

# GANGJEONG VILLAGE STORY

Bimonthly news on the struggle against the Jeju Naval base

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People's press conference denouncing navy chief Boo's visit to Jeju on May 20th. Photos by Choi Hyea-yeong and Kim Mi-kyung

## President Moon's emphasis on 'maritime power' and the navy chief's visit home

By Choi Sung-hee

On May 20th, Boo Suk-jong, the South Korean Chief of Naval Operations visited Jeju. He is the 1st navy chief of staff born in Jeju. He visited Gangjeong and delivered to the village association President Moon Jae-in's 'special words on Gangjeong Village' and 'emphasis on the importance of maritime power.'

He then visited the Jeju Provincial Police Agency, Jeju Coast Guard Agency, and the Island Council one by one and lastly met Island Governor Won Hee-Ryong. Boo said to Won that the navy wants to define a joint water area of 'Jeju Civilian-Military Complex Beautiful Tourism Port' (Jeju Navy Base) as a military protection area. Won deferred his answer. Since 2012, the navy has expressed the same wish, which violates the April 2009 Memorandum of Understanding between Jeju Island Government, the Ministry of National Defense and The Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs. The navy defined most of the land part of base and the tip of the breakwater as a military protection area in the beginning of this year.

After Boo's inauguration as the navy chief this April, the navy decided to join RIMPAC (Rim of the Pacific Exercise), the world's biggest multinational maritime war exercise, following its decision to send another Chunghae troop unit to the expanded dispatch area in the Middle East despite people's concern about the possibility of its intervention in the strait of Hormuz where military tension between Iran and the United States has increased. The destroyers (including Aegis destroyers) which are sent either to RIMPAC or the Middle East belong to the 7th Task Flotilla of the Jeju Navy Base. In the era when the world faces COVID -19, Jeju Navy Base is being used as an outpost for the United States domination strategy, under a banner called "maritime power."

Jeju Navy Base was built with illegalities, lies, manipulation, and

violence from the beginning. Navy chief Boo worked as one of the core staff of the project committee for the Jeju Navy Base construction in 2007, then was a chief of the project committee from 2013 to 2015. He expressed the wish to build an eco-friendly civilian-military complex beautiful tourism port but also violently suppressed the people resisting the navy's enforced construction of military residential housing outside the base. The only way for President Moon, Boo and the navy to truly apologize to the people is to shut down the Jeju Navy Base.



George Floyd. Breonna Taylor. Tony McDade... The world has taken notice of the Black Americans murdered by police and the strong movement for justice that has emerged. South Korean civil society organizations released a statement on June 6 calling not only for punishment of Floyd's killers and an end to discriminatory use of government authority in the US but also for an anti-discrimination law in Korea. (There is still no legal recourse in Korea for people who are denied jobs solely for the color of their skin). State violence and racism are global, so must be the movement for Black lives, for Palestinian lives, for Papuan lives, for Indigenous lives, for Rohingya lives... let us say their names, defund the police, and defund the military. Photo at the June 8 Gangjeong human chain by Pang Eunmi.



# THAAD product improvement amid COVID-19

By Kim Young-Jae, No THAAD Situation Office, Soseong-ri, Seongju

On May 28-29, the United States and South Korean governments suddenly enforced the moving of THAAD (Terminal High Altitude Area Defense) equipment in and out of the THAAD base, in Soseong-ri, Seongju, mainland of South Korea.

To move the THAAD equipment, the government and police mobilized thousands of riot squads in advance without any notice to residents, despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

In such an emergency, around 100 residents and citizens determined to halt the move of THAAD equipment into the base kept vigil overnight from the evening of May 28 to the morning of the 29th, enduring cold night weather. They were forcefully dragged out and confined in place by the police. The police abandoned their promise to let people escort aged Soseong-ri grandmothers into the village hall for their safety and health. Rather, the police confined the grandmothers within a police barricade until the morning of the 29th. As a result, grandmothers with old and weak limbs shivered from coldness in the night and complained of big pains. The police even denied a woman inside police confinement to use the toilet; therefore she had no choice but to do the job merely covering herself with a blanket, surrounded by tens of male police. It was an infringement of human rights which should never be tolerated.

