

File No. 150764

Committee Item No. 1

Board Item No. \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Date September 17, 2015

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### Cmte Board

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| <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Grant Information Form                       |
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Completed by: Derek Evans Date 9/11/15  
Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 25 pages.  
The complete document can be found in the file.

1 [Urging the Establishment of a Memorial for "Comfort Women"]

2  
3 **Resolution urging the City and County of San Francisco to establish a memorial for**  
4 **"Comfort Women."**

5  
6 WHEREAS, According to most international historians, the term "comfort women"  
7 euphemistically refers to an estimated 200,000 women and young girls who were kidnapped  
8 and forced into sexual slavery by the Imperial Japanese Army during its colonial and wartime  
9 occupation of Asia and the Pacific Islands from the 1930s through the duration of World War  
10 II; and

11 WHEREAS, During the 15 years of invasion and occupation of Asian countries,  
12 unspeakable and well-documented war-crimes, including mass rape, wholesale massacres,  
13 heinous torture, and other atrocities, were committed by the Japanese Imperial Army  
14 throughout the occupied countries and colonies; and

15 WHEREAS, Of the few top Japanese military leaders who were investigated and  
16 convicted as war criminals in the postwar War Crime Tribunals in Tokyo, Nanjing, Manila,  
17 Yokohama, and Khabarovsk, many escaped prosecution; and

18 WHEREAS, In 2001 the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed Resolution  
19 No. 842-01, urging the government of Japan, on the 50th anniversary of the US-Japan Peace  
20 Treaty, to fully acknowledge and apologize for Japan's wartime atrocities and provide just  
21 compensation for the surviving victims of its aggression; and

22 WHEREAS, In 2007 the U.S. House of Representatives passed Rep. Mike Honda's  
23 bipartisan House Resolution 121, which also called on the Government of Japan to formally  
24 acknowledge, apologize, and accept historical responsibility for its Imperial Armed Forces'  
25 coercion of young women into sexual slavery; and

1           WHEREAS, In 2013, the San Francisco Board passed Resolution No. 218-13  
2 condemning Japan's denial of its system of sexual enslavement during World War II and  
3 calling for justice for "comfort women"; and

4           WHEREAS, The year 2015 marks the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II  
5 (1941-1945) and the Pacific War (1931-1945) and the defeat of Japanese imperialism and  
6 militarism by the Allies; and

7           WHEREAS, Several cities in the U.S., including, Glendale and Rohnert Park, CA; Long  
8 Island, NY; Palisades Park and Union City, NJ; Fairfax, VA; and Michigan City, MI have  
9 already erected memorials to help remember the "comfort women" during Japanese  
10 occupation in the Pacific War; and

11           WHEREAS, Today, human trafficking of women and girls is a form of modern day  
12 slavery with 20 million victims worldwide, including an estimated 1.5 million victims in North  
13 America alone, forced to perform labor and sexual acts; and human trafficking is a market-  
14 driven criminal industry based on the principles of supply and demand, and

15           WHEREAS, San Francisco is not immune to the problem, and has been considered a  
16 destination for human trafficking due to its ports, airports, industry, and rising immigrant  
17 populations; and

18           WHEREAS, Leaders of the Japanese American community have worked closely with  
19 the broader Asian Pacific Islander community in the past decades to strengthen relationships  
20 and build trust, understanding, and community for civil rights and social justice; and

21           WHEREAS, San Francisco is a city of immigrants and their descendants, many of  
22 whom have ancestral ties to Asian and Pacific Islander nations and have direct or indirect  
23 experience with Japan's past system of sexual enslavement; and

24           WHEREAS, A growing coalition of immigrant communities, women's organizations, and  
25 human rights groups have organized to establish a memorial for "comfort women" and the

1 millions of victims of the Japanese military in San Francisco to ensure that the plight and  
2 suffering of these girls and women will never be forgotten or erased from history; now,  
3 therefore, be it

4           RESOLVED, That appropriate City and County agencies will work with the community  
5 organizations to design and establish the memorial; and, be it

6           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San  
7 Francisco during the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II expresses its strong support  
8 of creating a memorial in memory of those girls and women who suffered immeasurable pain  
9 and humiliation as sex slaves and as a sacred place for remembrance, reflection,  
10 remorsefulness, and atonement for generations to come.



COB, PONS, Lf8  
Df9

Member, Board of Supervisors  
District 1  
市參議員、第一區



City and County of San Francisco

ERIC MAR  
馬兆光

RECEIVED  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
SAN FRANCISCO  
2015 SEP 11 PM 1:12

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DATE: September 11, 2015

TO: Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

FROM: Supervisor Eric Mar

RE: Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee  
COMMITTEE REPORT

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Pursuant to Board Rule 4.20, as Chair of the Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee, I have deemed the following matter is of an urgent nature and request it be considered by the full Board on September 22, 2015, as a Committee Report:

**150764 Urging the Establishment of a Memorial for "Comfort Women"**

Resolution urging the City and County of San Francisco to establish a memorial for "Comfort Women."

This matter will be heard in the Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee Regular Meeting on September 17, 2015, at 2:00 p.m.

## Evans, Derek

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**From:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS)  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 10, 2015 3:41 PM  
**To:** BOS-Supervisors; Evans, Derek; Calvillo, Angela (BOS); Caldeira, Rick (BOS)  
**Subject:** File 150764 FW: San Francisco Memorial for Korean Comfort Woman [KCW]

**From:** Kelly Kling Woolums [mailto:kwoolums@isp.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 10, 2015 2:25 PM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** San Francisco Memorial for Korean Comfort Woman [KCW]

I suggest that:

(1) If San Francisco must have a monument of some kind, for some unknown purpose to remember alleged crimes on Korean women during by the Japanese occupation - - then a "contest" be held to selected a memorial and what it should "say." As was, for example, done for the Vietnam monument in Washington with great success. Works of art can be "fixed-up" to say something which may not wanted, or true.

(2) Since events e.g. (between Alex the Great & the Persians), and (Korea & Japan) - - are past, SO the memorial should include now and the past Africa, the mid-East - - all when armies were allowed by leaders to enslave, murder, rape, plunder and retaliate at will. War is hell.

(3) Children and adults now living are not responsible for what others did, or did not. What the UN has not. Bullying - - verbal or physical - - is illegal so the bully should be charged.

kk woolums  
Glen Rock, NJ

---- NOT FOR PUBLICATION just some rough comments NOT FOR PUBLICATION -----

American citizens of Japanese ancestors were punished enough during the War in the Pacific by the people of California. Why they had no troops or planes or ships?

Around the world, invading soldiers - - even today to a certain degree, - - and for sure in the past thousands of years - - were allowed by their leaders to enslave, murder, rape, and plunder, and retaliate at will.

Artists who later memorialized such events "fixed them" to appear as patriotic acts. Of course, all artistic works always are "fixed" to make a statement. If the artist was not "told how to fix the work" in the beginning, the work was/is "fixed" in accordance with the artist's own feelings on the matter. Classic Arts Showcase, for example, shows a ballet by Bolshoi, danced to "Scheherade" by Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov where the Golden Slave is united with the prince. Clearly, the Golden Slave is then no longer a Slave. She is enjoying her work, and is now in charge.

Of course, "fixing" applies to everything written, statued, appearing on TV such as Jeopardy!, or musically presented for a memory. Novels, newspaper articles included. A famous "Great American Love Song" ends, "(dramatic pause at end and then) You belong to me." Not a song to play at the dedication, or in the background when people are viewing the work. So San Fran needs a lot of thought before moving forward.

"Carmen" -- depending on how presented - - can leave the viewer believing Carmen "got what she ask for" - - or, at another presentation, believing "those soldiers are trash." "Butterfly" was written to have the opera's jerk an American, when it was told originally on a European. Even though European troops all took comfort women with them when deployed, - - the jerk's role was predicted to too difficult to fill in Europe.

Rumor has it one British commander in the 1770's lost a major battle due to his trying to get through the whole group of ladies with his troops.

And, it would be important to prove the events on the matter from South Korea are true. One lady of America I know of has been surprised to learn her husband's native language does not have a word for adultery, for example - - so when he "went out on her" - - he didn't know she would care. There is some "fixing" that the KCW were actually working for money.

There is one major Novel fix. The Grapes of Wrath by American realist novel writer John Steinbeck and presented as true, has been found to be fiction. People who lived in area at the time say there was no "dust bowl." Census records do not show any increase in population in the areas in California to which people were suppose to have fled to at the time.

So, please, be careful how you fix this thing up. You could be putting young ladies of Korean or Japanese ancestry in danger, but not knowingly.

## Evans, Derek

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**From:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 08, 2015 9:24 AM  
**To:** BOS-Supervisors; Calvillo, Angela (BOS); Evans, Derek; Caldeira, Rick (BOS)  
**Subject:** File 150764 FW: Comfort Women Statue proposal in San Francisco

**From:** Yuriko Doi-Walker [mailto:[yurikodoi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:yurikodoi@sbcglobal.net)]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 05, 2015 10:45 PM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <[board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org](mailto:board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org)>  
**Subject:** Comfort Women Statue proposal in San Francisco

Dear San Francisco Board of Supervisors,

I am Yuriko Doi, the Founder of Theatre Yugen which has been active in introducing Japanese theater and culture and educating Japanese arts, cross culture and international racial harmony to many children and students as well as general audience for 36 years here in San Francisco.

I do not condone what Japan did during the World War II, but I cannot agree with the building of a stature of comfort women in San Francisco. This type of statue belongs in Japan, Korea and China. In San Francisco it would just raise racial tensions between our Asian communities especially since most of them had no part in this terrible event and many also suffered during the war. I think we should create work and art that promotes harmony not divisive.

If you have any questions, please contact my e-mail at [yurikodoi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:yurikodoi@sbcglobal.net) or 650-575-7390(mobile).

Sincerely yours,

Yuriko Doi  
Theatre of yugen, Founder & Artistic Adviser  
2840 Mariposa Street,  
San Francisco, CA 94110  
415-621-0507

## Evans, Derek

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**From:** Beth Aboulafia <aboulafia@beveragelaw.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 08, 2015 4:48 PM  
**To:** Lim, Victor (BOS)  
**Cc:** Evans, Derek  
**Subject:** Gus's Community Market - PCN

Victor,

I'm glad we were able to connect this afternoon. Per our conversation, we would like to have the PCN application for Gus's Community Market heard by the Committee on September 17<sup>th</sup> and forwarded to the full Board as a Committee Report at the September 22<sup>nd</sup> Board meeting.

If you have any questions or need any further information regarding the PCN request, please feel free to reach out to me.

