

GANGJEONG VILLAGE STORY

Bimonthly news on the struggle against the Jeju Naval base

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A military road is being built, crossing over the Gangjeong stream. Photo by Oum Mun-hee

A Military Road over the Water Supply Source

By Go Gwon-il, Association of Gangjeong Villagers Against the Jeju Navy Base

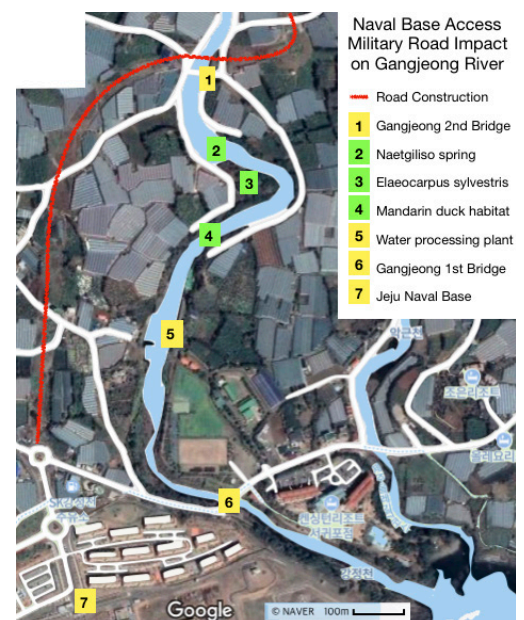
The building of the military road to the Jeju Navy Base includes the construction of a bridge crossing over the water supply source of Gangjeong stream, which is used as drinking water for tens of thousands of citizens in Seogwipo City, Jeju. How could this terrible thing happen?

In the area of Gangjeong stream, there exist South Korean government-designated natural monuments such as the native habitats of camphor trees and the *Elaeocarpus sylvestris* tree. It also has the nation's biggest number of mandarin ducks, around 1,500, which come for the winter.

In 2014, unknown to the public, the South Korean Cultural Heritage Administration gave approval to the navy to make changes to the road's original linear path. They refused the navy's original path line which would greatly damage the camphor native habitats. The project was transferred to the Jeju island government which carried out a strategic environmental impact assessment (SEA) in 2015. However, the SEA is a false report which describes the wrong positions of natural monuments. Further, the SEA enables the building of a controversial bridge across the water supply source. To build the bridge, embankments are being built on both sides, resulting in a narrowed width of the river to the risk of causing disaster, and drilling for 80 giant beams on the two embankments may lead to the depletion of underground water.

In August 2020, presented with evidence that mandarin ducks had become resident birds in Gangjeong stream, the Yeongsan River Basin Environmental Office requested that Seogwipo City conduct a precise ecological investigation during the winter. However, Seogwipo City has been idle on it. The road construction situation became serious in October. Even though the Jeju government says it was due to typhoons, larvae which had never been seen before were discovered in the water. Flood damage became severe with mud sediments on the rocks under the water. A white chemical material was also discovered near the construction site of the bridge with the drilling. People think those came from the road construction.

The Association of Gangjeong Villagers Against the Jeju Navy Base has made some press conferences and will soon file to the court to make an injunction halting construction. (Update: They filed on Jan. 15, 2021)



Graphic by Curry

The time has come for the islanders' decision on the Jeju 2nd airport

By Park Chan-sik, Jeju People's Assembly Against the 2nd Airport

On Dec. 11, 2020, Jeju Island governor Won Hee-ryong and Island Council chairman Jwa Nam-su officially made public together the process for the public opinion poll regarding the Jeju 2nd airport, which had been agreed upon by the island government and Island Council through working-level talks. The process of referring the 2nd airport issue to public opinion has entered through twists and turns into the last stage of collecting public opinions. The process began when the Jeju People's Assembly Against the 2nd Airport (hereafter, 'People's Assembly') submitted a petition to the Jeju Island Council in Sept. 2019. Still, it is not clear yet when the public poll would start. For a fair public opinion poll, secured numbers in proportion to sex, region, and age should be provided by the communications company. However, there is no legal prescription to do so except for the case of election public opinion polls. Still, as mentioned above, there was already a public announcement on Dec. 11. Therefore, an alternative measure providing for secured numbers should be sought and the public opinion poll should be carried out in time.