For that matter, grandmothers and residents of Soseong-ri have been holding sit-ins for long hours' daily in front of Seongju Police station since then, demanding an apology from Lee Jung-soo, chief of Seongju Police Station who directed the police that night. However, Lee is avoiding the resident's righteous demand for his apology but rather is proposing unacceptable meeting conditions to escape from the task of talking with them, thus bringing many people's indignation.

The equipment brought into the THAAD base this time is core equipment for THAAD product improvement which the United States has pursued since 2017. It is also part of an ongoing

equipment upgrade following a previous software upgrade.

The product improvement of THAAD deepens South Korean missile defense (MD) incorporation into US MD. Moreover, it sacrifices the safety of the region and the peace of the Korean peninsula, seriously infringing on South Korea's military and financial sovereignty. The product improvement of THAAD is to protect the land of the United States, US troops and their assets in the Northeast Asia region. Further, it connects and integrates THAAD with another MD system, therefore making it harder to demolish the illegally deployed THAAD.

Currently, residents of Seongju, including Soseong-ri and Gimcheon, as well as peace-loving citizens in solidarity with them are stopping every vehicle and person that enter the THAAD base, 24 hours every day to halt the product improvement process of THAAD and to fulfill the historic task of 'THAAD out.' We will definitely tear down THAAD.



Grandmothers in Soseong-ri, Seongju, protest the human rights violations by the police who suppressed the people protesting the move of THAAD equipment into the base on May 28-29. Photos by No THAAD Situation Office, Soseong-ri, Seongju.

## South Korea as a germ warfare lab for the US military

Last December, the USFK (United States Forces Korea) has acknowledged the so-called JUPITR (Joint U.S. Forces in Korea Portal and Integrated Threat Recognition) project, a biological, chemical, and radiological weapon defense strategy and CENTAUR (Capabilities to Enhance Threat Awareness, Understanding and Response), a germ warfare test plan which succeeds the former. This past March, Battelle Memorial Institute, which is commissioned to operate the command post of CENTAUR, released an ad to recruit staff who would work at various regions of South Korea. In response, civic action committees to banish such USFK germ warfare troops claim that "it means the USFK has completed germ warfare tests and would make combat arrangements and operate germ warfare troops in regions of South Korea. It also means the Korean peninsula is exposed to the germ warfare threat." Citizens note that the United States anthrax lab in the Osan US base, Pyeongtaek, Korea, was established in 1998 - the first among US bases in the world. The JUPITR plan officially started in 2013 during the Obama administration. Through the JUPITR program, US biowarfare-related labs in 25 places in the world would send lab samples, information, and other materials not to the US but to South Korea. Seventy years ago during the Korean War, the United States used bioweapons. Is Korea becoming a germ warfare lab for the US military 70 years later?

**Join the COVID-19 Global Solidarity Manifesto**  
**[www.covidglobalsolidarity.org](http://www.covidglobalsolidarity.org)**

# Can Island Governor Won who dreams to be South Korean President care for the lives of Korea and the Earth?

By Kim Soon-ae, Secretary of Jeju Green Party

Recently, Jeju Island Governor Won Hee-Ryong has stayed more days in Seoul than in Jeju, dreaming to be South Korean President in the next term. While Won is absent from Jeju, the Jeju 2nd airport construction project -Jeju's biggest development project, which will surely be used as an air force base - is facing the calm before the storm. In July, four successive open debate meetings are planned to settle the issues related to the Jeju 2nd airport project. It is also expected that the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport (MOLIT) and the Korea Airports Corporation would enforce launching the Basic / Detailed Design for the project as they have reported to President Moon Jae-in this February that they would launch it “within this year after arrangement of win-win measures.” Meanwhile, at the Bijarim-ro road, which is expected to be a connection road to the 2nd airport, attempts of expansion construction and the pausing of construction have been repeated three times. Wanting to enforce construction, the Jeju Island government is hiding or reducing the ecological importance of the forest surrounding the Bijarim-ro road, mobilizing a full spectrum of administrative powers. The Jeju Island government showed a complete absence of ecological sensitivity in the process of its resumption of construction at the Bijarim-ro. The island government regards the existence of endangered species in the forest only as an obstacle to be removed or hidden, and countermeasures will be sloppy or not properly implemented in the process of enforcing construction. The island government is repeating its errors while the Yeongsan River Basin Environmental Office, which has been negotiating with the Jeju government, has repeatedly demanded the halt of construction.