Thank you,

Beth Aboulafia  
Partner | Hinman & Carmichael LLP  
260 California Street, Suite 700, San Francisco, CA 94111  
P: 415.362.1215 x104 | F: 415.362.1494 | E: aboulafia@beveragelaw.com

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## Evans, Derek

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**From:** Gregory Vioria <greg.jtf@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 04, 2015 12:30 AM  
**To:** Avalos, John (BOS); Breed, London (BOS); Campos, David (BOS); Christensen, Julie (BOS); Cohen, Malia (BOS); Farrell, Mark (BOS); Kim, Jane (BOS); Mar, Eric (BOS); Tang, Katy (BOS); Wiener, Scott; Yee, Norman (BOS); Board of Supervisors, (BOS); Evans, Derek  
**Cc:** judy hamaguchi; Lee, Mayor (MYR); san-francisco-jacl-chapter-board@googlegroups.com; Jill Yano  
**Subject:** SF JACL Response to Supervisor Mar's "Comfort Women" Memorial Resolution (FILE NO. 150764)  
**Attachments:** SF JACL Letter to BOS 20150902.pdf

Dear Board President and Supervisor London Breed,  
Supervisor John Avalos,  
Supervisor David Campos,  
Supervisor Julie Christensen,  
Supervisor Malia Cohen,  
Supervisor Mark Farrell,  
Supervisor Jane Kim,  
Supervisor Eric Mar,  
Supervisor Katy Tang,  
Supervisor Scott Weiner,  
Supervisor Norman Yee,  
Clerk of the Board, Clerk for Public Safety and Neighborhood Services committee, Derek Evans

Good morning.

The attached letter addressed to the you, the Board of Supervisors of San Francisco, represent the views of the board of the San Francisco Japanese American Citizens League (SF JACL) - a local chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, the oldest Asian American civil rights organization in the US.

We send this letter for reflection and consideration of a point of view on this resolution. In summary, our letter promotes the view of compassion and healing for the comfort women and their issues brought on by war and want to discourage any memorial (monument or written) that promotes hate towards a certain nationality amongst current and future generations.

I hope you, the Board of Supervisors, consider these points before your vote and/or comment on this resolution in chambers or in the Public Safety and Neighborhood Services committee.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact our board co-presidents, Judy Hamaguchi and Jill Yano (cc'd).

Respectfully submitted,

Greg C. Vioria  
SF JACL Board Member  
1770 Post St #279  
San Francisco, CA 94115

September 2, 2015

Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Supervisors: Madam Board President London Breed, Honorable John Avalos, Honorable David Campos, Honorable Julie Christiansen, Honorable Malia Cohen, Honorable Mark Farrell, Honorable Jane Kim, Honorable Eric Mar, Honorable Katy Tang, Honorable Scott Weiner, and Honorable Norman Yee

RE: Board of Supervisors File No. 150764, Resolution urging the City and County of San Francisco to establish a memorial for "Comfort Women." (As attached)

Dear San Francisco City Board of Supervisors:

The Board of Supervisors of the City of San Francisco is currently considering a resolution that calls for a physical memorial and a renewed condemnation of human rights violations committed by the Imperial Army of Japan during World War II. We, the Board of Directors of the San Francisco Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), respectfully ask you to consider our views on this matter.

The Board of Directors of the San Francisco Chapter of the JACL believes in the importance of drawing lessons from historic violations of civil rights and human rights. We are volunteer activists who believe deeply in the fight for civil rights for all. We draw particular inspiration from the civil rights violations experienced by Japanese Americans during World War II. During the war 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast were forcibly incarcerated in 10 American concentration camps. Many lost their homes and businesses.

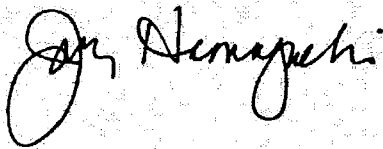
As civil rights activists, we support efforts by the Board of Supervisors that take action to prevent and stop human rights violations. The exploitation of children, violence against women, and human trafficking sadly still exist today. Vigilance is needed, even in San Francisco.

Violations of human rights that took place in the past must not be forgotten, if they are to provide lessons for current and future generations. Memorials of wartime horrors should be constructed in a manner that teaches tolerance, promotes healing, and inspires us all to work towards a future of peace. Historical lessons must be taught, but memorials should not be designed to pass on anger to current and future generations.

The Japanese American community has experienced first-hand what happens when an environment of racial hatred is allowed to permeate society. We are opposed to anything that promotes hate based on race or nationality.

Before issuing a resolution to support a memorial that projects hate towards a specific nationality, we ask the Board of Supervisors to consider whether such an action truly represents the values of the people of San Francisco. San Francisco has shown the world that we reject hate and embrace unity. Let's not turn back the clock.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judy Hamaguchi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Judy" being particularly prominent.

Judy Hamaguchi, Chapter President  
On behalf of the Board of Directors, San Francisco Chapter  
Japanese American Citizens League

Chapter Board Members: John Hayashi, Nikki Hikari, Merry Nishimura,  
Haruka Roudebush, Nancy Satoda, Barbara Suyehiro, Kenta Takamori, Greg  
Viloria, Jill Yano

Attachment: Board of Supervisors File No. 150764, Resolution urging the City  
and County of San Francisco to establish a memorial for "Comfort Women."



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**From:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 02, 2015 10:46 AM  
**To:** BOS-Supervisors  
**Subject:** FW: Against the proposal of building a Comofort Women memorial File No. 150764  
**Attachments:** Comfort Women Not Sex Slaves But Prostitutes\_FullVersion.pdf

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**From:** Koichi Mera [mailto:koichi.mera@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 01, 2015 2:51 PM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** Against the proposal of building a Comofort Women memorial

Dear Supervisors for the City of San Francisco:

I am against the proposal to build a memorial for Comfort Women.  
This is so because the proposal is based on a wrong interpretation of the Comfort Women.  
In addition, the proposal is motivated by a political ambition of dividing the linkage between the U.S and Japan.  
It is not based on human rights.  
Please look at the attachment which elaborate our arguments.

Koichi Mera  
Los Angeles



# Comfort Women Not Sex Slaves but Prostitutes

*Looking into Historical Evidence*  
- Neglected Facts and Voices -

## *Background of Comfort Women Issues*

1. Historical Evidence
2. Origin and Development of Comfort Women Controversy
3. Political Implications

# What is the controversy surrounding «Comfort Women»?

- Comfort Women are those who provided sexual services to Japanese Military during the WWII
- **Point of contention:**

**Did JAPANESE GOVERNMENT FORCE these women into prostitution, or not?**

# Historical Evidence

- There are many «who said what», «who admitted what», various news reporting supporting contradictory views.
- **LET'S LOOK INTO PRIMARY SOURCES TO FIND OUT THE TRUTH**
  - Primary Sources : historical records
  - Secondary Sources: what other people heard about and wrote about (ex. recent newspaper articles, political statements, etc.)
- ***If Comfort Women were Sex Slaves orchestrated by Japanese government,***
  - = We should be able to find historical evidence!

# Historical Evidence 1: Tokyo War Trial, 1946

*In this trial, Japan was judged for its deeds before and during the World War II*

Allied Powers tried Japan for «Conventional atrocities» and «Crimes against humanity».

Comfort Women were not even mentioned in the trial

If Japanese Army did indeed enslave Korean women, why did NO ONE talk about it?

## **CONCLUSION:**

**Comfort Women were not considered as crime or atrocity at that time**

## Historical Evidence 2: Mr Rhee Syngman

- First President of the Republic of Korea (ROK) after its independence in 1948
- Zealous anti-Japan independence fighter
- Demanded extensive reparations to Japan
- *No mention of reparation for Comfort Women*

### **CONCLUSION:**

**Comfort Women were not considered as an issue, even by the politician who is known as the most anti-Japan President of the ROK**



## Historical Evidence 3: JP-ROK Basic Treaty, 1965

- This treaty settled **ALL CLAIMS AND REPARATIONS** regarding any matters related to Japan's annexation of Korea, except for Takeshima.
- By signing this treaty, ROK agreed to demand no further compensation, either at the government or individual level, after receiving \$800 million (2.3 times Korea's national budget of that time) in grants and soft loans from Japan as compensation for its 1910–45 colonial rule in the treaty.
- According to the records of negotiation, Japan proposed to compensate individuals directly but Korean government of the time refused, and used most of the money for its economic development.
- **COMFORT WOMEN WAS NEVER BROUGHT UP AS A MATTER OF REPARATION AND COMPENSATION**

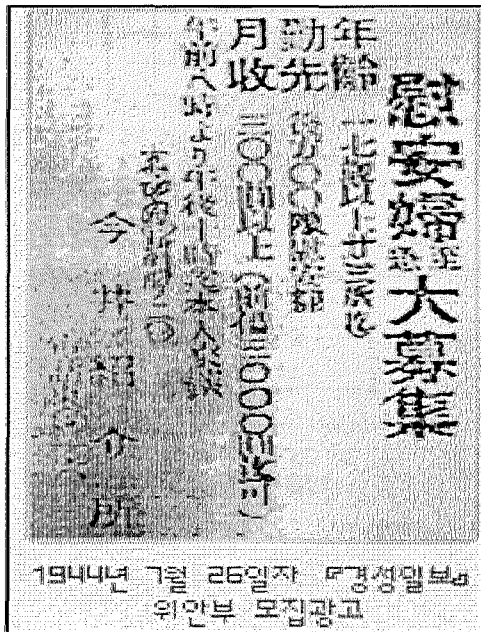
*From the year the treaty was ratified, 1965, to 1982, no history-related anti-Japanese demonstration occurred, and the history was never brought up as political issue.*

## Historical Evidence 4: No Historical Documentation Backing Sex Slavery Found in Korea or in Japan

1. There is no documented evidence in Korea or Japan about how Japanese army rounded up the women in the form of diary, newspaper articles, etc. *Not even single one.*
2. And there is no trace of Korean people who fought against such slavery.

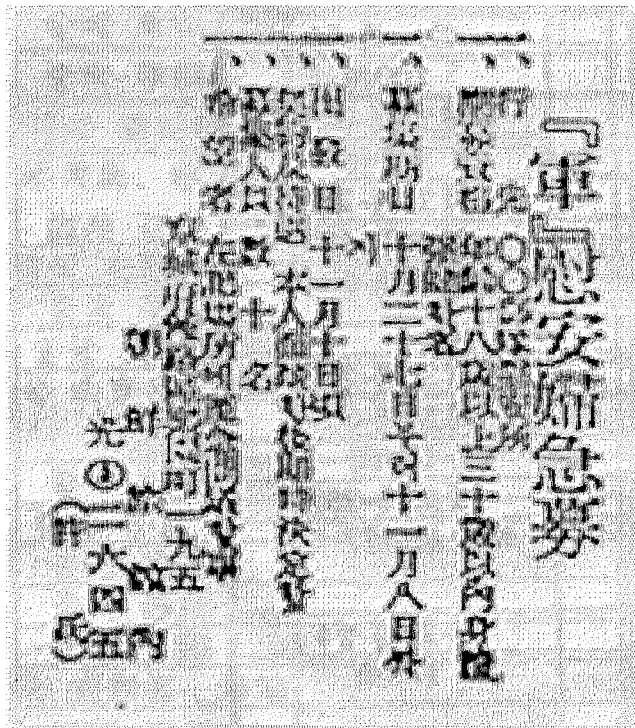
# Historical Evidence 5: Copious numbers of Ads recruiting prostitutes found in Korea

- Several advertisements were found in Korean newspapers of the time, in which private middlemen recruited comfort women for Japanese Army, offering very high salary.