Jeju islanders carried out a campaign against the Jeju 2nd airport (air force base) everywhere around the island, distributing leaflets and posting stickers. Photo by Oh Doo-hee

The Jeju islanders' opinion on the 2nd airport project has largely changed. When the project was first announced, nearly 70% of islanders supported the construction of the 2nd airport. However, according to the latest public opinion poll conducted by a local broadcasting company, the opposition to the 2nd airport appears to be at 58%, greatly surpassing the 37% who support it.

Seeing the possibility to stop the 2nd airport construction by confirming people's opposition opinion, the People's Assembly has been holding various activities to realize the public opinion poll and expand opposition. It organized vehicle broadcasting and distributing leaflets, dropping by every village of the island. As the COVID 19 situation became so serious as to make meeting people in person difficult, it is also holding a series of advertising campaigns joined by volunteer civic groups and individuals, appealing in the local media for people to oppose the 2nd airport. Another group called the Tent Town Across from the Island Government Hall who collaborates with the People's Assembly, is carrying out activities to appeal for people to listen to the voices of those who can't join the poll such as minors, animals, plants, seas, and oreums.

Petition for Song Kang-Ho

On Mar. 7, 2020, Song Kang Ho and Ryu Bok Hee entered the Jeju Naval Base to pray for peace on the remaining part of Gureombi Rock. It was the 8th anniversary of the blasting of Gureombi rock, the precious coastline of Gangjeong Village, which was destroyed in order to build the navy base.

On Sept. 24, 2020, Ryu Bok Hee received a suspended sentence, which means she will have 3 years probation, but Song Kang Ho was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment. (So far, he already served 9 months). He is appealing this harsh sentencing. Please sign on the petition, here. <http://bit.ly/PetitionforSKH> For more, see savejejunow.org



On Dec. 21, Gangjeong people marched with a banner full of photographs down to the naval base during the human chain. The photographs show Jinsook Kim, a renowned labor activist who was unjustly laid off from Hanjin Heavy Industries. Despite demanding rehabilitation for 35 years, she couldn't return to work, and now she reached her retirement age. Now she's back on the street, walking from Busan to the presidential residence in Seoul, even though she is quite ill with breast cancer. Many people are walking with her. Photo by Grace.



On Nov. 11, twelve students of Sungmisan Village School joined the Gangjeong kayak team in a sea protest, meeting the Jonah's Whale yacht in the Gangjeong seas. Together we shouted, "Free Song Kang-ho" and "Close the Jeju Naval Base!" While Song Kang-ho is in prison, a team known as Gil-meong has been practicing sailing the yacht which he brought to Gangjeong with plans to sail for peace around Northeast Asia. Photos by Asha and Curry.

Okinawa Update

By Curry

50 years ago, on Dec. 20, 1970, an American soldier driving drunk hit an Okinawan man in the Koza district outside Kadena Air Base. In early December, another US soldier had been acquitted after killing an Okinawan woman in a hit-and-run. Okinawa was still under direct colonial control by the US military and was being used as a key hub for bombing missions and transporting soldiers to and from the Vietnam war. Tensions boiled over in the early hours of Dec. 20, 1970; around 80 American cars were overturned and burned, and angry Okinawans stormed the entrance of Kadena base, setting fires there as well. Less than two years later Okinawa was reverted to Japanese control, but the US military bases remained. Apart from the Koza 'riot' (or uprising), Okinawan protests against the US occupation and military bases have been nonviolent. Ongoing tactics include sit-ins, picketing, rallies, kayak protests, walking and driving slowly to impede base-construction vehicles, singing gospel music outside the gates, etc.

