It has recently been revealed that ‘Real SNG,’ the security service company which brutally assaulted Father Mun Jeong-Hyun and other activists, is the same company as Contactus and the poor super-vision of such security service companies by the police, the police revoked Real SNG’s license on September 26 in a general crackdown.

A review on the legality of confinement of Fr. Lee was held on November 6, after the media began criticizing the use of violence by Contactus and the poor super-vision of such security service companies by the police, the police revoked Real SNG’s license on September 26 in a general crackdown.

At the gate of the Jeju naval base construction site.

Let’s Live and Walk Together

ON THE MARCH 2012, Fr. Kim Jeong-Wook was arrested and imprisoned for 30 days. Br. Park Do-Hyun was arrested and imprisoned for the release of Fr. Lee and the other peace activists. In March 2012, a review on the legality of confinement of Fr. Lee was held on November 6, after the media began criticizing the use of violence by Contactus and the poor super-vision of such security service companies by the police, the police revoked Real SNG’s license on September 26 in a general crackdown.

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Fr. Young-Chan (center) sits with others in front of the construction site gates during the daily 11 a.m. Catholic mass. 

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Jesuit priest Fr. Lee Young-Chan was arrested on October 24 on charges of obstructing business while protesting against the arrest of another peace activist at the gate of the Jeju naval base construction site.

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In this society, people are forced to struggle for their God-given human rights, and just to be recognized as a human being. Everywhere in Korea, from Gangjeong to Yeonggwang to Yongan. The Grand March traveled to all these suffering places. We used to call it a day. There are so many stories we just simply could not stop, and looked dozens, dozens, dozens, and dozens. We know that all these problems won’t be solved through one Grand March. But we won’t give up to fight continuously with the people across the country fighting to not be arrested or expelled. On the Nov. 3, all those voices from all parts of the country came together and shared our sufferings. After the march, we opened a “Live Together Encampment” demonstration village next to Seoul City Hall plaza. If more people join us, our hope to “Live Together” can come true. Today, with the cool wind winter around us, let us remember our neighbors who struggle and understand what we can do, even something small. Even simply showing concern is a way to make solidarity.

24-HOUR CONSTRUCTION BRINGS 24-HOUR PROTESTS

Since Oct. 25 the navy has begun 24-hour-a-day construction/destruction. The navy is rushing construction because it’s very behind schedule and they have to fulfill a quota in order to apply for their 2013 budget of about 200 billion Korean Won. The navy has been building with their 2011 budget, around 107 billion Korean Won, as the 2012 budget was cut by 90% last year. Because of the people’s resistance only around half of that 2011 budget was spent by Sept. if the navy is not able to spend the entire 2011 budget then they are not eligible to apply for a budget for 2013.

Inside the construction site, they have created a large steel fence for building smaller 3,000-4,000 ton cement caissons. They plan to build 82 of these for the east breakwater of the port. They are now making these caissons around the clock, with cement trucks going in and out all day and night.

Of course villagers and activists have responded with 24-hour-a-day resistance. However, around 500 police from the mainland have been mobilized into shifts to knock down the people on day and night. During the people’s skepticism and despair human blockades to stop the trucks, at least 6 people have been taken to the hospital by ambulance because of dangerous police violence at night. The 24-hour destruction has serious human rights and environmental destruction costs.

Now the National Assembly is deciding about the budget for 2013 for the naval base project. Please help us to win the budget! Please present the ROK-National Assembly to cut the entire budget. Contact english@angjeong.net, or Moon Jae-In, Permanent Advisor, Democratic United Party, Presidential candidate: moon-jaein95@gmail.com

Costa Rican NGO supports the people of Gangjeong’s struggle to preserve its natural and cultural heritage


During my recent visit to Jeju, South Korea, last September, as a delegate of the Costa Rican NGO Pristina at the IUCN International World Conservation Congress, I was appalled to learn about the construction of the military base in Gangjeong, and the overwhelming violation of the people’s basic human rights, their right to peace, and their right to preserve their natural heritage. As a student of the issue, I thought how a demilitarized Gangjeong would be the best way to promote its sustainable right to preserve their natural heritage.

Gangjeong became our community.

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Jeong Yeon-Gil & Park Suk-Jin

It’s already cold enough to wear the winter prison uniforms. He told me that warm in prison comes from sunlight and the heat from other people. He was asked to move to a cell with teenage prisoners, so now he has three teenage cellmates. He hopes to be their good friend. His hope is that the law will be changed. His life is peaceful, unlike when he was in prison. He has a bad stomach, so he has to stay in bed all day. Finally he said, “I’m very worried and feel sorry that the struggles at the main gate of the naval base are getting tougher. We are getting tough to stop the naval base which is destroying the environment. We all hope to delay the construction. We are working with the ANU, a women’s prison rights group.”

Rev. Jeong Yeon-Gil and Mr. Park Suk-Jin were two of the five who climbed the fencing, held the caissons and have imprisoned since then. As of Nov. 14, it has been 70 days.

文明城市 公正法治

Gangjeong Prison — Prison Life

Jeong Yeon-Gil — Prison Life

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