct 9th, 1994 we have continued an international movement to gather signatures in oppos

an expert

Radhika Coomaraswamy

Ms Coomaraswamy

Joint

ition to Japan being given permanent membership status to the UN Security Council. We are going to present the result by participating in the UN Committee for Woman's Status which will be held in March 1995, in New York. We are going to continue this movement in solidarity with our Asian activities.

- We are going to hold an open discussion meeting in May by inviting Ms. Linda Shavez, Ms. Kumaraswami Mr. Guisse and Mr. Jainet in order to support their research on this issue. Linda Shavez is Special Rapporteur on the UN Human Rights Sub-committee for the issue of Systematic Sexual Violence against Women occurring during War and in relation to the issue of "comfort women" drafted by Japanese military. ~~Kumaraswami~~ is the Special Rapporteur on the UN Human Rights Committee for the issue of Violence against women. Mr. Guisse and Mr. Jainet are the Special Rapporteurs on the issue of impunity of crimes of human rights violation.

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- We plan to hold a forum on the issue of "comfort women" drafted by Japanese military at the World Women's Forum in Beijing. We are planning to effectively raise this issue at the 4th World Women's Rally and ~~NGO Forum held in Beijing~~, China from August 30 to Sept. 8, 1995.

UN

Conference on Women in Beijing, held

4. Attempting to file a lawsuit through the ILO(International Labor Office)

As was already mentioned, military sexual slavery goes against the Forced Labor Convention of 1930. In this convention forced labor is defined as any labor carried out under threatening or disadvantageous circumstances. In an unavoidable case, some forced labor is acceptable but only in those conditions stipulated by the convention. Specifically, it prohibits women's forced labor at any time by stating that only healthy males who are over 18 and under 45 years can be recruited. Therefore it is clear that no woman can be drafted for forced labor in any circumstance. Thus, the military sexual slavery by Japan is a violation of the Forced Labor Convention.

The Japanese government ratified the Forced Labor Convention on Nov. 21, 1932 and it became effective on Nov. 21, 1933. Once such a convention becomes effective, the repeal of the convention is prohibited for ten years from the time it came into effect. Therefore, Japan ought to have been restricted by this convention during the whole time it enforced the system of military sexual slavery, and the convention should have remained in effect until at least Nov. 21, 1944. According to legal professionals, Korean labor organizations can file a law suit against the Japanese government for the issue of military sexual slavery because Japan has in fact broken an international convention. Therefore The Korean Council is trying to resolve the issue through the ILO law suit, and by applying international pressure through our various activities.

5. Progress of fact-finding work and preparation of resource center

Because Japan has not opened to the public nor the United Nations, important materials needed for fact-finding, it is important that the facts are clarified through the testimonies of victims in Korea. The Korean Council has organized a Committee for Fact-finding with the central members consisting of historians, sociologists, and women's study specialists. They are preparing a white book by analyzing resources from the colonial era and they are planning to publish the second book of testimonies by survivors in conjunction with the Research for "Comfort Women". In particular, the book of testimonies by the women who were abandoned in China after the Japanese defeat will become another important resource which testifies how the lives of victims were entirely destroyed by the inhumane deeds of the Japanese. We are also preparing a documentary and an exhibition of the resources to present the lives of the victims at the time of the 50th year of liberation.

6. Demanding the active role of the Korean government

The Korean government promised, in response to questioning by the Korean Council, that they would have deep concern and support in regards to the women drafted for sexual slavery by Japan. On the basis of the Korean government's response, the Korean government should demand Japan's support of the PCA lawsuit and also follow the ICJ's interpretation of the 65 Korea-Japan Treaty (document number 12000-475). From this premise we are going to start a movement to demand the interpretation of 65 Treaty in the International Court of Justice as suggested by the ICJ and also demand the support of the Korean government for the PCA lawsuit. It is important that the Korean government press the Japanese government to follow the recommendations of the ICJ in meeting our demands.

We have reached a crucial time now. The constant arrogant and shameless attitude of the Japanese government makes us angry and utterly discouraged. However, we continue to struggle to correct history, protect women's rights, and make true peace in Asia. We have confidence that we are able to achieve our goal through the power of solidarity.