At Takae, in the Yanbaru forest, helipad construction was completed in 2016, but since Nov. 2, the U.S. military intensified its training exercises and people started protests every weekday at the helipad gates. At Henoko, protesters continue to block the new base construction entrance with sit-ins, but they move after persuasion by the riot police to avoid physical contact during the COVID pandemic. Landfill in Oura Bay has continued for two years, but at this pace it will take 50 years to finish. Even prominent US think tank CSIS concluded that it "appears unlikely that this will ever be completed." Despite the futility of this landfill project, the destruction continues. This past summer, the Japanese government announced plans to relocate 35,000 Oura Bay coral colonies. Of the 9 coral colonies relocated in 2018, 4 have already died. The Okinawan government has challenged the relocation plan in court. Preliminary drilling was also conducted with plans to completely alter the course of the Mijagawa river, which flows near the base construction site into Oura Bay. Following strong protest from citizens, the Nago City Council also demanded a stop to the plans. And even in the far south of Okinawa, sites which contain the remains of Okinawans killed in the 1945 Battle of Okinawa are threatened to be dug up as landfill for the Henoko base construction. More and more Okinawans are making the long journey from the south to join in the protests. Please sign at www.change.org/protectourancestorsfromusmilitary to stop soil with war victims' remains from being used for military base construction.

Building More Infrastructure for War with China

By Koohan Paik-Mander,
Peace Activist

Even with the record-breaking numbers of deaths in the U.S. due to coronavirus, the dysfunctional superpower continues to pour money into war and weapons, instead of caring for its tax paying citizens. The U.S. is number one in the world for coronavirus deaths per capita as well as number one in spending money on war and weapons.

The \$741 billion defense bill for 2021 would create a "Pacific Deterrence Initiative" to establish a region-wide approach to countering Chinese military moves. A sum of \$2.2 billion was authorized for the first year of the program. The money will go to a report detailing strategy on war with China, to be written by the defense secretary and Phil Davidson, the commander of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM).

INDOPACOM, which is headquartered on Oahu, in Hawaii, oversees the U.S. military's operations across the Pacific Islands, Oceania, East Asia, the Indian Subcontinent and the waterways that connect them. It's the U.S. military's largest theater of operations. The ecocidal construction of military infrastructure in preparation for a hemisphere-scale war is taking place notably in the Mariana Islands, Hawaii and Palau. The Mariana Islands, in particular, will be especially hard hit. The U.S. is on track to use the islands of Tinian and Guam for increased base construction and live-fire practice, as well as using the extremely beautiful and untouched island of Pagan as well as the islet of Farallon de Medinilla for bombing and other weapons practice on land, in the sea and also from the air. In addition to the abuse of land, underwater weapons practice will take place on an area surrounding the islands that amounts to 1 million square miles of open ocean. The Environmental Impact Statements for this project estimate that there will be a total of 71,000 deaths per year to marine mammals and other critical species.

In Hawaii, two controversial plans are taking place. One is to expand the West Loch munitions facilities at Pearl Harbor, and the other is for a missile tracking radar station. The proposal to expand the munitions facilities has created community concerns in the suburban areas that now surround the West Loch about what type of munitions would be stored, and if nuclear weapons would be included. Construction is slated to begin in 2022.

Two sites have been chosen as possible locations to house the proposed missile tracking facility. One would be either on Kauai at the Pacific Missile Range Facility. The other would be on Oahu, in Kahuku, where a strong Native Hawaiian population has recently suffered mass arrests for protests against large industrial "sustainable" wind turbines in their neighborhood.

Finally, President Tommy Remengesau of the island nation of Palau requested that the U.S. enter into a broad, long-term military relationship with Palau. This move has surprised many people, because Palau had recently gained global recognition for requiring all tourists to take "the Palau Pledge" to respect the environment in order to be admitted into the country.

Remengesau wrote a letter to the Pentagon stating, "Palau's request to the U.S. military remains simple—build joint-use facilities, then come and use them regularly." The letter, while not spelling out details, indicated that the Palauans were willing to allow the U.S. to host bases, construct port facilities, build airfields and host more troops.