Many islanders who do not want further development are rising up against various current development projects. COVID-19 has clearly shown that more development would eventually spell disaster for the future of the earth and human beings. The aviation industry has also been directly hit due to COVID-19. Small scale airlines are closing while big airlines are barely maintaining their operations, receiving trillions in KRW from the government. The post-COVID-19 era demands rapid transformation in which human beings and nature can coexist, and reexamination on existing ways of life and economic methods.

Recently, Governor Won pointed out through an editorial that one should not pass on ‘an uninhabitable earth’ to future generations. However, islanders who hold pickets in opposition to the animal theme park, Songak Mountain New Ocean Town, and Jeju 2nd airport in front of the island government hall every morning have not seen any sincere attitude for conversation from Governor Won. I wonder whether or not Governor Won who dreams of being President and is concerned about the earth considers Jeju islanders’ practical matters of life as things to hide or curtail. Could he himself, who has neither the attitude nor the will to properly care for all living beings residing in Jeju, where he is administrative chief, really care for the living beings of Korea and the earth?

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## Susan-ri, Visiting an Endangered Village

by Curry

Susan-ri is one of the villages that will be most impacted if the Jeju 2nd Airport (Air Force Base) plan is enforced. During the reign of King Sejong, Joseon Dynasty, a major fortress was built by forced labor in Susan-ri. A 13 year old girl was literally sacrificed because a traveling monk said that the fortress walls would stop collapsing if she was buried in the walls. Later, villagers who heard sounds of wailing began offering sacrifices to appease the girl’s vengeful spirit. To this day a shrine remains inside the fortress walls. Susan villagers have worked hard to preserve the elementary school which is also located within the old fortress, but if the second airport is built, the school would be at the end of the runway, subject to high levels of noise. Will the history, culture and community of Susan-ri now be sacrificed in the name of development?

On May 31, Project Jeju organized a “Last Jeju but Endless Stories” visit to Susan-ri. Oh Eun-ju shared the history of the fortress, shrine, and elementary school, and Kim Soo-Oh shared about his photography of the oreums (volcanic cones) that are threatened by the 2nd airport. On June 20-21, the “We, Strangers Art Festival” was held in Susan-ri, including performances of “My Hometown” directed by e-sang.



Visitors to the shrine in the fortress at Susan-ri Elementary School on May 31. Photo by Kim Soo-oh.



# Liz McAlister Sentenced for Plowshares Action

By Curry

On June 8, Liz McAlister was sentenced via video to time served, three years supervised release and to a portion of restitution just over \$30,000 in total. In 2018, on the 40th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Liz McAlister and 6 others entered Kings Bay US nuclear submarine base and among other symbolic actions, hung a banner quoting Dr. King, "The ultimate logic of racism is genocide." Liz's daughter Frida Berrigan spoke to the video courtroom, "I draw hope and inspiration from my mom and her friends who declare that "Black Lives Matter," who wed their anti-nuclear analysis with an anti-racist ethos, and declare that the ultimate logic of trident is omnicide."

On February 23, 2020 Ahmaud Arbery was murdered while jogging in nearby Brunswick, GA in a racist attack that has now raised international outrage. His killers are now jailed with Kings Bay Plowshares activist, Father Steve Kelley. On June 4, Kings Bay Plowshares supporter Martin Gugino was violently shoved by police at a Black Lives Matter protest and falsely accused by Trump of being a provocateur. He remains hospitalized. The other 6 Kings Bay Plowshares defendants expect sentencing at the end of July. They are all over 60 and concerned that prisons are dangerous hotspots for the COVID-19 virus. See more at [kingsbayplowshares7.com](http://kingsbayplowshares7.com).

Dear Jeju friends, greetings,

I remember you with a thankful heart, friends in Gangjeong who have struggled in opposition to the navy base construction and to protect your village, who have come many times to support us in Henoko... And now I feel restless, because I've heard about young people rising up to protect the life on the island which is threatened to be destroyed by forced construction of the nonsense 2nd airport.

