

To: UN, Human Rights Council,

**The Factual Evidences of Human Rights Violations
Committed by the North Korean Regime (Democratic
People's Republic of Korea or DPRK) on Korean
War POW.**

(유엔 북한인권위원회에 보낸 문건)

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Mr. Marzuki Darusman
Special Rapporteur on the Situation of
Human Rights in D P R K
Office of the UN high Commissioner for
Human Rights (OHCHR)
Palais de Nations
Ch-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

April 8th, 2011

Subject: Complaint against North Korea (DPRK) regarding the continued detention of South Korean POWs

Dear Mr. Marzuki Darusman:

One of the most controversial issues of Korean War from 1950 to 1953 was the fate of tens of thousands of South Korean soldiers who were captured by Communist forces.

Both sides had agreed to the POW Exchange Treaty and the Korean War Armistice Agreement in 1953. The Communist forces repatriated only 13,444 UN prisoners out of the 92,070 they held. They claimed the remaining 78,636 POWs had chosen to stay voluntarily in North Korea.

However, in 1994 **Lt. Chang ho Cho** escaped from North Korea (DPRK) to South Korea (ROK). He had been detained as a POW for 40 years. He testified that North Korea continued to detain hundreds (possibly thousands) of POWs from the Korean War against their will and was keeping them under heavy surveillance.

The testimony of Lt. Cho galvanized us to organize the Korean War POW Affairs Committee for the repatriation of the POWs to their homeland.

Initially, we hoped this could be achieved through governmental negotiations between North and South Korea. However, no progress has been made in the 16 years since Lt. Cho's escape because the North Korean government continues to deny that they hold any POWs, and any POWs they had not repatriated had chosen to stay in the North.

In spite of such flat denials, 80 more former POWs have escaped from North Korea since Lt. Cho's escape. These men risked their lives to reach South Korea. They have unanimously testified that they have been detained against their will and there were many more South Korean POWs in remote mining areas.

Because of the failure of governmental negotiations and all other efforts, we are compelled to appeal this matter to your special attention. The United Nations has been involved in the Korean War based on UN Security Council Resolutions #82, #83, #84 and #85. The South Koreans fought under the United Nations Command. The United Nations is the last resort to solve this problem, and we cannot think of any other body than your authority.

The surviving POWs' ages range from late 70's to late 80's so there is little time left to rescue these innocent victims who are suffering gross violations of their human rights every day they continue to be detained in North Korea.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Y. Chung" followed by "Ph.D." in a smaller, simpler font.

Thomas Y. Chung, Ph.D.
Chairman of the Korean War POW Affairs Committee.