The exact wording of the advertisement : 京城日報 1944年7月26日廣告  
 慰安婦至急大募集 (Comfort Women Urgently Wanted)  
 年齢 17歳以上23歳迄 (Age : between 17 and 23)  
 勤先 後方〇〇部隊慰安部 (Workstation : )  
 月収 300円以上 (前借3000円迄可) (Monthly Salary : at least 300 Yen. Advanced payment of up to 3000 Yen possible.)  
 午前8時より午後10時迄本人面談 (Interview between 8 AM and 10 PM)  
 京城\*\*\*\*\*20 (Address : )  
 今井紹介所 (Placement Agency Imai)

300 Yen of salary was three times that of the graduate of Keijyo Imperial University, the most prestigious university at that time – many women applied for the job – **NO NEED TO FORCE WOMEN IN PROSTITUTION**



1944년 10월 27일자 『매일신보』  
위안부 모집광고

The exact wording of the advertisement : 朝鮮總督府機關紙  
「毎日日報」1944年10月27日

『軍』慰安婦急募 (« Army » Comfort Women Urgently Wanted)

- 一、行 先 ○○部隊慰安所 (Workstation : )
  - 一、応募資格年齢十八歳以上三十歳以内 強健者 (Qualification Age : 18 to 30, in good health)
  - 一、募集期日十月二十七日～十一月八日迄 (Application accepted: 27 Oct. to 8 Nov.)
  - 一、出発日十一月十日頃 (Departure: around 10 Nov.)
  - 一、契約及び待遇本人面談後即時決定 (Decision on contract and working conditions immediately upon the interview)
  - 一、募集人員数十名 (Recruiting several dozens)
  - 一、希望者左記住所で至急相談 (For interested candidates, contact immediately the following)
- 京城府鐘路\*樂園町一九五  
朝鮮旅館内  
光\*二六四五 (許 氏)

# Historical Evidence 6: US Army Report No. 49

- The US Office of War Interrogation (APO689 August 1944) report
  - Interviewed 20 Korean “comfort girls” captured around 10 August 1944 after the fall of Myitkyina in Burma.
  - States they were recruited by private agents with a promise of good income
  - Confirms that women lived a rather luxurious life.
  - They were allowed to refuse services for those soldiers whom the women did not welcome.
  - They were allowed to return home after paying off their debts.

# Historical Evidence 7: Bank Statement of a Former Comfort Woman

Name: *Mun Okchu* 文玉珠 (문옥주)

Mainichi Newspaper reported on May 12, 1992 that Japanese military post office savings records confirmed that former Korean comfort woman Mun Okchu, one of the plaintiffs for a law-suit against Japanese government, and who had been asking for return of her money, had deposited money 12 times from 1943 to 1945, when she was a comfort woman, with a balance of 26,145 yen.

Mun Okchu claims that she had been taken from Pusan to Rangoon together with about one hundred to one hundred-fifty young women, to work as a prostitute for Japanese soldiers, and had deposited the tips she had received in the post office account.

**Note:** Calculated at today's value, this amount is equivalent to about 80 million yen (\$762,000 at 105 yen/dollar) --- November 1999 Showa History Institute periodical.

The General of the Japanese Imperial Army earned 6,600 yen per year, so Mun Okchu's annual earnings was about twice that of the General's. A private 2nd class earned as little as 72 yen per year.

原簿預払金調書 2-1

氏名 文原玉珠

年月日	種別	金額	残高				
月	日	百	十	千	百	十	円
43年	2月			5	0	0	
43年	2月						2
43年	7月			2	0	0	
43年	8月			5	5	0	
43年	9月			2	0	0	
43年	10月			2	0	0	
43年	11月			8	2	0	
43年	12月			9	5	0	
44年	1月			8	5	0	
44年	2月			2	5	0	
44年	3月			6	0	0	
44年	4月			5	5	0	
44年	4月			5	0	0	
44年	5月			1	0	0	
44年	9月			0	0	0	
44年	12月			6	6	0	
45年	1月			6	8	0	
45年	2月			2	2	0	
45年	3月			2	5	0	
45年	3月			2	2	0	
45年	3月			2	5	0	
45年	3月			2	2	0	
45年	3月			8	0	0	
45年	3月			8	2	0	
45年	3月			2	1	5	

原簿預払金調書 2-2

氏名 文原玉珠

年月日	種別	金額	残高				
月	日	百	十	千	百	十	円
45年	3月			1	2	6	2
45年	3月			1	2	1	2
45年	3月			1	2	6	5
45年	3月			1	4	1	8
45年	3月			1	4	7	5
45年	3月			1	5	3	2
45年	3月			1	5	9	3
45年	3月			1	6	5	6
45年	3月			1	5	6	6
45年	3月			1	6	2	2
45年	3月			1	6	2	2
45年	3月			1	2	6	2
45年	3月			5	0	1	0

上記貯金台帳の原本と照合致しません

平成 6年 5月 17日

池田 漢

# Historical Evidence 8: Korean Men Volunteered to Join the Japanese Army

- Documented evidence about Korean men volunteered for Japanese Army.
  - Korean men volunteered to join the Japanese army.
  - Japanese army was so popular that it was very competitive to get in (less than 10% acceptance rate).
  - There were Korean generals and officers in Japanese Army.

*If Japanese Army did enslave Korean women, would Korean men have volunteered to join the Japanese Army?*

*Mr Park Chung-hee, current President's father, was elected Korean President after serving in Japanese Army. Would Korean people have elected an ex-Japanese Army Officer to Korean Presidency if Japanese Army had enslaved Korean women?*

# Historical Evidence 9: Japanese Official Documentation Prohibits Forceful Recruitment

- **Army Memorandum 2197, issued on March 4, 1938**, explicitly prohibits recruiting methods that fraudulently employ in the army's name or that can be classified as abduction, warning that those employing such methods would be punished.
- **A Home Affairs Ministry Directive (number 77) issued on February 18, 1938**, states that the recruitment of "comfort women" must be in compliance with international law and prohibits the enslavement or abduction of women.
- **A Directive (number 136) issued on November 8, 1938**, moreover, orders that only women who are 21 years old or over and are already professionally engaged in the trade may be recruited as "comfort women." It also requires the approval of the woman's family or relatives.



# Historical Evidence 10: Japanese Police Arresting Human Trafficking in Korea



“Abducting a Girl – Selling her to Chinese Prostitution”

an article by Donga Daily, a major Korean newspaper, reported on 30 June 1933 an arrest by the police (under the authority of Japanese government-general of Korea) of a Korean human trafficking organization on 18 June, which was about to sell a girl to a Chinese brothel, and it notes that Japanese authority has increased police force in order to crack down on human trafficking.

「路上で少女略取。醜業中国人に売り渡し 金神通を売った男女檢舉 判明した誘拐魔の手段」東亜日報1933年6月30日付

# 民籍을 偽造

# 醜業을 強制

악마같은 유곽업자의 소행

犯人은 警察에 被逮

시대 서시현(西四軒町) 1백  
七十八번지 오(吳)씨(吳)이라  
는 자는 한남(韓南)이라 하는 상  
호를 가지고 창기 영업을 하는 중  
지를五日정(五日正) (山正)이라  
해서 박(朴)씨(朴)씨(朴)이라 하는  
새된 처녀를 三백五十원에 사다가

연령이 부족하여 영업을 할 수  
없으므로 박(朴)씨의 형인 박순  
남(朴順南)의 민지를 등본하여 다  
가 영업을 하기를 하려고 불려온다

On May 5 1933, Donga Daily reports the arrest by the police under Japanese authority of a Korean prostitute who bought a girl of underage at 350 yen and attempted to falsify her age to the legal age for prostitution using her brothers' family register. The newspaper reports that the perpetrator committed the same crime with other underage girls.

「民籍을 偽造 醜業을 強制 惡魔의 樣な 遊郭業者의 所業 犯人逮捕へ」 東亞日報 1933年 5月 5日

On December 4 1938, Donga Daily reports the police arrest under Japanese authority in Pusan of a Korean on the charge of abductions and sales of girls from respectable families to Manchuria, which included not only Korean but also Japanese girls. The perpetrator, a brothel dealer in Gunsan of age 38, abducted girls named Teiko, age 19, and Shizuka, age 17, on 15 November 1938, by luring them with employment opportunities in Manchuria. He attempted to falsify a warrant of attorney to sell them to a brothel.

「良家処女を誘引し、満州へ売却騙財」  
 ~釜山署、犯人逮捕」東亞日報1938年12月4日

良家處女誘引해서

滿州로賣却騙財

釜山署、犯人을逮捕

한... (Vertical text at the top of the article)

【釜山】점심경감부대장(許...)  
 山(釜山) 一... (Main body text of the article)

... (Continuation of the article text)

圓

眞가被逮

釜山署서犯人嚴調

... (Text in the bottom left section)

# 惡德紹介業者が跋扈

## 農村婦女子を誘拐

### 被害女性100名を突破한다

### 釜山刑事奉天에急行

釜山에서 100명 이상의 농촌 여성들이 일본인 소개업자에 의해 납치되어 일본으로 실려간다는 사실이 밝혀졌다. 이 소개업자들은 주로 부산, 울산, 대구 등지에서 활동하고 있다. 이들은 농촌 여성들을 유혹하여 일본으로 실려간 후, 그들을 강제 노동에 종사시키거나 성매매에 이용하고 있다. 이 사건은 일본군정 당국에 의해 조사되고 있다. 현재 부산경찰서에서 수사를 진행하고 있다.

惡德紹介業者에게

1. 釜山에서 100명 이상의 농촌 여성들이 일본인 소개업자에 의해 납치되어 일본으로 실려간다는 사실이 밝혀졌다. 이 소개업자들은 주로 부산, 울산, 대구 등지에서 활동하고 있다. 이들은 농촌 여성들을 유혹하여 일본으로 실려간 후, 그들을 강제 노동에 종사시키거나 성매매에 이용하고 있다. 이 사건은 일본군정 당국에 의해 조사되고 있다. 현재 부산경찰서에서 수사를 진행하고 있다.

Similarly, the police in Pusan under Japanese authority rescued over 100 victims who were abducted from farming villages by Korean human traffickers in 1939. Donga Daily reports "Corrupt Placement Agencies Rampant - Abducting Women and Girls in Farming Villages - Victims over 100." This article reports Korean traffickers selling both Korean and Japanese women and girls. Donga Daily, 31 August 1939.