Even at this moment, my heart is full of the desire to hurry to Jeju, but I can't leave Henoko. Nonetheless, although we are far from each other, we have one heart. Until now, and in the future as well.

In no way does the military protect civilians. War starts from the places with bases and military. That is the lesson of the Okinawa battlefield. War must not break out once again...

-Fumiko Shimabukuro, Henoko, Okinawa



**"In Okinawa, in Korea, in Taiwan, in Hong Kong we will fight together as long as we live against the powers that threaten peace. In solidarity as peace islands, we share our struggle with people around the world, and pass on to our children and grandchildren a future that needs no military."**

**-Fumiko Shimabukuro**

This message from 90 year old Fumiko Shimabukuro was originally shared with the "To Jeju" page on Facebook.

# Divest from Endless Wars: Cancel RIMPAC and End the Korean War

by Yeonhee Sophie Kim and Kyle Kajihiro

On April 29th, in response to public pressure, the U.S. Navy reduced the timeframe of RIMPAC 2020 to August 17-31 and limited the exercises to at-sea only. Ashore social events, including liberty are cancelled. This is only a small victory given that these actions do not totally eliminate the risk posed by hundreds of military personnel landing in Hawai'i as the logistics staff. The Cancel RIMPAC Coalition is organizing locally and internationally to halt RIMPAC exercises now and forever. The Golden Rule, a Veterans For Peace anti-nuclear sailboat docked on O'ahu, intends to sail with banners—"ban the bomb" and "stop RIMPAC"—in commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the atomic bombing on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In addition to solidarity from Jeju, groups in Aotearoa/New Zealand, Canada, Australia, Okinawa, and Japan have urged their governments to withdraw from RIMPAC, emphasizing the risk they pose to their own soldiers, in addition to the exposing Hawai'i's people and environment to avoidable danger. Both Chile and Israel have officially withdrawn their participation as a COVID-19 precaution.

Meanwhile, Hawai'i's Governor Ige has exempted military personnel and their family members from the state's 14-day quarantine requirements, classifying them as "essential personnel." The military says it will follow the Pentagon's 14-day restriction of movement order, which is less stringent. The environmental impact of COVID-19 and reduction of military activity cannot be ignored. On Waimānalo Beach (Bellows Air Force Station), where the Marine Corps and RIMPAC participants normally practice amphibious invasions, threatened honu (green sea turtles) came to nest on the beach for the first time in history. The honu are reclaiming habitat previously used for military and recreational activities.

Beyond RIMPAC's local impacts, we must recall the geopolitical stakes of RIMPAC and other military exercises. Earlier this year, USINDOPACOM proposed a budget of \$20 billion for the next 6 years to fund a deterrence strategy against China's increasing political leverage in the region. A group of U.S. lawmakers proposed a bill chartering the Indo-Pacific Deterrence Initiative (IPDI), requesting \$6.09 billion in additional funds for FY 2021. IPDI is a counterpart to the European Deterrence Initiative, which totaled \$22 billion in spending since its launch. The agenda includes the expansion of Indo-Pacific maritime security, modernization of military systems and weapons, and the limitation on the use of funds to reduce U.S. troops in South Korea.

(Continued on Page 8)

# Open Gureombi Rock to the Citizens!

By Ryu Bok-hee, The Frontiers

For years, I have been working with refugees to rebuild communities in the conflict areas of the world. Coming to Jeju last year, I wanted to see the small, remaining part of Gureombi Rock inside the Jeju navy base. I entered the navy base with Dr. Song Kang-ho on March 7th, 8 years after the navy started to blast the rock to build the base on it. Now I am on trial without detention while Dr. Song is on trial under arrest.

On May 28th, I went back to Gureombi Rock inside the base with a judge, a prosecutor, lawyers, and Dr. Song, for an on-site verification as a part of our trial. The judge looked at Gureombi and asked many questions. We were able to answer with composure. I said, "I went to Gureombi rock for a long period of rest and prayers. It is not owned by the Navy to be occupied. It belongs to citizens who want to see it. It should be open to the people." How important it is for defendants to be able to say their own words on the very site. During our 1st and 2nd trials, I could introduce only my name, but the on-site inspection naturally helped us to explain the necessity of our direct action. I think those from the legal profession could relate our case to the situation better than they could in court.

