Boycott Samsung in London

By Choi Sung-Ku

Behind its slick public image, Samsung, the primary company destroying the environment of the village through its war base building, is also infamous for numerous labor rights and environmental violations. Samsung was internationally voted the "Worst Company in the World" in 2012 and also voted worst environmental violator. Behind its slick public image, Samsung, the primary company destroying the environment of the village through its war base building, is also infamous for numerous labor rights and environmental violations. Samsung was internationally voted the "Worst Company in the World" in 2012 and also voted worst environmental violator. By Choi Sung-Ku

We cannot watch in silence while Samsung is crushing and taking the lifeblood of a small village of 1,900...
NAVY MOCKS ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS

The silt protectors should be in a well-conceived string around the construction areas and a barrier is being used to prevent silt from being washed into the sea. It’s sometimes one important to let the silt protectors are there for those who are directly affected or oxygen levels are dangerously low in the sea.

If you were forcing the construction of a controversial, illegal and unilaterally military base in a beautiful natural paradise and UNESCO Biosphere reserve, would you try your best not to cause more contamination and thinking regarding to follow environmental standards? It makes sense, but not for the Korean Navy and construction companies of Samsung and Hyundai.

The latest shore of arrogance involves the issue of silt protectors (also sometimes called silt curtains, turbidity curtains, or other similar names). Although there are a number of silt, silt protectors are generally clean of heavy PVC-vinyl fabric hanging from floating devices on the surface of the water, lined with heavy chain on the bottom of the curtain (length depends on depth of water), and tied or chained to the objects so the ocean floor. They then often usually stack together in a huge line surrounding a marine or coastal construction site.

They are very important to contain the silt dust, and other pollution emanated on the coast of the site (and running off into the sea) and enabled through shielding the sea floor or other types of marine construction. If silt protectors are not used or not properly installed, especially on a large construction site, they can lead to massive water pollution and widespread death of fish and other marine life. They are used and properly installed at the Jeju naval base site, aren’t they?

Unfortunately, the silt protectors are mandatory according to Korean environmental regulations, so it is your responsibility to ensure that they are properly installed, especially on a large construction site. If they are not properly installed, the cascading result could be catastrophic.

The village had a press conference and spread the information through-out the Korean media and also accepted them legally. But still no apology, no repairs, and the construction continues. Normally, breaking these regulations and breach a protected area could lead to fines, the loss of construction license, or even jail time. Yet, when activists try to monitor, or act the Coast Guard blocks them. What exactly is the job of the Korean Coast Guard? Protecting the ocean or hiding secret for Samsung? Still we will fight on!

Denied entry again

On June 5th, another Okinawan activist who has visited the village in part was denied entry to the Korea. She said that she had not necessarily planned to visit the Jeju this time. Then on June 29th, a member of the group AWC-Japan was also denied entry. He had planned to visit Gangjeong in order to convey the group’s solidarity to the struggling people here. On the same day, AWC-Japan held their 6th regular weekly protest in front of South Korean embassy in Osaka.

NEW nationwide SKY solidarity group links

Sanggyung layoffs/Gangjeong/Yongsan tragedy

The Sky (Sanggyung, Kangjang [Kanggong], Yongsan) joint action begins with the motto “The Lahorites, Gureombi, and the Displaced are Sky”.

The main demands of this group are retribution for the laid-off workers of Sanggyung, protest in Gangjeong, and official inquiry into the truth of the Yongsan tragedy. The Sanggyung layoffs which have led to the deaths of 22 workers’, enforcement of jeju naval base construction that continues to trample on the villagers on in opposition, and the Yongsan tragedy where six people were wrongfully killed and no official fact finding has been done to find the truth. These issues are no longer limited to Sanggyung, Gangjeong, and Yongsan only. They are all about all laid-off workers, the peace of Asia, and all people who have been displaced from their homes. Therefore, the SKY joint action group will try their best to be a voice of change in this society. SKY will encourage regular people to consider and try to find the way to solve these issues through the people’s solidarity and direct actions. On June 26, SKY held a press conference to launch a national pilgrimage to meet people faces to face and bring the winds of change.

INTERNATIONAL PRIEST THREATENED WITH DEPORTATION

An international Catholic priest bring in Korea on a missionary visa experienced an unusual delay of one week in the renewal of his visa. Later he was told that a Korean Immigration Officer wanted to meet him to discuss matters.” When he met the officer on June 25, he discovered that his participation in the campaign to stop the Jeju naval base had been watched closely by the South Korean government. The officer presented him with a file of numerous photos showing him in Gangjeong and in Seoul in various protests. As a result, the priest’s visa was denied and the officer presented him with a file of numerous photos showing him in Gangjeong and in Seoul in various protests. As a result, the priest’s visa was denied. Later he was told that his visa was denied and the officer presented him with a file of numerous photos showing him in Gangjeong and in Seoul in various protests. As a result, the priest’s visa was denied.