Kings Bay Plowshares Update

By Curry

Seven Catholic activists entered the Kings Bay nuclear submarine base in Georgia, USA, on Apr. 4, 2018, following the prophet Isaiah's command to "beat swords into plowshares." On Nov. 12, Carmen Trotta was sentenced to 14 months imprisonment, and Clare Grady was sentenced to one year and one day. The following day, Martha Hennessy was sentenced to 10 months imprisonment. Martha follows in the footsteps of her grandmother Dorothy Day, founder of the Catholic worker movement, and she also found motivation from visiting Gangjeong. At her sentencing she stated, "We spurn God's love and misplace it when we rely on nuclear weapons to force our will on the globe. [...] My participation in community, care of the poor, and my Catholic faith led to my discernment process for participating in nuclear disarmament. It is our obligation to speak out when we feel our faith is being violated when we are forced to accept, pay for, and worship the nuclear arsenal." She also asked the court to take into account the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons which comes into force on Jan. 22.

Martha and Carmen each reported to federal prisons near their homes on Dec. 14. Patrick O'Neill and Clare Grady report to prison in Jan. and Feb., respectively. In mid-December, Fr. Steve Kelly finished his 33 month term and was transferred to Washington State for violating his probation from trespassing at the nuclear submarine base there. Marc Colville's sentencing has been delayed until Feb. 19. More information and instructions for writing letters can be found at kingsbayplowshares7.org

Solidarity Letters to Peace Prisoners

By Jungjoo

Dec. 1 is Prisoners for Peace Day. Gangjeong Peace Network, World Without War and People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy co-hosted an event to bring attention to those still in prison for the sake of their conscience and beliefs against war and violence. We, Gangjeong Peace Network, also initiated a campaign of writing online letters, especially to 3 peace prisoners: Song Kang-ho, Song Sang-yun and Eun Jong-hoon. Song Kang-ho, a peace activist based in Gangjeong, was convicted of entering the Jeju naval base by cutting the fence. The other two are conscientious objectors who refuse to serve the compulsory military service in South Korea. Meanwhile, the South Korean Military Manpower Administration (MMA), for the first time, decided to allow 35 conscientious objectors to work in alternative roles to mandatory military service last year. Around the world, there are more peace prisoners who are still locked up for speaking up and living in integrity with their conscience and beliefs based on peace and justice. Their dedication to keeping peace and justice alive and possible has had a tremendous impact on our society and the world. It may seem small but is essential to all creatures. I feel deeply indebted and grateful for their decisions and actions.

Nanjing Seen from Alddreu

By Curry

This year three events were held to remember how Alddreu Airfield in Jeju was used by the Japanese military for the bombing of Nanjing in the lead-up to the Nanjing Massacre in 1937. With local groups playing a larger role in the planning this year, the events involved diverse new people from the Daejeong area. The screening of a documentary about the Nanjing Massacre on Oct. 31 and the symposium on Nov. 28 were each joined by about 30 participants. The symposium examined the history of Alddreu Airfield, with stories of how local people were forced by the Japanese empire to build the airfield, and of how people successfully resisted the reopening of the airfield as an air force base in the late 80s. Students from Nanjing University shared their ideas about peace in a video message, and the discussion time was insufficient to cover all the topics that were raised. The memorial on Dec. 13 was joined by more than 60 people, including a group learning the history of the Jeju April 3 (1948) Uprising and Massacre through the story of Lee Duk-koo, and a group of local elders and young farmers who, after the memorial, acted out memories of the April 3rd Massacre. The ceremony included music and speeches, solidarity messages from Satoko Norimatsu and Okinawa-Korea People's Solidarity and the reading of a statement that concluded with the declaration, "We will live no longer as perpetrators of war. We will live no longer as victims of war. We will make Jeju a peace island in more than name, an island without military bases, a neutral island that is not manipulated for the interests of superpowers, an island where humans and nature dance together."



The reading of the statement at Alddreu Airfield by women from Daejeong, Seongsan, and Gangjeong.
Photo by Licky Rooney.