「惡德紹介業者が跋扈。農村婦女子を誘拐。被害女性が100名を突破する～釜山の刑事。奉天へ急行」東亜日報1939年8月31日



Donga Daily, 15 March 1939 reports the police under Japanese authority formed a special investigation team to enquire into a recruitment agency linked to a brothel operator selling girls abroad.

「河允明誘惑事件波紋拡大 悪辣な遊郭業者 警察の救出を念慮 続々海外に転売 人事紹介所に検察のメス 特別調査隊編成内探」東亞日報 1939年3月15日

# 河允明誘惑事件波紋擴大

## 悪辣な遊郭業者

### 警察の救出を念慮

### 續々外國に転賣

### 人事紹介所に

### 検察のメス

### 特別調査隊編成内探

河允明誘惑事件の波紋が擴大し、悪辣な遊郭業者の警察の救出を念慮、續々海外に転賣する事態が露見した。人事紹介所に検察のメスが下され、特別調査隊が編成され、内探が行われている。

河允明誘惑事件の波紋が擴大し、悪辣な遊郭業者の警察の救出を念慮、續々海外に転賣する事態が露見した。人事紹介所に検察のメスが下され、特別調査隊が編成され、内探が行われている。

河允明誘惑事件の波紋が擴大し、悪辣な遊郭業者の警察の救出を念慮、續々海外に転賣する事態が露見した。人事紹介所に検察のメスが下され、特別調査隊が編成され、内探が行われている。

## Historical Evidence 11: Korean People had voting right and the right of representation in Japanese Diet

1. When Korea was annexed to Japan, Korean people had a voting right and the right of representation in Japanese Diet. They were legally Japanese citizens.

***Very unlikely that the democratically elected Japanese government would have a policy of enslaving part of its voters as sex slaves.***

2. In Korean Peninsula during Japanese rule, historical records indicate that approximately 80% of the local parliamentarians were Koreans, and many Koreans occupied high ranking positions in public institutions and the police. It is technically not feasible to carry out forced mobilization of Korean women.

3. Korean women were not coerced by Japanese military because the Korean Peninsula was not the battlefield and therefore Japanese military was NOT in Korea.

## Historical Evidence 12: Japanese Authority prohibited the forced prostitution

- 1944, a group of Dutch women was forced into sexual servitude by 11 Japanese military personnel in Sumalan, Indonesia.
- The Japanese military authority explicitly ordered to hire comfort women only upon their consent; these officers ignored the order.
- When a father of one of the Dutch women reported the incidence to the Japanese military authority, his plea was immediately accepted and the comfort station in question was ordered to close. This comfort station was in operation for two months in total.
- The perpetrators were all judged and found guilty.
- *An example of Japanese Authority prohibiting sex slavery*



## Historical Evidence 13: No Slavery in Japanese History

- In Japan's 2600 years of history, slavery never existed.
- It is not in the mentality of Japanese to enslave people.
- Suddenly do they decide to enslave women?  
Documented evidence from WWII indicates contrary.

# Interagency Work Group Report of 2007

Investigated Nazi War Crimes & Japanese Imperial Government Records

**8 years of extensive study (1999-2007)**

**Covered 8 million pages of classified US official documents and spent USD 30 million**

Published in April 2007 and reported to the US Congress

**Studied by: Department of the State, the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General, Director of the CIA, Director of the FBI, National Security Council, Director of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum**

- Objective was to uncover Japan's war crimes in Asia during the WWII
- **In the extensive search of classified US official documents, no documented evidence of sex slavery by Japan was found.**
- The report is available online

# Interagency Work Group Report of 2007

«Among the disappointed (of the result of this study) will be those who had hoped for a voluminous release of U.S. records relating to Japanese war crimes..... Many people around the world had hoped that the IWG would unearth records that would help them document Japanese atrocities. To these people, I state unequivocally that the IWG was diligent and thorough in its search for relevant records about war crimes in Asia. The IWG uncovered and released few Asian theatre records because few such U.S. records remained classified. Unclassified records were not under IWG jurisdiction.»

Steven Garfinkel, Acting Chair, January 2001-September 2006

Washington, April 2007

# Testimonies of Former Comfort Women

**Report “Testimonies of Forcefully Mobilized Korean Comfort Women”,** published in February 1993, by "Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan" or "**Chong Dae Hyup**" (Anti-Japanese Lobby).

**Dr. An Byong-jik**, then a Seoul University professor of Korean History (now professor Emeritus) and the head of this study group testified that they interviewed 40 ex-comfort women and only 19 testimonies were considered reliable. He commented in the report that some testimonies seem to be “deliberately distorting the facts”. The 19 testimonies were published in the report.

- Only four ex-comfort women claimed that they were forcefully taken away. One claimed to have worked in Pusan, Korea, and another in Toyama Prefecture, Japan; however, there was no comfort station there as they were not a battlefield.

# Testimonies of Former Comfort Women

- This report of ex-comfort women's testimonies were handed by the Korean Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Japanese counterpart.

*The most official report of Korea on ex-comfort women's testimonies is proven to have few reliable testimonies of forced mobilization.*

Dr. An Byong-jik, having witnessed the fabrication of stories by "**Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan**" or **Chong Dae Hyup (Anti-Japanese lobby)**, he discontinued his cooperation with the association.

Professor Ahn Byong Jik of Seoul University had discovered in 2013 a diary written by a Korean comfort station manager. Professor An Byong-Jik confirms that **Korean comfort women were recruited by Korean prostitution brokers, not by Japanese military.**

Several people had witnessed the scenes in which **Chong Dae Hyup** (anti-Japan lobby) coached former comfort women to say "I was abducted by Japanese military." (*The Comfort Women, Chunghee Sarah Soh, Univ. of Chicago Press, 2008.*)

- Professor An Byong-Jik of Seoul University who interviewed former Korean comfort women says, "When I first interviewed them, none of them had anything bad to say about Japanese military. In fact they all reminisced the good times they had with Japanese soldiers. But after **Chong Dae Hyup or "Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan"** confined them, their testimonies had completely changed." (*The Comfort Women, Chunghee Sarah Soh, 2008.*)

## What is Chong Dae Hyup (anti-Japan lobby) ?

- Members include North Korean spies (see the next slide)
- Considered by many in South Korea that Chong Dae Hyup is a North Korean Propaganda machine which tries to discredit Japan and prevents Japan-South Korea reconciliation, **thus weakening the military cooperation between South Korea, Japan and the US.**
- Initiator of Comfort Women statues in the US, which create fissures between Japan and the US, **thus weakens the US-Japan Security Alliance.**



The Link between Chong Dae Hyup or "Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan" and the North Korean spies and the creators of comfort women memorials.

- Yun Mihyang is the Chair Woman of Chong Dae Hyup, who is known to have North Korea connection.
- Building of Comfort Women statues is backed by Chong Dae Hyup.
- Members include several N. Korean spies.



# Reference for Further Readings

- Books are written by Korean academics on Comfort Women
- ***Comfort Women of the Empire***, by Park Yuha, Professor, Yonsei University, 2014, in Japanese.
- ***The Comfort Women***, by C. Sarah Soh, University of Chicago Press, 2008.

# PART II:

## How Did Comfort Women Controversy Started?

### CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

**1983** a book "*My War Crimes: Abduction of Korean Women*", by *Seiji Yoshida*, claiming he was a team leader of a Japanese military group which rounded up many Korean girls in Cheju Island to send them to comfort stations.

- Yoshida claimed it to be a true story but later disproved and discredited as a fiction

- **August 11, 1991, Asahi Newspaper** revealed a Korean ex-comfort woman, Kim Hak-sun, ***misreporting*** that she testified that she was removed from her home and forced to join the «Women's Volunteer Corps». (**First coming-out of an ex-comfort woman**)
  - However, in her petition to Japan, she clearly stated that she was sold by her mother for 40 yen to a Kisaeng school (for prostitutes) in Korea and later taken by her father-in-law to a comfort station in China.
  - «Women's Volunteer Corps» is a group of women who had been called to work at war-related factories. Not related to comfort women. But Asahi described it as if this is a group of comfort women.

**FIRST INCIDENT OF DELIBERATE FABRICATION OF COMFORT WOMEN ISSUE**

- **August 14, 1989**, Cheju Island News reported that after its interviews with locals, the story of Yoshida was **proved to be completely groundless** as no locals witnessed such forced mobilisation by Japanese Army.
  - But this report was largely ignored by the public.

- **January 11, 1992**, Asahi Newspaper reported : «an evidence of Japanese military involvement in the management of comfort stations was discovered»
  - The article stated: Professor Yoshiaki YOSHIMI of Chuo University found a document issued by the Ministry of Army, regarding the recruitment of comfort women.
    - The details of the order was not disclosed in the article.
    - Yoshimi called for «Official apology and reparation» to Japanese government.
    - Asahi reported of «forceful mobilization of Korean women, which counts between 80,000 to 200,000.»
  - Other researchers discovered : this was an order to enforce more rigorous selection procedure of private agencies recruiting comfort women, on the ground that some agencies have been recruiting women bordering on kidnapping. The order states «the Japanese military's honor is at stake.»
  - **This documentation indicates Japan's policy of prohibiting forceful recruitment of comfort women.**
  - **HOWEVER, THE PUBLIC BELIEVED ASAHIS CLAIM BECAUSE THE DISPROVAL CAME MUCH LATER**

The Japanese Ministry of Army sent an order to the chiefs of staff of Japanese armies stationed in Northern and Central China on 4 March 1938.

**Summary:** Certain private agents practice recruitment methods similar to abduction using the name of Japanese Army, and the Ministry called the chiefs of staff to ensure that such agents be kept clear of any recruitment process of Comfort Women by closely collaborating with the local police and the military police of the region, in order to avoid any misunderstanding with the local population and maintain the dignity and the honor of Japanese Army.