On June 8, two young woman activists were stopped by a police officer while entering the construction site. One of them crawled underneath a truck. The other woman pulled her by her hair and pushed her very hard to ground causing her to lose consciousness. Seeing this people nearby called an ambulance. Despite her condition it became clear to the policemen and villagers around her that the police still wanted to arrest her so they began struggling with the police to protect her. She was carried to a village car as people surrounded her to shield her from the police. The priest who was the same chief who ordered an arrest was spotted. He was using on activists who had locked their arms together with pipes back in March and April. Although the activists got hit to the ear, the car surrounded the car with armed police officers. The chief hit the car more than 5 times. The people demanded that the police chief release her to the hospital, but the chief refused to do so. Police violence leaves activist on crutches, leg in cast

By Lee Young-yong

Samsung, Daewoo and the ROK navy have been pushing their plan to construct the Jeju naval base in Gangjeong for the last 5 years. During the past 2 months, they have continued with their construction despite proper installation of the silt protection layer required to surround the base in order to prevent pollution from damaging the ocean and other areas outside the site. This is undeniably illegal. That is the reason I stopped a construction vehicle which was heading off to the site on June 14th, 2012. It was my small protest.

On June 6th, the ROK navy was demonstating a dredging barge which had been involved in altering the area and a protest was raised by the citizens. When it didn’t stop, activists began breaking down some of the silt barriers but instead were herded off by armed police. When I attempted to stop the naval exercises, I was immediately attacked by police officers.

On June 14th, I attempted to stop a construction vehicle which was heading towards the construction site. The police were immediately deployed and I was arrested. The police assaulted me with their hands and elbows many times. Of course, many other police officers surrounded the truck with their shields to hide me from the other activists so no one could take video or pictures.

As a result my left knee was wrenched terribly. Despite this, the police wanted to arrest me rather than bring me to the hospital and would do so if no one came to support me. Anyway, that day Mr. Kim Bok-Chu (an activist, reporter from Voice of South, and radical union worker) and I were arrested. Mr. Kim was arrested as he tried to gather information about me. The following authorities concluded that Mr. Kim was the main culprit of this incident. He was arrested without any chance to request a review on the legality of his arrest.

Since that time, my left leg is in a plaster cast and I must take pills every meal. Mr. Kim has been since June 14th. The police and prosecution judge the situation simply, by looking at the method of protest. Yet the protest is completely insignificant.

SARDINIA: MILITARIZATION, CONTAMINATION & CANCER IN PARADISE

By Hele Jacobst (excerpt from a larger article on sardegna.org)

The sound of bombs, missiles, and other explosives; massive attacks from the sea onto the land; an epidemic of cancers and birth defects; oil, air, food and water contaminated with heavy metals, jet fuel and other poisons, and national and company secrets that prevent the residents from learning the truth. Is this a modern-day reality? No – Sardinia is the victim of weapons manufacturers, polluting military activities and a political system that cares more about power and money over the health of people and the environment.

Sardinia is the second largest island in the Mediterranean Sea – a paradise with diverse wildlife and beautiful beaches. Alice Scarna, a Sardinian environmental activist and activist said, “We are peaceful people, poor ones mostly, but we are very welcoming. That’s how Fila Sardegnia to us. Sardinia is often involved in wars and power games.”

In the rural areas are shepherds and farmers who make magnificent trusses, honey, and cheese. [...] For over 50 years Sardinia has been used by military and arms manufacturers to test new bullets, bombs, missiles and drones, train soldiers and practice war. This means that a significant number of Italian military bases have been here, and Italy, NATO, and U.S. bases occupy about 1/3 of the area of the island’s land and sea. During military practice drills, the air is closed to navigation and fishing increases to about 7200 square miles, almost 2 times the island’s surface. [...] Since the 1990s fishermen have been pushed out of their profession by NATO naval exercises and have become activists for their right to use the sea. There were acts of civil disobedience at the port, the base entrances, and at the derelict village of Bosa. When the wind allowed, the fishermen challenged the exercices and the bombs, diving up to 42 meters into the heart of the war game area and threw their fishing nets in a prohibited sea saturated by waste ships. Fortunately, it only takes one civilian boat to stop a naval exercise. [...] Their demands are simple: the right to safe work, to have the stolen sea back, and to have a clean sea and environment. [...]