National Satellite Integrated Operation Center in Jeju

In Jeju, a potential site for the building of the National Satellite Integrated Operation Center (hereafter, 'center') has been secretly under consideration. According to the local media, 'Jeju Today,' the plan first became known to the Island Council last November when the Jeju Island Government "submitted to the Island Council a draft management plan for public ownership assets for the fiscal year of 2021" which included the Jeju Island Government's plan to sell island-owned lands. According to the draft, the relevant departments of the Korean central government made the decision to build the center in 2018. "The area under consideration is in the mountain area of Deokcheon-ri, Gujwa-eup, Jeju, and is around 1 sq. km. [152 soccer fields], including around 620,000 m² of Jeju-owned land and 460,000 m² nationally owned land." "The plan is to install the center building and three antennas by 2022 with plans for further expansion later." However, such a big national policy project was not even known to local residents. A Jeju Island government official said that the island government had only rough briefings with the local mayors, development committee, and council member. Another official even said that the issue "should not have been made public if not for the review procedure on the selling of island-owned land." Otherwise, "the building of the center was also decided according to the '2nd development project on the next generation medium satellite' which was reviewed and decided by the '16th ROK National Space Committee' hosted by the Ministry of Science and ICT in April 2019." This Committee is under the authority of the president and includes the Vice-Minister of National Defense and the deputy head of the National Intelligence Service. It looks like the center is related to the development of the reconnaissance satellite, which the current government is pursuing with the aim of force integration by 2023. The involvement of the Ministry of National Defense suggests a connection between the center and the military reconnaissance satellite. (Source: ijejutoday.com)

Mouth cancer found in a Jeju dolphin

By Joyakgol

In December, Hot Pink Dolphins took a photo of a Jeju dolphin whose beak looked abnormal. Inside the dolphin's mouth was some weird thing, looking like a sausage. At first we thought the dolphin caught a fish, but it wasn't a prey. Shockingly, it was believed to be a growing malignant tumor inside the mouth. Verifying the dolphin's ID through the dorsal fin, it was Tuck-yee.

Tuck-yee was first spotted by Marine Animal Research and Conservation (MARC) researchers in the summer of 2019. It was swimming with its mouth open all the time. MARC researchers took photos and flew a drone to check its condition. Then an underwater photographer Lee Jung-joon was able to film Tuck-yee up close swimming with a pod. The footage was sent to Lee Young-ran, a veterinarian as well as marine animal expert, who concluded that the tumor seemed to be malignant, not benign, because it seemingly has changed the structure of Tuck-yee's mouth, causing a jawbone deformation.

Tuck-yee is one of Jeju's Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphins, indigenous to the island. The number of the Jeju dolphin pod is about 130, so small that the whole population could be prone to local extinction at any time soon. Furthermore, this dolphin species stays near the shore of Jeju all throughout the year and they don't migrate. Since they are permanent residents of Jeju's coast, they can be easily influenced by human behavior. And the dolphin's habitat has been significantly reduced for the last ten years due to various coastal development plans such as building the naval base, offshore wind farms, and reclamation projects. We are closely monitoring the health of Jeju dolphins because they are the indicators of the ocean's health. And right now there are more dolphins suffering from sea pollution and habitat loss. If the second airport was to be built in Seongsan area, one of Jeju dolphins' last main habitats, it would seriously threaten the precious marine mammal's existence.