The Statement of the 3rd Asian Women's Forum on Military Sexual Slavery by Japan

The Third Asian Women's Solidarity Forum on Military Sexual Slavery by Japan was held from February 27th to March 1st, 1995 in Seoul, in which delegates from the Republic of Korea, the Philippines, Taiwan and Japan participated with the "comfort women" victims. We are very sorry that the delegates from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea could not attend this Forum. However, they were able to send their presentations and their opinions were clearly expressed. We are therefore, happy to acknowledge our solidarity among the five countries.

The year 1995 is a meaningful year as we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II. And yet the issue of military sexual slavery, clearly a crime of human rights violation, has not been resolved. All the participants of this Forum wish to express our anger and determination that the resolution of this issue should not be delayed any longer. We, the victims and delegates of organizations participating in this Forum, resolve that the recent idea of a "private charity fund" proposed by the Japanese Government is a deceitful and immoral suggestion, which denies the Japanese Government of their crime of military sexual slavery and avoids their legal responsibility. We strongly demand that Japanese Government should stop persuading victims and civil organizations to accept the plan of comfort money by a private fund.

The system of Military Sexual Slavery is one of the cruelist crimes committed by the Japanese Imperial Forces during their invasions and wars in Asia. The resolution of this issue, therefore, can act as a barometer to test whether Japan regrets its past invasions and crimes. Unless the issue of military sexual slavery is resolved, war will continue to go on in the hearts of the victims and other angry Asians. Moreover, the danger of war remains in the very existence of rightists in Japan, who have not apologized for what they did during the war and continue to support remilitarization. Thus, while the issue of military sexual slavery may have occurred in the past it is an important issue in regards to establishing women's human rights and peace in Asia, now and in the future.

The participants of this Forum wish to express our anger again at the Japanese Government's inability to implement the demands of the participants of the Second Asian Solidarity Forum on Military Sexual Slavery held on October 21-22, 1993 in Japan. Once again, we strongly demand the following:

1. That the Japanese Government acknowledge that the system of military sexual slavery is a war crime committed by the fascist imperialist and militaristic state power.
2. That the Japanese Government conduct investigations in Asia and the Pacific on the total number of women drafted from each country and release the third fact-finding report.
3. That the Japanese Government should withdraw the plan of "Comfort Money by

- a private fund" and establish a Special Law for Reparations.
4. That the Japanese Government should follow the International Law and sign the International Convention of Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitation for War Crimes and Violation of Human Rights.
 5. That the Japanese Government should accept the proposal of the Permanent Court of Arbitration.
 6. That the Japanese Government should educate younger generations about the truth of history, human rights and world peace in order to prevent such a war of invasion again in the future.

We acknowledge the pain of "comfort women" as the pain of all women in the world. Therefore we, as Asian women, will fight to eradicate violence against women and fight against Japanese remilitarization. We will now announce our plan of action for resolving this problem.

1. We will concentrate our efforts on the Japanese Government to withdraw the plan of "comfort money" by a private fund.
2. We will continue to support the signature campaign opposing Japan's becoming a permanent member of the UN Security Council.
3. We will support the special activities of research and investigation by the UN Human Rights Committee and demand that the Japanese Government accept the recommendations of the UN Human Rights Committee, the ICJ(International Commission of Jurists), and the WCC (World Council of Churches) in regards to resolving this problem.
4. We will continue to press the Japanese Government to agree to our proposal to go to the Permanent Court of Arbitration and furthermore, to establish a Special Law for Reparations. We will also expand our movement by strengthening our solidarity with conscientious Japanese people in order to obtain an official apology from the Diet and the adoption of a resolution of anti-war.
5. We will explore the issue of military sexual slavery at the Fourth UN World Conference on Women in Beijing , which will be an important opportunity to form solidarity with women of the world.
6. We will encourage labor organizations around the world to push the ILO (International Labor Office) to become involved in resolving this issue according to the Forced Labor Convention and the Suppression of White Slave Traffic Convention.
7. We demand that the Governments of victimized Asian countries should demand that the Japanese Government resolve the problem of military sexual slavery and support victims financially as well as the civil group movement.
8. As an alternative to the plan of "Comfort Money" proposed by the Japanese Government, we will extend our support and solidarity to the victims of the military sexual slavery in various and creative ways.

February 28,1995

Participants of the 3rd Asian Women's Solidarity Forum on
Military Sexual Slavery by Japan