



## WORKING GROUP ON ENFORCED OR INVOLUNTARY DISAPPEARANCES

### COMMUNICATION FORM

#### 1. INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DISAPPEARED PERSON

- (a) \* **Family name(s):** ..... Oh.....
- (b) \* **Given names(s):** ..... Heon-sik.....
- (c) Pseudonyms or other forms besides given name, by which he or she may be known: .....N/A.....
- (d) Sex: ☒ male / ☐ female
- (e) Occupation/profession.....Security Officer stationed at the Youngdeungpo Police Station, Seoul Court.....
- (f) Father's name: .....Oh, Seok-yeo..... Mother's name.....Koh, Jeong-jun.....
- (g) Date of birth: .....April 8, 1899.....
- (h) Place and country of birth: ..... Seoul.....
- (i) Was the person below 18 years-old at the moment of the disappearance? ☐yes / ☒no
- (j) Identity document (passport, national identity card, voter's card or any other relevant national identity card)
- Type ..... Notice of Decision as Korean War Abductee .....
- Number..... N/A .....
- Date of issue: ..... August 2, 2011.....
- Place and country of issue: Place and country of issue: .... Seoul, Republic of Korea .....
- (k) Nationality or nationalities: .....Republic of Korea.....
- (l) Address of usual residence: ..... 114, Namyong-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul, Korea.....
- (m) Any other place of residence at the moment of the disappearance ..... Bukahyeon-dong, Mapo-gu, Seoul (relative's house).....
- (n) Marital status:.....Yes..... (o) Indigenous: ☒yes / ☐no (p) Pregnant: ☐yes / ☒no

#### 2. INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FACTS

- (a) \* **Date of arrest, abduction or disappearance** (at least month and year) .....on around August 1, 1950.....
- (b) \* **Place of arrest, abduction or where the disappearance occurred** (be as precise as possible. Indicate street, city, province or any other relevant information)

.....Bukahyeon-dong, Mapo-gu, Seoul .....

(c) \* **Date when the person was last seen** (at least month and year), if different from date of arrest or abduction (for example: if seen in a prison months after the initial arrest or abduction)

..... on around August 1, 1950.....

(d) \* **Place where the person was last seen** (if different from place of arrest or abduction. For example: if seen in a prison months after the initial arrest or abduction. Please, be as precise as possible. Indicate street, city, province or any other relevant information) ..... N/A .....

(e) **Please, provide a full description of how the disappearance took place** (attach one page if necessary. Please note that, although this is not a required element, providing a description as detailed as possible of the circumstances of the disappearance will enhance the possibilities to find the person).....

..... After the Korean War began, we tried to escape southwards but could not because the Han River Bridge was destroyed. My father at the time was tasked with mainly seeking out communists, and because of that those he locked up sometimes tried to take revenge on him. As a result, the family all hid at a relative's house in Mapo-gu. Communists were going around the neighbourhood, taking people away and doing other bad things, so we had no choice but to run away. However, there were communists everywhere we went. Eventually we were caught. Two agents from either the Political Security Department or Department of Internal Affairs armed with handguns stormed where we were staying and took my father away. We heard nothing about him after that.

Rumour has it that my father was held in the National Library building, which was the Political Security Department headquarters at the time. There were tons of families waiting in front of the building there. There was a small window on the third floor and the prisoners were allowed to stick their heads out of the window one by one and write something on paper their families could see. There were a lot of families there waiting to see if they could catch a glimpse of their loved one.

We also went to find our father, but failed to see him. When Seoul was returned to the South Korean army, we returned home but our father was not there. The dog we had cared for was gone, all the drawers were opened and every document in the house had been carried away. There were no pictures left, including the one my father had taken with his secretaries at the court. The communists had taken everything to destroy the evidence.

(f) \* **State or State-supported forces believed to be responsible for the disappearance.** If the perpetrators are believed to be State agents, please specify and indicate who and why they are believed to be responsible. Be as precise as possible (military, police, persons in uniform or civilian clothes, agents of security services, unit to which they belong, rank and functions, identifications presented, etc.)..... N/A .....

(g) If identification as State agents is not possible, please indicate why you believe that Government authorities, or persons linked to them, may be responsible for the incident.....

..... I think the North was so short in labor they took skilled laborers to use in their workforce. However, those who had worked in the courts or in the government were probably killed outright. They were probably subject to torture, and given the communists' poor food supply, they probably did not help the abductees survive.

In any case, my father was taken away because he was a high-level government official who supported liberal democracy, not the ideology of the Communist Party. After the Incheon Landing, we followed the soldiers up to Seoul and headed to the Seodaemun Prison. We did not find my father there, and instead found about 40 corpses.

(h) If there are witnesses to the incident, please provide their names and relation to the victim. If they wish to remain anonymous, indicate if they are relatives, by-standers, or others. If there is evidence, please specify.

.....Oh Se-yeong (son of the abductee, born in 1936).....

(i) Additional Information on the case. Please indicate any other relevant information that could be useful to find the person .....Well-groomed, easy-going personality. Three children.....

### 3. INFORMATION CONCERNING ACTIONS TAKEN AFTER THE DISAPPEARANCE

**\* Indicate any action taken** (police inquiries, jail, human rights commission, habeas corpus petition etc.) **taken by the relatives or others to locate the person.** You are required to state the following: when, by whom, and before which organ the actions were taken.

**(a) Complaints** (when, by whom, and before which organ/s)..... N/A .....

**(b) Other steps taken** (when, by whom, and before which organ/s).....

i) In 1956, the Korean National Red Cross registered information on abductees through their family members, and compiled a list for the International Committee of the Red Cross to submit to North Korea, to find out about these 'displaced civilians' whereabouts. Mr. Kim Yu-yon's case was also registered by his family, but the family have never received any reply or information on his whereabouts.

ii) Also on June 25-Aug 31, 1964, the Chosun tribune newspaper and Korean National Red Cross collaboratively carried out a "One million signature-collecting campaign for Korean War Abductees' Repatriation", and it was submitted to the United Nations, but turned down because the wartime civilian issues were deemed to fall under the jurisdiction of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

iii) In 2006, he claimed for compensation against Korean government, along with members of KWAFU(Korean War Abductees' Family Union) whose abducted families were then government officials. They accused ROK government of dereliction of its duty to protect its nationals at the time of Korean War. The compensation has not been made yet.

iv) Dec 13, 2011, KWAFU advocates the drafting and passing of House Resolution 376, a U.S. congressional House resolution.....

(c) If no action was not taken, please explain why.....

My mother became depressed, and we waited in earnest for our father to return, but soon became enveloped in trying to survive during the war. We suffered because there was no way to find him.....

#### 4. PERSON OR ORGANIZATION SUBMITTING THE COMMUNICATION

**\* Person submitting the communication**

(a) Family name: ..... Oh .....

(b) First name: ..... Se-yeong.....

(c) Relationship with the disappeared person: .....son of the abductee.....

(d) Contact details (address, telephone, fax, email)

**\* Organization submitting the communication (if applicable)**

(e) Contact details (address, telephone, fax, email): .....

..... 2F, Seongil Bldg., 317 Cheongnyangni-dong, Dongdaemun-gu, Seoul, Korea (130-867).....

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