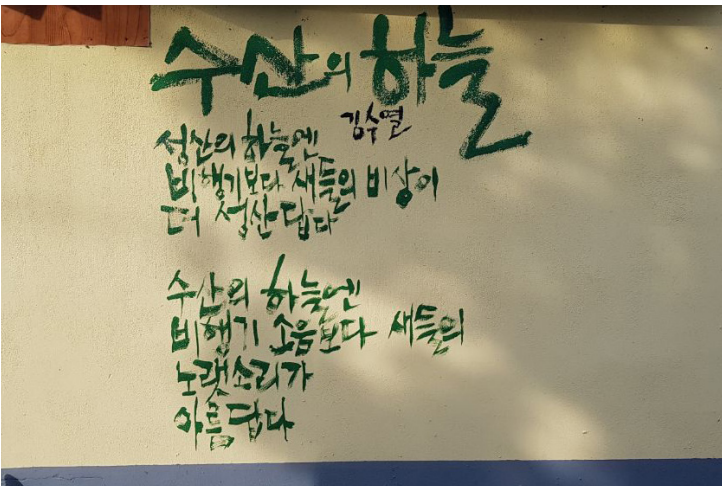
On Dec. 12 Gangjeong activists gathered to paint together the beings that connect Gangjeong and Hong Kong across the ocean. Photo by Mooming.



"Hosted by the Government of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province with the full support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea," the 15th Jeju Forum for Peace And Prosperity was held from Nov. 5 to 7. On Nov. 6, people from Gangjeong went to the venue to protest. In their statement, they said that for true peace, Jeju navy base should be shut down and the Jeju 2nd airport project should be stopped. Photo by Curry.

The Problem of Returned US bases

In Dec. 2019, the South Korean government was returned back with four US bases in South Korea which had been long abandoned for environmental pollution. Exactly a year later, the same government made public that it agreed with the return of another 12 US bases which includes two facilities in Yongsan, Seoul). However, the Government is deceiving people as if it can ask the United States for the cleaning of pollution by saying that “the South Korea and United States will continue negotiation.” In the environment clauses and procedures of the current Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) regarding United States Forces of Korea (USFK), there is no article which enables either asking responsibility or additional negotiation after the US returning of the facility area to South Korea. Further, returning facilities divided in parts hide the whole account of environment pollution and the whole cleaning cost. South Korea has already provided the United States the world-biggest US base(headquarter of USFK) in Pyeongtaek, while being demanded of excessive increment in the defense-sharing cost for the USFK. Still the United States does not want to pay even one penny for the cleaning of pollution in their bases in South Korea. The People in South Korea does not acknowledge such humiliating negotiation in the returning of USFK bases to South Korea. We demand the US military to clean the bases on the basis of ‘principal of polluter’s responsibility. We also demand the revision of unfair ROK-US SOFA. (Source: South Korean civic groups’ statement, Dec. 2020)



Jeju artists and poets who have long fought for the truth of the April 3rd Uprising and Massacre, as well as joining the No Jeju Navy Base movement headed to Seongsan to contribute to the No Jeju 2nd Airport movement by making mural graffiti and writing poems on the walls. A poem by Kim Su-yeol reads, ‘In the sky of Seongsan, the flight of birds is more beautiful than an airplane.’ Artist Koh Gil-chun says the graffiti is to inform of the injustice of the 2nd airport which is likely to be used by the military. Photos by Park Chan-sik and Choi Sung-hee



Father Mun Jeong Hyun made a wood print from his drawing of the 600 year-old hackberry tree in Haje village, Gunsan. The tree is left standing alone in the village evacuated due to the extension of the US airbase. Father Mun imagined this image of the tree catching an airplane for 15 days and then realized the idea in his work. Print by Mun Jeong Hyun.



From Dec. 19 to 31, the photo exhibition "Unpermitted memory: Restricted" was open to the public in the new peace center. Organized by Civilian Military Watch, the exhibition focuses on recalling the restricted memories from the Korean War. Since its opening at Democracy and Human Rights Memorial Hall in October, the exhibition has been traveling around the country, including Soseong-ri and Gangjeong. Photo by Lee Sang.

International Statement "Calling for the Suspension of US-ROK Combined Military Exercises"

"We, the undersigned civil society organizations in the United States, South Korea, and around the world, call on President Biden to suspend the annual US-South Korea (ROK) combined military exercises. [...] It will remove a formidable obstacle to a peaceful resolution of the ongoing 70-year-old Korean War and allow all parties to focus on other intractable global issues facing our nations today, such as creating a nuclear weapons-free world and resolving the current COVID-19 pandemic."