保存所	決定	決定	決定
決定	決定	決定	決定
委			
官	次	官	次
局長			
局長	局長	局長	局長
局長	局長	局長	局長
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局長	局長	局長	局長

陸支委  
副官長  
北支方面軍  
及中支駐屯軍  
考謀長  
宛通陸支委

支那事變地ニ於テ慰安所設置ノ爲内地ニ於テ之カ種業婦等ヲ募集スルニ當リ敢テ軍部諒解等ノ名儀ヲ利用シ烏ニ軍ノ威信ヲ傷ツテ且之ニ救済ノ誤解ヲ招ク虞アルヲ或ハ從軍記者慰問者等々トシテ不統制ニ募集シ社會問題ヲ惹起スル虞アルヲ或ハ募集ニ任セル者ノ人選適切ノ欵々爲ニ募集ノ方法誘拐ニ類シ警察當局ニ檢察ヲ取調ラ度ルモノアル等注意ヲ要スル也ノ少カクヤルニ就テ將來是等ノ募集等ニ當リテハ派遣軍ニ於テ統制シ之ニ任セル人物ノ選定ヲ周到適切ニシ其實施ニ當リテハ關係地方ノ憲

兵及警備官自トノ連繫ヲ密ニシ以テ軍ノ威信保持上地ニ社會問題上遺漏ナキ様配慮相成度休命通陸支委



- **January 13, 1992** – Then the Chief Cabinet Secretary, Mr Kouichi KATO, officially apologized to Korea *without corroborating the claim of Professor YOSHIMI of before-mentioned Asahi Article.*

*(Asahi published the article just before Jp Prime Minister's visit to Korea, thus not giving time to Japan for investigation.)*

- **January 17, 1992** – then the Prime Minister Kiichi MIYAZAWA visited South Korea and made 8 official apologies.
- **January 23, 1992** – Asahi reports YOSHIDA's claim «at least 950 women forcefully recruited»
- **February 17, 1992** – Japan Federation of Bar Association brings up the comfort women issue to the UN Human Rights Committee and ask for the UN intervention.
- **May 25, 1992** – Asahi reported that YOSHIDA would start «a journey of apology» to Korea – meaning apologies in front of Korean public

- **May 1992** – Professor Ikuhiko HATA, Chiba University, publish his research findings in Cheju Island and disproved YOSHIDA's testimony.
- **July 6, 1992** – Based on Professor HATA's findings, Japanese government conducts research on Japan's involvement in comfort women.
  - Chief Cabinet Secretary KATO, who previously apologized to Korea, confirmed «No evidence was found on forceful recruitment of women», «but military involvement in the management and supervision of comfort stations».
  - Discloses more than 100 official documents
- **August 12, 1992** – YOSHIDA visits Korea and apologize in front of Ms. Kim, the ex-comfort woman, who made the first coming-out.
- **December 25, 1992** – 10 ex-comfort women from Busan sue Japan
- **April 2, 1993** – 46 ex-comfort women from the Philippines sue Japan
- **April 5, 1993** - Song Sin-do, a Korean ex-comfort woman sue Japan



- **August 4, 1993 – KONO Statement** : then the Chief Cabinet Secretary Mr KONO officially recognizes Japanese Army's involvement in forced mobilization of comfort women.
  - The basis of this statement is the testimonies of 16 ex-comfort women, who were selected by Korean government.
  - Their testimonies were not disclosed to the public.
  - No counter-interrogation by Japanese government to these former comfort women were accepted by Korean government.
- **July 19, 1995** – Japan establishes Asian Women's Fund to provide reparations to ex-comfort women

## April 19, 1996: Coomaraswamy Report

- UN Human Rights Commission publishes «Coomaraswamy Report», and defines comfort women as «sex slaves», and declares it is the violation of human rights.
- **Basis of Her Argument:**
  - Testimonies of former comfort women (Several former comfort women confessed they told a lie to Special Rapporteur, Ms. Coomaraswamy, that they were abducted by Japanese Army. List of confessions available at: Professor Chunghee Sarah Soh's book, *The Comfort Women*.)
  - Yoshida Seiji's testimony (Later proven to be a fiction)

- **May 3, 1994** – Minister of , Mr Shigeto NAGATO, declares «comfort women are prostitutes». Upon severe criticisms from Asian nations, he resigns 4 days later.
- **August 31, 1994** – then the Prime Minister Tomiichi MURAYAMA makes a public apology regarding comfort women issue
- **January 24, 1995** - Japan Federation of Bar Association makes a recommendation to Japanese government to compensate former comfort women individually
- **May 2 and 9, 1996** - Magazine *Shukan Shincho* publishes its interview with YOSHIDA, in which he admits part of his testimony was a fabrication, especially the «place where he hunted comfort women» (Cheju island : no locals new of the incident)

- **March 9, 1997 - Former Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary, Mr Nobuo ISHIHARA, who was involved in drafting KONO Statement, revealed**
  - The statement was based mostly on the testimonies of former comfort women. But the authenticity of their testimonies was never verified.
  - There is a likelihood that the language of Kono Statement was coordinated with the Republic of Korea.
  - Political Compromise: He testified that Korea promised not to raise this issue again if Japan publicly declares the existence of forceful recruitment of comfort women, and that the Japanese Military was involved in this matter. And Japan accepted Korea's demand in the hope that this issue will be settled after the Kono Statement.

- **June 17, 1997** – former Chief Cabinet Secretary Mr KONO «no documentation testifying force mobilization of comfort women was found, but that does not mean there was no forced mobilization.»
- **August 1998** - McDougall Report supporting the Coomaraswamy Report was ratified in the Committee On The Elimination Of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- **August 1998** - Comfort Women Museum opens in Korea
- **October 1998** – Professor Ikuo HATA testifies that YOSHIDA admitted in their private conversation his work was a fiction, published in magazine «Shokun!», November edition.

- **30 July 2007 - US House of Representatives passed House Resolution 121, which asks Japan to apologize to former comfort women and state the issue in Japan's history textbooks.**
  - Initiated by Mr Mike HONDA, who cites as evidence
    - YOSHIDA's testimony, (Disproved)
    - Asian Women Fund, (Political gesture, not historical evidence)
    - Prime Ministers apologies, (Political gesture, not historical evidence)
    - KONO Statement (Later recognized to be a political compromise with Korea rather than a finding based on objective analysis)(Source: Feb. 25, 2007, *Reportage 2001*, 『報道2001』, a Japanese TV program.)
  - Mr Mike HONDA has been financed by and collaborate *with the Global Alliance for Preserving the History of WWII*, an anti-Japanese organization linked to the Chinese communist government

- **June 20, 2014** – Japanese government publishes *Background Review of the process in the announcement of KONO Statement*

*The review unveiled*

1. Exchange of views between Japan and ROK took place concerning preparation of the Kono Statement
2. The ROK repeatedly demanded inclusion of falsified verbiage implying direct involvement of the Japanese government regarding the comfort women recruitment. Such demands were rejected by the Japanese government, but allowed phrases which may be interpreted as its involvement.
3. **The Statement was fully drafted prior to hearings** from the Korean former comfort women of how they were recruited, and treatments received while providing their services.

- **August 5, 2014** – Asahi Newspaper published an official recognition that its articles relative to the testimony of Seiji YOSHIDA regarding «hunting of comfort women» were false, and announced its decision to withdraw these articles published between 1980s to 1990s.
- **25,768 Plaintiffs sued Asahi Newspaper for the defamation of Japan in March 25, 2015.** (*Asahi is a left-wing Japanese newspaper recruiting journalists from China and Korea every year.*)



## PART III:

# Comfort Women a Human Rights Issue?

Not likely – It is a POLITICAL ISSUE

Korea brings up only Japanese comfort women issue to the UN Human Rights Committee but keeps silence to its own forced prostitution and rapes, massacres which have abundant historical records.

**CASE 1:** Records indicate Korean government forced its own women to sexual servitude for the US military during the Korean War, which developed into law-suit in Korea. The plaintiffs show various records of forced servitude by the Korean government.

**CASE 2:** Abundant evidence indicates that Korean troops massacred and raped local women during Viet Nam War. **Lai Đại Hàn**, children born from these rapes are a serious issue that has not been resolved to date. No official compensation nor apology from Korea so far. No such children were born between Japanese Army and other nationals.

# Geopolitical Context

## EFFECTS OF COMFORT WOMEN ISSUE IN THE WORLD

- **Building of comfort women statues in the US, Canada, Australia, etc.** (Countries with which Japan is strengthening its security cooperation)

-> Anti-Japanese movements in the countries which have security cooperation with Japan.

- **US-Japan Security Treaty weakens**
- Japan Bashing increases in various countries
- Japan's isolation in the international community

-> **Who profits from this situation? Answer: CHINA.**

**It proposed to form an anti-Japanese coalition between Russia, China, Korea and the United States. (Proof in the next slide.)**

# *China's Grand Strategy Announced in Moscow*

At the trilateral security conference between Russia, China and Korea in Moscow in 2012, Guo Syangan, vice-president of the Chinese Institute of International Affairs of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced:

*The Voice of Russia (Russian national radio) reports:*

***“By consciously escalating the territorial disputes with its neighbors Japan showed that it does not recognize the results of World War II, stressed Guo Syangan. ... In his opinion, this is the reason why Japan must give up its claims not only for the South Kuril Islands, Dokdo (Takeshima) and Senkaku (Diaoyu) Islands, but also for Okinawa. Guo Syangan suggested forming a united anti-Japanese front that would include China, Russia and South Korea. The USA should also be included in the front in order to force Japan to recognize the results of World War II and give up its territorial claims to its neighbors.”***

*Ivanova, Irina. “China proposes a united anti-Japanese front.” The Voice of Russia, 15 Nov. 2012. Web.*

## In summary....

- China proposing an «anti-Japan» front to Russia, the US and South Korea.
- Mastermind in this story is China.
- Comfort Women issues, largely instigated by communists in North Korea, South Korea and Japan, aim to label Japan as «a country unwilling to admit its atrocities of WWII». When Japan refutes the sex slave theory, they label Japan as «growing nationalist» and «revisionist, imperialist», thus creating a fissure between Japan and the US, and with the rest of the world.

➡ Weakening Japan-US security alliance and isolate Japan in the international community.

➡ **Japan, without US military assistance, will not be able to defend Senkaku and Okinawa from China.**

➡ **China claiming these two territories as its own.**

# Why does China want Senkaku & Okinawa?

## Senkaku

- Located in midway between Taiwan and Japan. Important stronghold when defending Taiwan. If China controls Senkaku, the US cannot effectively send military forces to Taiwan.