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## Let's Recover Gureombi Rock

By Song Kang-ho, The Frontiers

Jeju Navy Base should be shut down. [...] The unlawfulness and corruption during the construction process can hardly be told enough. The existence of the navy base itself denies and damages the value of our constitution. [...] The way to restore Gureombi Rock is not so difficult. The west of the navy base is a military training ground. With only the removal of dirt, Gureombi Rock can be revealed. With smashing and removal of the dock, great parts of Gureombi Rock would be restored. [...] Let's occupy and take the navy base. Let's return it back to the citizens, the original owners. The Kim Young-Kwan Center (Civilian-military Complex Center) will be Gangjeong Village Peace Center. The military residence will be a dormitory for Peace University. The military court will be a global civic peace court. The military medical corps would be a village medical center. The troop headquarters would be a Peace Convention Center. The troop barracks would be Peace University class rooms[...] Lets' remove all the wire fences of the navy base, tear down its stone walls, break its iron gates. And let's make anyone be able to freely walk in and out of Gureombi. With the smashing of the whole military port, most parts of Gureombi will be restored.

(The above is an excerpt from the letter Song Kang-ho sent from prison on May 28th just before the on-site verification. See Ryu's writing above. July 7th marks the 100th day of his imprisonment.)

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## The Supreme Court says 'no problem' on the navy's illegal deed

On June 9, 2011, citizens uploaded around 115 posts on the South Korea navy's website home page, to protest the navy's enforcement of illegal maritime construction to build the Jeju navy base. The navy selectively deleted those posts all at once on the same day.

In relation to that incident, four citizens filed a suit to claim national compensation, claiming that citizens' freedom to express their opinion and right to pursue happiness were violated because of the navy's illegal deed. The higher court had made a decision partly in favor of the plaintiff's case, saying "the freedom of expression on a matter of public concern should be more protected by the institutions of power." However, on June 4 this year, the Supreme Court annulled that decision and returned the case back to the Seoul Central District Court, saying there is "no problem in the navy's selective deletion of the citizens' protest posts," while also saying that "the execution of state power which excludes criticism itself is not justified."

On June 5, civic groups including the Association of Gangjeong Villagers Against the Jeju Navy Base and the Catholic Human Rights Committee published a joint statement in protest to the Supreme Court's self-contradictory decision, saying that the Supreme Court decision destroys democracy and such a decision is what should be eliminated.

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3 different navy boats and one coast guard boat came out of the base to confront two kayaks with 2 people during the kayak protest on May 27. They could only shout "Go back" and inform us that it is illegal to enter the base or block any ships. On other days, including June 3 (pictured) we shout out "Close the Navy Base" and "Rise Up Gureombi" at an empty base entrance. Photo by Curry.

# International Women’s Day for Peace and Disarmament in Jeju

May 24th is the International Women’s Day for Peace and Disarmament. Gangjeong started to commemorate the day since Women Cross DMZ’s visit to Gangjeong in 2015. Since then, Gangjeong has commemorated the day every year. This year, some women and peace groups mostly based on Jeju, such as Gangjeong Peace Network, Jeju Women’s Association, Jeju Association for Women’s Rights, etc. made a joint statement titled ‘For the Demilitarized Peace Island Jeju without military bases.’ They demanded the government to withdraw all plans that would reinforce the militarization of the World Peace Island Jeju and would make it a so-called outpost for ‘maritime power.’ They also urged the government to abolish the Jeju Free International City Development Center which promotes reckless development along with militarization. They proposed citizens’ and public institutes in Jeju to seriously discuss and make efforts for demilitarization, denuclearization and neutralization of Jeju to be a true Peace Island. The groups also expressed their support for a May 22 joint statement made by women and peace groups nationwide in commemoration of the International Women’s Day for Peace and Disarmament. The May 22 joint statement expressed the groups’ will of “solidarity together for sustainable peace to be realized in concrete and practical ways through an official end to the Korean War; prevention of armed conflict in North & South Korea, as well as in Northeast Asia; peace and disarmament; and human security.”