<https://forms.gle/xqPo7GUypazwnkX76>

Voices from Seongsan

People who will be most affected by the Jeju 2nd Airport have been raising their voices to encourage fellow Jeju citizens to state their opposition to the 2nd airport plans in the ongoing opinion polls.

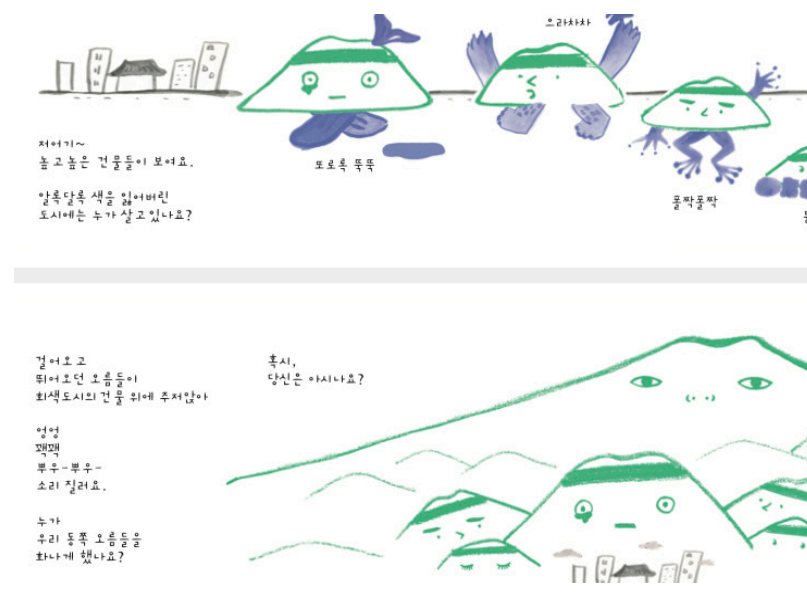
From a Susan 1-ri Women's Association newspaper advertisement: "If the 2nd Airport comes in, they say that they will guarantee jobs, but there'd be nothing for me. If I did anything it would be something like cleaning, and how could I live off of that? I could no longer farm and grow tangerines. [...] Even if they give me a home, who would I talk to if I live there? [...] Locked up all alone in an apartment?" (from an interview of a resident)

From a Susan 1-ri Youth Association newspaper advertisement: "Jeju is to some people a tourist destination, to others a place to be developed, for others a place that gives political power, for others a place of business, real estate; they see it as money. For farmers like us, Jeju is a house protecting our life, a tenacious mother preserving life through the generations, a land that teaches us to live by the planting of seeds and the flowing of sweat." (from a letter by youth association leader Oh Chang-hyun to President Moon Jae-in)

From a letter to Jeju Governor Won Hee-ryong published by Jeju Sori news on Dec. 13: [In the letter, Kang questions Gov. Won's motive to poll Seongsan residents separately from the rest of Jeju island. While 5 villages in the south part of Seongsan will have land taken away and high levels of noise pollution, this separate poll would also include populous areas to the north that are heavily dependent on the tourist industry.] "The reason that I am against separate polling in Seongsan... is because it will only cause intractable harm to the local community [...] The role of the administration is to mediate so that differences of understanding do not plunge the people into division, hostility and conflict. [...] For the past 30 years Jeju has run after both tourism and development, but things are changing. [...] Amid COVID-19 and the climate crisis, more and more citizens think that we must do more to protect the environment. [...] Please become a leading politician. What would be a greater political asset than to satisfactorily resolve the biggest issue dividing local society, the issue which has caught the attention of the whole country, the problem of the Jeju 2nd airport?"

- Chairman Kang Won-bo, Seongsan Committee Against the Jeju 2nd Airport

"Our Voices Should be Counted, too!"