## Taiwan

- Taiwan, without US military protection, falls in the hand of China
- Situated at the crossing of East China Sea and South China Sea
- Control of Taiwan gives free hand over the critically important military / sea lane connecting these two seas
- Controlling Taiwan gives the control of the East and South China Seas and the access to the Pacific Ocean, effectively breaking the containment line of Japan-Taiwan-the Philippines. Easy to attack Japan and the Philippines from Taiwan.
- Japan, having its life-line sea lane dominated by China, will kneel down to China and becomes China's puppet

## Okinawa

- One major access route to the Pacific Ocean is sailing between Okinawa and Miyako Island
- 74% of US force in Japan is based in Okinawa and ensures the security of East and South China Seas
- Half of the US power projection in the world comes from Okinawa. Eliminating US presence in Okinawa means break-down of US hegemony

## East Asia Hegemony

- **Eliminating US military presence from East Asia by dominating Okinawa and Senkaku**
- **China gains Hegemony of East Asia**

# Manipulating History

- China's intent: framing Senkaku and Okinawa as its own territories being dominated by Japan illegally since the WWII (*fabrication – Japan is the righteous owner of these islands*), and portrays Japan's rule of these islands as a proof that Japan is acting like imperialist from the WWII era, thus putting pressure on Japan to give up these islands – a case of manipulation of history. Comfort women issue is one of the tools to this end.
- Why use historical issues? – because the US cannot side with Japan regarding the WWII. (If sided with Japan, the US cannot justify dropping two atomic bombs and massacring over 100,000 civilians in Tokyo.) *China's aim is to alienate the US from Japan.*

# CONCLUSION

Comfort Women  
Issue

- Tool to defame Japan
- Isolate Japan internationally and alienate the US from Japan
- US-Japan Security Alliance nullified

China takes  
Okinawa and  
Senkaku

- Without US assistance, Japan cannot defend its territories against China
- Without US military support, much easier to take these strategically important islands from Japan

China establishes  
East Asia  
Hegemony

- Without Okinawa and Senkaku, the US cannot ensure its dominance of East Asia
- Effectively eliminating the US military presence from East Asia and establishing Chinese Hegemony in the region

# ANNEXES

1. US Army Report No 49 (original and transcribed versions)
2. English Translation of Comfort Women Articles by Korean Scholars  
October 26, 2014

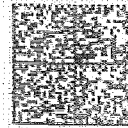


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Tony Marano

TX



NATIONAL  
ARCHIVES

July 11, 2013

Tony Marano

TX

Dear Mr. Marano:

This letter is in reply to your recent request to the National Archives for a copy of Japanese Prisoner of War Interrogation Report No. 49, which you saw posted on the Internet.

Per your request, we have enclosed a copy of the report, free-of-charge. It comes from Record Group 208 *Records of the Office of War Information*.

Sincerely,

Archives II Reference Section  
National Archives at College Park, MD

Classified *JM*

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION  
Psychological Warfare Team  
Attached to U.S. Army Forces India-Burma Theater  
APO 689

Japanese Prisoner of War Interrogation Report No. 49. Place interrogated: Lado Stockade Date interrogated: Aug. 20 - Sept. 10, 1944 Date of Report: October 1, 1944 By: T/3 Alex Torichi

Prisoners: 20 Korean Comfort Girls Date of Capture: August 10, 1944 Date of Arrival at Stockade: August 15, 1944

**SECRET**

PREFACE:

This report is based on the information obtained from the interrogation of twenty Korean "comfort girls" and two Japanese civilians captured around the tenth of August, 1944 in the mopping up operations after the fall of Myitkyina in Burma.

The report shows how the Japanese recruited these Korean "comfort girls", the conditions under which they lived and worked, their relations with and reaction to the Japanese soldier, and their understanding of the military situation.

A "comfort girl" is nothing more than a prostitute or "professional camp follower" attached to the Japanese Army for the benefit of the soldiers. The word "comfort girl" is peculiar to the Japanese. Other reports show the "comfort girls" have been found wherever it was necessary for the Japanese Army to fight. This report however deals only with the Korean "comfort girls" recruited by the Japanese and attached to their Army in Burma. The Japanese are reported to have shipped some 703 of these girls to Burma in 1942.

RECRUITING:

Early in May of 1942 Japanese agents arrived in Korea for the purpose of enlisting Korean girls for "comfort service" in newly conquered Japanese territories in Southeast Asia. The nature of this "service" was not specified but it was assumed to be work connected with visiting the wounded in hospitals, rolling bandages, and generally making the soldiers happy. The inducement used by these agents was plenty of money, an opportunity to pay off the family debts, easy work, and the prospect of a new life in a new land - Singapore. On the basis of these false representations many girls enlisted for overseas duty and were rewarded with an advance of a few hundred yen.

The majority of the girls were ignorant and uneducated, although a few had been connected with "oldest profession on earth" before. The contract they signed bound them to Army regulations and to work for the "house master" for a period of from six months to a year depending on the family debt for which they were advanced.

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Approximately 800 of these girls were recruited in this manner and they landed with their Japanese "house master" at Rangoon around August 20th, 1942. They came in groups of from eight to twenty-two. From here they were distributed to various parts of Burma, usually to fair sized towns near Japanese Army camps. Eventually four of these units reached the Myitkyina vicinity. They were; Kyoei, Kinsui, Bakushiro, and Momoya. The Kyoei house was called the "Maruyama Club", but was changed when the girls reached Myitkyina as Col. Maruyama, commander of the garrison at Myitkyina, objected to the similarity to his name.

PERSONALITY:

The interrogations show the average Korean "comfort girl" to be about twenty five years old, uneducated, childish, whimsical, and selfish. She is not pretty either by Japanese or Caucasian standards. She is inclined to be egotistical and likes to talk about herself. Her attitude in front of strangers is quiet and demure, but she "knows the wiles of a woman." She claims to dislike her "profession" and would rather not talk either about it or her family. Because of the kind treatment she received as a prisoner from American soldiers at Myitkyina and Ledo, she feels that they are more emotional than Japanese soldiers. She is afraid of Chinese and Indian troops.

LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS:

In Myitkyina the girls were usually quartered in a large two story house (usually a school building) with a separate room for each girl. There each girl lived, slept, and transacted business. In Myitkyina their food was prepared by and purchased from the "house master" as they received no regular ration from the Japanese Army. They lived in near-luxury in Burma in comparison to other places. This was especially true of their second year in Burma. They lived well because their food and material was not heavily rationed and they had plenty of money with which to purchase desired articles. They were able to buy cloth, shoes, cigarettes, and cosmetics to supplement the many gifts given to them by soldiers who had received "comfort bags" from home.

While in Burma they amused themselves by participating in sports events with both officers and men, and attended picnics, entertainments, and social dinners. They had a phonograph, and in the towns they were allowed to go shopping.

PRICE SYSTEM:

The conditions under which they transacted business were regulated by the Army, and in congested areas regulations were strictly enforced. The Army found it necessary in congested areas to install a system of prices, priorities, and schedules for the various units operating in a particular area. According to interrogations the average system was as follows:

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- |             |               |          |                  |
|-------------|---------------|----------|------------------|
| 1. Soldiers | 10 AM to 5 PM | 1.50 yen | 20 to 30 minutes |
| 2. NCOs     | 5 PM to 9 PM  | 3.00 yen | 30 to 40 minutes |
| 3. Officers | 9 PM to 12 PM | 5.00 yen | 30 to 40 minutes |

These were average prices in Central Burma. Officers were allowed to stay overnight for twenty yen. In Myitkyina Col. Maruyama slashed the prices to almost one-half of the average price.

SCHEDULES:

The soldiers often complained about congestion in the houses. On many occasions they were not served and had to leave as the army was very strict about overstaying leaves. In order to overcome this problem the Army set aside certain days for certain units. Usually two men from the unit for the day were stationed at the house to identify soldiers. A roving MP was also on hand to keep order. Following is the schedule used by the "Kyoel" house for the various units of the 18th Division while at Laymyo:

Sunday	-----	18th Div. Hdqs. Staff
Monday	-----	Cavalry
Tuesday	-----	Engineers
Wednesday	-----	Day off and weekly physical exam.
Thursday	-----	Medics
Friday	-----	Mountain artillery
Saturday	-----	Transport

Officers were allowed to come seven nights a week. The girls complained that even with the schedule congestion was so great that they could not care for all guests, thus causing ill feeling among many of the soldiers.

Soldiers would come to the house, pay the price and get tickets of cardboard about two inches square with the price on the left side and the name of the house on the other side. Each soldier's identity or rank was then established after which he "took his turn in line". The girls were allowed the prerogative of refusing a customer. This was often done if the person were too drunk.

PAY AND LIVING CONDITIONS:

The "house master" received fifty to sixty per cent of the girls' gross earnings depending on how much of a debt each girl had incurred when she signed her contract. This meant that in an average month a girl would gross about fifteen hundred yen. She turned over seven hundred and fifty to the "master". Many "masters" made life very difficult for the girls by charging them high prices for food and other articles.

In the latter part of 1943 the Army issued orders that certain girls who had paid their debt could return home. Some of the girls were thus allowed to return to Korea.

The interrogations further show that the health of these girls was good. They were well supplied with all types of contraceptives, and often soldiers would bring their own which

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had been supplied by the army. They were well trained in looking after both themselves and customers in the matter of hygiene. A regular Japanese Army doctor visited the houses once a week and any girl found diseased was given treatment, secluded, and eventually sent to a hospital. This same procedure was carried on within the ranks of the Army itself, but it is interesting to note that a soldier did not lose pay during the period he was confined.

REACTIONS TO JAPANESE SOLDIERS:

In their relations with the Japanese officers and men only two names of any consequence came out of interrogations. They were those of Col. Maruyama, commander of the garrison at Myitkyina, and Maj.Gen. Mizukami, who brought in reinforcements. The two were exact opposites. The former was hard, selfish and repulsive with no consideration for his men; the latter a good, kind man and a fine soldier, with the utmost consideration for those who worked under him. The Colonel was a constant habitue of the houses while the General was never known to have visited them. With the fall of Myitkyina, Col. Maruyama supposedly deserted while Gen. Mizukami committed suicide because he could not evacuate the men.

SOLDIERS' REACTIONS:

The average Japanese soldier is embarrassed about being seen in a "comfort house" according to one of the girls who said, "when the place is packed he is apt to be ashamed if he has to wait in line for his turn". However there were numerous instances of proposals of marriage and in certain cases marriages actually took place.

All the girls agreed that the worst officers and men who came to see them were those who were drunk and leaving for the front the following day. But all likewise agreed that even though very drunk the Japanese soldier never discussed military matters or secrets with them. Though the girls might start the conversation about some military matter the officer or enlisted man would not talk, but would in fact "scold us for discussing such un-lady like subjects. Even Col. Maruyama when drunk would never discuss such matters."

The soldiers would often express how much they enjoyed receiving magazines, letters and newspapers from home. They also mentioned the receipt of "comfort bags" filled with canned goods, magazines, soap, handkerchiefs, toothbrush, miniature doll, lipstick, and wooden clogs. The lipstick and clogs were definitely feminine and the girls couldn't understand why the people at home were sending such articles. They speculated that the sender could only have had themselves or the "native girls" in mind.

REACTION TO THE MILITARY SITUATION:

It appears that they know very little about the military situation around Myitkyina even up to and including the time of

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their retreat and capture. There is however some information worth noting;

\* "In the initial attack on Myitkyina and the air strip about two hundred Japanese died in battle, leaving about two hundred to defend the town. Ammunition was very low.

"Col. Maruyama dispersed his men. During the following days the enemy were shooting haphazardly everywhere. It was a waste since they didn't seem to aim at any particular thing. The Japanese soldiers on the other hand had orders to fire one shot at a time and only when they were sure of a hit."

Before the enemy attacked on the west air strip, soldiers stationed around Myitkyina were dispatched elsewhere to stem the Allied attack in the North and West. About four hundred men were left behind, largely from the 114th Regiment. Evidently Col. Maruyama did not expect the town to be attacked. Later Maj. Gen. Mizukami of the 56th Division brought in reinforcements of more than two regiments but these were unable to hold the town.