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## Women Cross DMZ Statement on Mounting Tensions Between Two Koreas

Tensions between the two Koreas reached a boiling point on June 16, 2020, when North Korea destroyed the inter-Korean liaison office in Kaesong to symbolize the end of an era of inter-Korean reconciliation. In a series of statements released by the Korean Central News Agency, North Korea expressed frustration with South Korea for failing to adhere to commitments made in inter-Korean agreements, including halting activist groups from sending propaganda leaflets across the border.

While many proponents claim that these activists are simply expressing their right to freedom of expression and speech, the leaflets raise military tensions, and more than 60 percent of South Koreans oppose them. They’re also a form of psychological warfare; for example, leaflets in the past have offered a bounty for the assassination of Kim Jong Un. Many of these activist groups are funded by the US government via the National Endowment for Democracy[.]

The two Koreas have a right to determine their own future. The US should step back and allow them to pursue reconciliation and cooperation on their own terms, and return to the peace process with North Korea. Both Koreas agreed in the Panmunjom Declaration of 2018 to replace the Korean War Armistice with a formal peace agreement together with the US. We need to end the Korean War[.]

(Excerpted. For the full text of the June 23, 2020 statement, see [womenscrossdmz.org](http://womenscrossdmz.org))

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## The Opening of a Peace Park in Memory of Two Girls

In remembrance of two girls who were killed by a US armored vehicle during military exercises in a town near the Korean DMZ, a peace park built by civic groups finally opened 18 years after their death. Ann Wright, Col. (Ret.) and coordinator of Korea Peace Campaign, Veterans for Peace, USA, sent an open letter welcoming the peace park. Last year, the KPC project contributed \$1,200 for the Peace Park project. Here are some excerpts from Ann Wright’s letter. For the full text of the letter and more, see [veteransforpeace.org](http://veteransforpeace.org).



The Hyosoon Miseon Peace Park opened on June 13, 2020 / Photo by Kim Young-Jae, Solidarity for Peace And Reunification of Korea

“[...] As former soldiers of the U.S. military, including many veterans of the Korean War and those who served in South Korea in the post-Armistice period, we would like to offer our sincere apology to the surviving family members of Shin Hyosoon and Shim Miseon [...] Their cruel death on June 13, 2002, caused by a 50-ton U.S. armored vehicle travelling on a public road, and the subsequent acquittal of the three crew members of the vehicle in a U.S. military tribunal aroused justified anger among many Korean people-sparking a series of candlelight, vigil protests for about ten months in South Korea. This people’s movement resulted in the birth of a new protest culture of candlelight vigils in South Korea. Finally, we believe that a full justice for Hyosoon and Miseon will be realized only when all the U.S. troops leave Korea. [...]”(Ann Wright)



# The 1st hearing for the missing prisoners during the Jeju April 3rd period

On June 8th, the 1st hearing was held in the Jeju local court for the judge panel to decide on the matter of opening retrial for the missing prisoners during the Jeju April 3rd Uprising and Massacre period (officially measured from March 1, 1947 to Sept. 2, 1954). The retrial is for 349 missing people who were falsely accused by illegal military courts held twice in December, 1948 and June-July, 1949 then transferred to prisons in various regions of the nation. The retrial hearings are planned to be carried out consecutively for groups of 10-20 missing prisoners from each region's prison. The 1st hearing on June 8 was for 14 people who were imprisoned in the Honam region. On behalf of those missing, their bereaved family members joined the hearing as claimants.

A retrial for the surviving prisoners was already held and the court dismissed the public prosecution last year. However, it is the first hearing for the retrial of missing prisoners. The bereaved family members' legal requirement to be able to apply for retrial is not fulfilled without legal confirmation on the death of the defendants (missing prisoners). Another difficulty for the retrial lies in some cases when the names written in the prisoner list and the family register are not consistent. Despite all those difficulties, the judge panel is expected to do its best. (Source: Jeju Dark Tours)



Each year on June 6 (Memorial Day), singer Choi Sang-Don leads a visit to possible sites on Halla Mountain where the military police had hunted down participants of the 4.3 Uprising, and killed Lee Duk-Koo, a middle school teacher who was the second-in-command of the armed resistance, on June 7, 1949. After a memorial ceremony, a moment of silence was also observed for George Floyd and victims of US police shootings. Photo by Curry.