In a new palm-sized picture book, ten oreums (volcanic cones) of southern Seongsan rise up one by one, walking and jumping to the Jeju provincial government. They are the oreums threatened by the 2nd airport project. The "Tent Town Across from the Island Government Hall" is carrying out a campaign to represent all those whose voices will not be counted in the polls regarding the 2nd airport. Artwork by GreenC and Lim Paul



This graffiti in Shinsan, Seongsan is titled "Friends." Many human friends including artists Kang Dong-gyun, Koh Kyung-hwa, Koh Gilchun, and Kim Ji-eun worked together to make visible the many birds which are threatened by the plans for the Jeju 2nd Airport. Photo by Choi Sung-hee

Update on Kim Kyung-bae

In the last issue, Kim Kyung-bae wrote why he fasted. His house is located in the planned Jeju 2nd airport runway, in Seongsan, Jeju. He has carried out a street fast in front of the Ministry of Environment headquarters in Sejong City to demand the MOE to reject the Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment on the Jeju 2nd airport. He moved his fast to the front of the Jeju Island government building on Nov. 10 to help to strengthen the islanders' campaign against the 2nd airport. Here, too, he carried out the street fast even without a tent to put pressure on the island government. On Nov. 27, he moved to Sejong City again and ended his 43 day fast on Dec. 2. It was his 5th fast. After three days in the hospital, he moved back to the street, built a tent, and has continued his sit-in without fasting.

In Memory of George Ogle

By Curry

A longtime reader of the Gangjeong Village Story, Rev. George Ogle (Jan. 17, 1929 - Nov. 15, 2020) is remembered in Korea for his contributions to democracy, peace, and workers rights. In the 1960s he supported the development of the workers' rights movement in Incheon. In 1974, he was deported from Korea by the Park Chung-hee dictatorship after he prayed publicly for 8 men who were framed by the Korean CIA as members of the fabricated "People's Revolutionary Party." The truth was suppressed in Korea. The 8 innocent men were executed, and other supporters such as Fr. Mun Jeong-hyun were imprisoned, but George Ogle and his wife Dorothy actively spoke out the truth to the world. Dorothy shared to Christine Ahn that George's last wish was for peace in Korea and in the world, relaying his words, "The Koreans want peace, but my country is the obstacle to them moving forward."



During the first three weeks of December, a 'Queer Artist Residency in Jeju' took place in Gangjeong village. Most of the participating artists come from the mainland to develop their art projects in the new environment of Jeju, especially Gangjeong. From Dec. 10 to 12 they showed their work-in-progress as an open studio at Salon de Moon. It was meaningful for Gangjeong to have a chance to meet the artists and to enjoy their beautiful artworks. Images are the posters of the Queer Artist Residency in Jeju Open Studio.

How You Can Help

1. Write a letter to the South Korean government to close the Jeju base and to the US government to stop the use of it.
2. Stay updated by joining our Facebook groups and following us on twitter.
3. Organize a solidarity event (concert, movie screening, protest, etc...)
4. Then share about it on social media.
5. Visit Gangjeong!
6. For other ways to help and more visit us on the web.

For More Information

<http://www.SaveJejuNow.org>
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/NoNavalBase>
<http://www.facebook.com/SaveJeju>
<http://www.twitter.com/SaveJejuNow>

For Gangjeong related videos, visit savejejunow.org

or check these Vimeo/YouTube users :

Vimeo : cho sung bong / DH Song / Regis Tremblay
Youtube : Gang-Jeong Il-Gi / Shalomsea / 1234yz100 / Sungbong2012

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Awards News

On Dec. 1, Cheong Wook-sik, representative of Peace Network, received the 8th Lee Young-hee award. Cheong, who built the Peace Network in 1999, has worked as a peace activist and written many books on peace and a non-nuclear world for the last 20 years. On Dec. 8, Hotpinkdolphins, a marine environmental group focused on the protection of Jeju Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphins received the 2020 Excellence Award (Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries Award) from the South Korea National Assembly Animal Welfare Forum. And on Dec. 17, Oum Mun-hee, a Gangjeong peace activist received the Park Young-sook Salimi Award in the peace activity area.



**Sign, learn more, and join
the global campaign
to End the Korean War at
endthekoreanwar.net**



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