It was the consensus among the girls that Allied bombings were intense and frightening and because of them they spent most of their last days in foxholes. One or two even carried on work there. The comfort houses were bombed and several of the girls were wounded and killed.

RETREAT AND CAPTURE,

The story of the retreat and final capture of the "comfort girls" is somewhat vague and confused in their own minds. From various reports it appears that the following occurred; on the night of July 31st a party of sixty three people including the "comfort girls" of three houses (Baku-shinro was merged with Kinsui), families, and helpers, started across the Irrawaddy River in small boats. They eventually landed somewhere near Waingmaw. They stayed there until August 4th, but never entered Waingmaw. From there they followed in the path of a group of soldiers until August 7th when there was a skirmish with the enemy and the party split up. The girls were ordered to follow the soldiers after a three hour interval. They did this only to find themselves on the bank of a river with no sign of the soldiers or any means of crossing. They remained in a nearby house until August 10th when they were captured by Kachin soldiers led by an English officer. They were taken to Myitkyina and then to the Lado stockade where the interrogations which form the basis of this report took place.

PROPAGANDA:

The girls know practically nothing of any propaganda leaflets that had been used against the Japanese. They had seen a few leaflets in the hands of the soldiers but most of them were unable to understand them as they were in Japanese and the soldiers refused to discuss them with the girls. One girl

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remembered the leaflet about Col. Maruyama (apparently it was Myitkyina Troop Appeal), but she did not believe it. Others heard the soldiers discussing leaflets from time to time but no tangible remarks resulted from their eavesdropping. However it is interesting to note that one officer expressed the view that "Japan can't win this war".

REQUESTS:

None of the girls appeared to have heard the loudspeaker used at Myitkyina, but they did overhear the soldiers mention a "radio broadcast".

They asked that leaflets telling of the capture of the "Comfort girls" should not be used for it would endanger the lives of other girls if the Army knew of their capture. They did think it would be a good idea to utilize the fact of their capture in any droppings planned for Korea.

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APPENDIX "A"

Following are the names of the twenty Korean "comfort girls" and the two Japanese civilians interrogated to obtain the information used in this report. The Korean names are phoneticized.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
1. Shin Jyun Nimi	21	Keishonando, Shinshu
2. Kak Yonja	28	" Sanzenpo, Yumai
3. Pen Yonja	26	" Shinshu
4. Chinga Chunto	21	Keishohokudo, Taikyū
5. Chun Yonja	27	Keishonando, Shinshu
6. Kim Manju	25	Keishohokudo, Taikyū
7. Kim Yonja	19	" "
8. Kim Kenja	25	Keishonando, Hosen
9. Kim Sanni	21	" Kumboku
10. Kim Kun Sun	22	" Taikyū
11. Kim Chongi	26	" Shinshu
12. Pa Kija	27	" "
13. Chun Punyi	21	" Keisan Kur, Koyama I ur-
14. Koke Sunyi	21	" Kengo, Sakiboku Kyu Kuri
15. Yon Luji	31	Heiannando, Keijo
16. Opu Ni	20	" "
17. Kin Tonhi	20	Keikido, Keijo
18. Ha Tonyo	21	" "
19. Oki Song	20	Keishohokudo, Taikyū
20. Kim Guptogo	21	Zenranando, Koshu

Japanese Civilians:

1. Kitamura, Tomiko	38	Keikido, Keijo
2. " Eibun	41	" "

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**UNITED STATES  
OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION**

Psychological Warfare Team

Attached to

U.S. Army Forces

India-Burma Theater

APO 689

Japanese Prisoner  
of War Interrogation  
Report No. 49.

Place interrogated: Ledo Stockade

Date Interrogated: Aug. 20 - Sept. 10, 1944

Date of Report: October 1, 1944

By: T/3 Alex Yorichi

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The majority of the girls were ignorant and uneducated, although a few had been connected with "oldest profession on earth" before. The contract they signed bound them to Army regulations and to war for the "house master" for a period of from six months to a year depending on the family debt for which they were advanced ...

Approximately 800 of these girls were recruited in this manner and they landed with their Japanese "house master" at Rangoon around August 20<sup>th</sup>, 1942. They came in groups of from eight to twenty-two. From here they were distributed to various parts of Burma, usually to fair sized towns near Japanese Army camps.

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## PERSONALITY;

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## LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS;

In Myitkyina the girls were usually quartered in a large two story house (usually a school building) with a separate room for each girl. There each girl lived, slept, and transacted business. In Myitkyina their food was prepared by and purchased from the "house master" as they received no regular ration from the Japanese Army. They lived in near-luxury in Burma in comparison to other places. This was especially true of their second year in Burma. They lived well because their food and material was not heavily rationed and they had plenty of money with which to purchase desired articles. They were able to buy cloth, shoes, cigarettes, and cosmetics to supplement the many gifts given to them by soldiers who had received "comfort bags" from home.

While in Burma they amused themselves by participating in sports events with both officers and men, and attended picnics, entertainments, and social dinners. They had a phonograph and in the towns they were allowed to go shopping.

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These were average prices in Central Burma. Officers were allowed to stay overnight for twenty yen. In Myitkyina Col. Maruyama slashed the prices to almost one-half of the average price.

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certain days for certain units. Usually two men from the unit for the day were stationed at the house to identify soldiers. A roving MP was also on hand to keep order. Following is the schedule used by the "Kyoei" house for the various units of the 18<sup>th</sup> Division while at Naymyo.

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## MILITARY SITUATION;

"In the initial attack on Myitleyna and the airstrip about two hundred Japanese died in battle, leaving about two hundred to defend the town. Ammunition was very low.

"Col. Maruyama dispersed his men. During the following days the enemy were shooting haphazardly everywhere. It was a waste since they didn't seem to aim at any particular thing. The Japanese soldiers on the other hand had orders to fire one shot at a time and only when they were sure of a hit."

Before the enemy attacked on the west airstrip, soldiers stationed around Myitkyina were dispatched elsewhere, to storm the Allied attack in the North and West. About four hundred men were left behind, largely from the 114<sup>th</sup> Regiment. Evidently Col. Maruyama did not expect the town to be attacked. Later Maj. Gen. Mizukami of the 56<sup>th</sup> Division brought in reinforcements of more than two regiments but these were unable to hold the town.

It was the consensus among the girls that Allied bombings were intense and frightening and because of them they spent most of their last days in foxholes. One or two even carried on work there. The comfort houses were bombed and several of the girls were wounded and killed.

## RETREAT AND CAPTURE;

The story of the retreat and final capture of the "comfort girls" is somewhat vague and confused in their own minds. From various reports it appears that the following occurred: on the night of July 31<sup>st</sup> a party of sixty three people including the "comfort girls" of three houses (Bakushinro was merged with Kinsui), families, and helpers, started across the Irrawaddy River in small boats. They eventually landed somewhere near Waingmaw, They stayed there until August 4<sup>th</sup>, but never entered Waingmaw. From

there they followed in the path of a group of soldiers until August 7<sup>th</sup> when there was a skirmish with the enemy and the party split up. The girls were ordered to follow the soldiers after three-hour interval. They did this only to find themselves on the bank of a river with no sign of the soldiers or any means of crossing. They remained in a nearby house until August 10<sup>th</sup> when they were captured by Kaahin soldiers led by an English officer. They were taken to Myitleyina and then to the Ledo stockade where the interrogation which form the basis of this report took place.

## REQUESTS

None of the girls appeared to have heard the loudspeaker used at Myitkyina but very did overhear the soldiers mention a "radio broadcast."

They asked that leaflets telling of the capture of the "comfort girls" should not be used for it would endanger the lives of other girls if the Army knew of their capture. They did think it would be a good idea to utilize the fact of their capture in any droppings planned for Korea.

<End of Exhibit C>

This report corroborates well with writings by Hata(1999). The Korean women reported they were recruited by private sector agents with a promise of good income and prospect of a new life in a new land without any specific description of the nature of work, other than the work is related to provide services to the soldiers. Some were attracted by the possibility of being able to pay off their family debts. Hence they entered into an agreement by signing a contract to work for a House Master for a period of six months to a year, depending on the amount of advance payment received.<sup>23</sup>

The report goes on to say these women lived a rather luxurious life. They purchased clothes, shoes, cosmetics; all with their money received as gifts from soldiers. They enjoyed picnics and parties with soldiers, and were allowed to go shopping into town. The work hours were regulated from 10 AM to 12 PM, but Wednesdays were designated as holidays, and for medical checkups. In addition, women were allowed to refuse services

<sup>23</sup> U.S. Office of War Information (1944), p.1.in Exhibit D.

<http://scholarsinenglish.blogspot.com.au/> The original book: <http://goo.gl/StGsnZ>

**English Translation of Comfort Women Articles by Scholars**  
**October 26, 2014**

**Summary of Professor Park Yuha's Book "Comfort Women of the Empire"**



Professor Park Yuha

#### Preface

I first confronted the comfort women issue in 1991. It was near the end of my study in Japan. As a volunteer I was translating former Korean comfort women's testimonies for NHK. When I returned to South Korea, Kim Young-sam was the president, and Korean nationalism was on the rise. **The anti-Japan lobby "Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan" or "Chong Dae Hyup"** in Korean was gaining momentum. **Its leader said publicly it was determined to discredit Japan for the next 200 years.** I regained my interest in this issue in the early 2000's when I heard that Chong Dae Hyup was confining surviving comfort women in a nursing home called "House of Nanumu." The only time these women were allowed to talk to outsiders was when Chong Dae Hyup needed them to testify for UN interrogators or U.S. politicians. But I was allowed to talk to them one day in 2003. One of the women (Bae Chun-hee) told me she reminisced the romance she had with a Japanese soldier and the sorrow when he died in combat. She said she hated her father who sold her. She also told me that women there didn't like being coached by Chong Dae Hyup to give false testimonies but had to obey Chong Dae Hyup's order. When Japan offered compensation through Asian Women's Fund in 1995, about 60 former Korean comfort women defied Chong Dae Hyup's order and accepted compensation. Those 60 women were vilified as traitors. Their names and addresses were published in newspapers as prostitutes by Chong Dae Hyup, and they had to live the rest of their lives in disgrace. So the surviving women were terrified of Chong Dae Hyup and wouldn't dare to defy again.

### 1. The origin of comfort women

With Japan's victory in Sino-Japanese war (1894 - 1895) the Korean Peninsula was no longer under the control of China. As Japanese military personnels and male workers began to spend time in Korea, women (mostly from Nagasaki and Kumamoto poor families) followed to comfort them.

### 2. Korean comfort women

After Korea became part of Japan in 1910, ethnic Korean women (Japanese citizens) also became comfort women. By 1920's Japanese women along with Korean women traveled abroad to comfort Japanese men and ethnic Korean men there.