## Daily Life in Gangjeong

by Jighye/Eric

The first thing I started when I came back to Gangjeong after two years was farming. I tilled the field, planted peanuts, made a waterway, and planted rice. Self-sufficient farming is an effort for my life and my peace. I wanna have the wisdom to get just what's necessary from nature and make the land as good as I have received from the Earth. One day I want to have an olive grove on Jeju Island. In the language of flowers, Olive is Peace.

I am not such a person who researches something or sends money. I see what I can do and it is just living and struggling with people as a migrant in the village. To walk with you all to your peace for my peace. My way of solidarity is 100 bows and kayaking. Yelling on the sea to the naval base is my favorite protest!

We have two hens next to our Halmangmul community kitchen. The hens are such lovely gentle friends to people. They make me happy and responsible. I named them Okkot and Mekker which together mean OMG in Jeju dialect. The peace of chickens is my peace. So, I am here having some peace. I will never allow any war, here or anywhere. Of course, I will fail, run away, and fall out of the group but I will come back here again. These all are for my freedom, my peace, and my love.



The Gangjeong Peace Center was built in 2012 at the center of Gangjeong where villagers had gathered for candle light rallies against the plans for the navy base. For years the land owners asked no rent, and more recently the Peace Island Cafe enabled the Peace Center to remain open as a center for peace activities. Sadly, the land was sold and the Peace Center closed this May. A goodbye concert for the peace center on May 16 opened with traditional pungmul dance and percussion. Photo by Oum Mun-hee.





An exhibit was held at Artspace C in Jeju City from June 17-23 as a closing to the "Let's Go Plant Trees" project. 300 trees were planted at the Bijarim-ro and Koh Gil-chun gave 180 participants rubbings of the trees that had been cut for road expansion construction. The project included on-site installations, theater performance, music and films and the concluding exhibition included pieces by Koh Gil-chun, Emily Wang, Kaia (Curry) Vereide, and Lee Nan-young (pictured). Photos by Song Dong-hyo and Choi Sung-hee.



In the afternoon of May 30th, Gangjeong activists, Jungjoo and Yangsang got married at Meotburi. For this special four-hour-long ceremony many friends gathered and helped to make it happen. Photo by Choi Sung-hee.

## 70 years is enough, End the Korean War

June 25 marked the 70 year anniversary of the eruption of all-out warfare on the Korean peninsula. After 3 years of brutal warfare and millions of deaths, on July 27, 1953 an armistice was signed, but there has never been a treaty to officially end the war. On June 24, about 180 Korean civil society organizations held a press conference proposing a global signature campaign to end the Korean War. From the end of this July until the 70th anniversary of the armistice in 2023, the campaign aims to collect 100 million signatures, building a people's movement to effectively end the war with a peace treaty, denuclearization, de-escalation, dialogue and cooperation. More information coming soon!



From May 9 to 16 there was a "We Home" exhibition at the house where Mu-ji-gae (GreenC) and Curry had lived. It was a goodbye ceremony for the house which they had to leave, because the house and land got sold together with the Peace Center. GreenC and Curry took part in the exhibition as artists. It was curated by Gunso, another Gangjeong activist. Opening performances featured Emily and Gunso, as well as hair-cutting by Bandi on the first two evenings of the exhibition. Photo by Curry.

### 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](http://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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### Divest from Endless Wars: Cancel RIMPAC and End the Korean War

(Continued from Page 4)

In addition to a trade war with China, the U.S. is using the unresolved war with North Korea to further militarize Hawai'i. Senator Hirono has resurrected a proposal for a Homeland Defense Radar under the false logic that nuclear deterrence works, but ignores the enormous risk posed by the unending Korean War. The 2018 false missile threat was a sobering reminder that Hawai'i's people are living under perpetual nuclear threat as a result of being so militarized. Cancel RIMPAC Coalition and Korea Peace Now-Hawai'i chapter are calling for U.S. divestment from endless wars and an investment in the people impacted by the current global health, economic, and ecological crisis. Cancel RIMPAC and end the Korean War with a peace treaty with North Korea!

