



## WORKING GROUP ON ENFORCED OR INVOLUNTARY DISAPPEARANCES

### COMMUNICATION FORM

#### 1. INFORMATION CONCERNING THE disappeared person

- (a) \* **Family name(s):** .. Lee.....
- (b) \* **Given names(s):** ...Gil-yong.....
- (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...politician, journalist .....
- (f) father's name: .....Lee Chi-sang..... mother's name.....
- (g) Date of birth: ...August 15, 1899 (lunar) ..... (h) Place and country of birth: ..Masan, Gyeongsangnam-do, South Korea.
- (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:** December 13, 2011
- Place and country of issue:** Seoul, Republic of Korea
- (k) Nationality or nationalities ....Republic of Korea .....
- (l) Address of usual residence: ...56 Seongbuk-dong, Seongbuk-gu, Seoul, South Korea.....
- (m) Any other place of residence at the moment of the disappearance ...N/A.....
- (n) Marital status: ...Married... (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) .....Around July 17, 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).....
- ..... 56 Seongbuk-dong, Seongbuk-gu, Seoul, South Korea (abductee's residence).....

(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)

N/A

(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).....

...Being renowned political figure and former journalist, the abductee had been involved in the rightist political group, Hanmin Political Party. There were many witnesses to his abduction, but there was a man named Mr. Lee, Wan-gu, in particular, who lived in the same village with the abductee and had been very close friends since their childhood. As the war broke out, the abductee was arrested and released after three days for the first time. Nevertheless of Mr. Lee's advice on escape, the abductee choose to remain at his residence, thinking he was convinced of innocence. Then the agents of the North Korean Political Security Bureau, which had ready in hand a list of target people, abducted him on the street near his residence on July 17, after they found material connected to his activities. No information, whatsoever, since then....

(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.)

.....The North Korean Political Security Bureau under the instruction of the North Korean regime. It is obvious that the regime already had a certain instruction to abduct South Koreans, with prepare lists of South Korean elites, several hundred of thousands, from which it selected final target persons needed for not only for justifying its regime but also to use them for various purposes.....

(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.....

(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.

...Mr. Lee, Wan-gu, who lived in the same village with the abductee and had been very close friends since their childhood. And anonymous group of friends and fellow journalists who no longer are alive. Also Mr. Lee, Tae-young, the abductee's son (born in 1941), is the indirect witness of the abduction.....

(i) Additional Information on the case. Please indicate any other relevant information that could be useful to find the person

The abductee was a renowned politician and journalist who was involved in the Dong-a Daily's "Blacked-out Japanese Flag Incident" when Korea was under the Japanese ruling. He removed the Japanese national emblem on the chest of the 1936 Olympic marathon champion Son Gi-jeong, in the photograph for the newspaper article. Besides, he was indirectly involved in the nationwide Independence Movement on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1919, before he became a journalist.

His role was transporting leaflets for the Interim Government, for which he was arrested and imprisoned for the first time, followed by five more various activities for independence movement. He was reinstated by Dong-a Daily, after liberation of Korea. He was a forerunner in sports field; Standing Director of the Cho-sun Sports Association, Vice Chairman of the Baseball Association, and founder of Korean Athletic Club. He was involved in several major athletic competitions and organization, directly or indirectly. Before his abduction, he was compiling "The History of the Korean Sports", without completion.

The abductee later became a member of Hanmin Political Party (Korea Democratic Party) where he had been possibly involved in Anti-Trust Movement. He also served as a member of National Conference engaged in preparation of establishing the first Korean government along with other nationalist leaders, and at the same time he was working to create Hanmin Political Party as its deputy-organizing director

### **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*)

In 2006, the testifier claimed for compensation against Korean government, along with other 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.

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

i) There happened to be a North Korean espionage, Lee Su-geun, a former North Korean journalist. He was questioned for details of the abductee's whereabouts only to fail. Some international organization agents travelling to Pyeong-yang were as well questioned, again to no avail. Recently, the abductee's family requested Mr. Chung Dong-seong, former minister of Sports Ministry, to look into this matter with an official letter, again to no avail

ii) 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.

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: N/A

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

##### **\* Person submitting the communication**

(a) Family name: Lee

(b) First name: Tae-young

(c) Relationship with the disappeared person: Son

(d) Contact details (address, telephone, fax, email): Please contact with the organization below

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

(e) Contact details (address, telephone, fax, email): Korean War Abductees' Family Union (also referred as KWAFU) 2F, Seongil Building, 317 Cheongnyangni-dong, Dongdaemun-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Tel: +82-2-964-0625

Fax: +82-2-964-1205

email: [jinhwan2103@hanmail.net](mailto:jinhwan2103@hanmail.net)

#### **5. confidentiality request**

Please state whether you would like your identity to be kept confidential

Yes, keep my identity confidential: \_\_\_\_\_ No request for confidentiality: ✓

\* **Date:** 14 November 2013

**Place:** Seoul, Republic of Korea

\* **Signature of author:**