### 3. Comfort women and female troops

Although women were working as prostitutes, some of them accumulated enough savings to lend money and rent places for secret meetings to men who were fighting for the nation. That is why they were also called female troops (娘子軍) and they took certain pride in their contribution.

### 4. Comfort stations

Comfort women system was not created suddenly by Japanese military in 1930's. At first Japanese military licensed existing prostitution houses in Manchuria as comfort stations. As Japan advanced into China and Southeast Asia, more comfort stations were needed. So Japanese military commissioned prostitution brokers to recruit more women and create more comfort stations. Japanese brokers recruited Japanese women in Japan. They owned and operated comfort stations employing Japanese women. Korean brokers recruited Korean women in Korea. They owned and operated comfort stations employing Korean women. (See footnote \*3, \*4)

### 5. Two types of comfort women

There were two types of comfort women. (1) Japanese, Korean and Taiwanese women (all Japanese citizens) - They were not coerced by Japanese military. (2) Local women in the battlefields (Dutch women in Indonesia, Filipino women in the Philippines, etc.) These two types should have been treated differently. But when the comfort women became an issue in the early 1990's, all women who provided sex to Japanese military were treated uniformly, and that created a big confusion.

### 6. The Myth "Korean comfort women were coerced by Japanese military"

The Korean woman who first claimed this in the early 1990's belonged to Chongsindae during the war. Chongsindae (also called Teishintai in Japanese) was a group of teenage girls conscripted by Japanese military. They worked in factories to manufacture military equipments and uniforms. Since she was conscripted, she thought comfort women were

also conscripted. It wasn't that she fabricated the story. It was an innocent mistake on her part. When I examined initial testimonies of former Korean comfort women, none of them claimed she was coercively taken away by Japanese military. (Japanese military was NOT in Korea) But some of them were recruited on false pretenses by Korean brokers.

#### 7. The Myth "200,000 young girls were coerced by Japanese military"

Two hundred thousand was the number of factory workers conscripted. About 150,000 of them were Japanese and 50,000 were Koreans. Common misunderstanding in the West of "200,000 young girls were coerced by Japanese military" arose because Asahi Shimbun mistook factory workers for comfort women in August 11th, 1991 article. The estimates of comfort women numbers vary from 20,000 to 70,000 depending on the historians. Most comfort women were Japanese, Koreans and Taiwanese, and they were recruited by brokers, not by Japanese military. Most comfort women were not teenage girls but were in their 20's and 30's

#### 8. Japanese military and Korean comfort women

Korean comfort women worked in kimono using Japanese names. Lower ranked soldiers committing violence to women were punished by higher ranked officers. Korean comfort station owners exploiting Korean women were also punished. Comfort women attended sports events, picnics and social dinners with both officers and men. They were also allowed to go shopping in towns.

#### 9. Korean prostitution brokers

There is no evidence to support that Japanese military permitted Korean prostitution brokers to lie or use violence when recruiting Korean women or operating comfort stations. In fact there are documents which indicate that Japanese military sent orders to police in Korea to crack down on Korean brokers who engage in illegal recruiting. So if one wants to use the term "sex slaves" to describe former Korean comfort women, they were sex slaves of Korean brokers. They were not sex slaves of Japanese military. Japanese military personnels visited comfort stations only as customers. A diary written by a Korean comfort station manager was discovered in 2012, and it makes it clear that Korean brokers not only recruited women in the Korean Peninsula but also owned and operated comfort stations employing Korean women. And Korean women were treated badly by Korean brokers according to the memoir written by a former Korean comfort woman. Japanese and Taiwanese women worked at comfort stations owned and operated by Japanese brokers and were treated much better. That is why we hear little or no complaint from former Japanese and Taiwanese comfort women. Again, the common perception in the West that Japanese military operated comfort stations is incorrect.

#### 10. Japan-Korea Annexation Treaty of 1910

Official Korean representatives did sign the treaty, and treaty documents do exist. So this treaty is legally binding.

## 11. Japan-South Korea Treaty of 1965

1965 Japan-South Korea Treaty was concluded to decide how to distribute assets. Japanese government asked South Korean government during treaty negotiation to identify and separate individual claims from the treaty because Japanese government wanted to make sure victims received compensation by delivering compensation directly to them. South Korean government declined, accepted the entire sum of 800 million dollars in place of its citizens and spent all of it on infrastructures and so on. Therefore it is not reasonable for South Korean government to keep asking for additional compensation from Japan.

(Note: Korean victims recently sued South Korean government claiming that 300 million of the 800 million dollars were meant for them)

## 12. Kono Statement in 1993

Kono Statement did not acknowledge that Japanese military coerced them. Therefore, there is no need to revise Kono Statement.

## 13. Asian Women's Fund

Asian Women's Fund was established by Japanese government in 1995. (Compensation came with a letter of apology from Prime Minister of Japan) Although Korean women were not coerced by Japanese military and all individual claims were settled in 1965 Japan-South Korea Treaty, Japanese government still offered additional compensation to Korean women through Asian Women's Fund as a good gesture. Ironically every nation involved except South Korea accepted compensation through Asian Women's Fund and reconciled with Japan. (Note: South Korean government and Korean women wanted to accept Asian Women's Fund as well, but the anti-Japan lobby 'Chong Dae Hyup' threatened Korean women not to accept Japan's apology and compensation so that it could continue its anti-Japanese propaganda campaign. So most Korean women could not accept Japan's apology and compensation.)

## 14. Why has it been so difficult to resolve this issue only with South Korea?

The anti-Japan lobby Chong Dae Hyup opposed Asian Women's Fund, claiming it did not go through a legislation vote in the House. But considering all individual claims were settled in 1965 Japan-South Korea Treaty, a cabinet member decision was the best Japanese government could do. Chong Dae Hyup has had a very close relationship with North Korea. The real reason why Chong Dae Hyup opposed Asian Women's Fund was because it wanted to use the comfort women issue to block reconciliation between Japan and South Korea. Japan-South Korea discord is precisely what North Korea wants. The dynamics of South Korean politics is very difficult for foreigners to grasp.

## 15. World's view

Instead of reconciling with Japan by accepting Japan's apology and compensation, Chong Dae Hyup (= North Korea) and its U.S. affiliate KACE have appealed to the world by



dragging former Korean comfort women (now in their 80's and 90's) around the world as exhibitions. UN reports such as Coomaraswamy Report and U.S. House Resolution 121 were issued based solely on materials provided by the Korean lobby. Most Western media and scholars fell for Chong Dae Hyup's (North Korean) propaganda and believe "200,000 young girls including Koreans were coercively taken away by Japanese military." This view is not based on facts. And Korean women were not coerced by Japanese military because the Korean Peninsula was not the battlefield and therefore Japanese military was NOT in Korea. The comfort women issue remains only with South Korea because Chong Dae Hyup refuses to accept Japan's apology and continues to spread the false claim of "200,000 young girls including Koreans were coerced by Japanese military" throughout the world. Chong Dae Hyup is a very powerful special interest group in South Korea, and Korean politicians are scared to defy it. Chong Dae Hyup has no interest in the welfare of former Korean comfort women. Its goal is to discredit Japan and to block reconciliation between Japan and South Korea.

#### 16. Empires and comfort women

The United States has military bases all over the world. And wherever U.S. military bases are located, there are women who provide sex to U.S. military personnels. **It is ironic that the United States keeps coming up with resolutions to criticize Japan and comfort women statues keep going up in the U.S.**

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Footnote: Professor Park Yuha's book "Comfort Women of the Empire" was banned from publishing in South Korea. Professor Park is also being sued for defamation by anti-Japan lobby and receives death threats from time to time. In South Korea, government often uses anti-Japan lobby to hunt down people who speak out the inconvenient truth. It is now very difficult for Professor Park to publish anything in Korea without being persecuted, but her books can be purchased in other Asian countries.

<http://scholarsinenglish.blogspot.jp/2014/10/former-korean-comfort-woman-mun-oku.html>

(\*2) The following is a U.S. military report. Except for the part where it says "Japanese agents recruited women and Japanese housemasters operated comfort stations," this report is accurate. It should have said "ethnic Korean agents recruited Korean women and Korean housemasters operated comfort stations." **The U.S. military interrogator should have realized the ethnic Koreans (being Japanese nationals) used their Japanese surnames.**

<http://ww2db.com/doc.php?q=130>

(\*3) The following article reports that Professor Ahn Byong Jik of Seoul University had recently discovered a diary written by a Korean comfort station manager. Professor Ahn

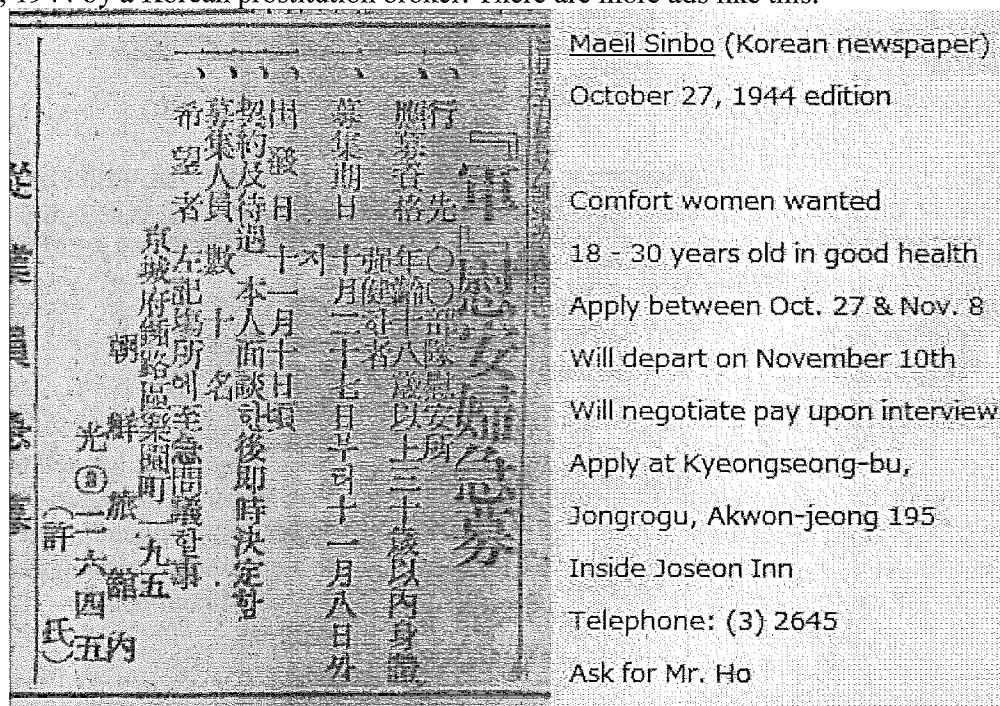
Byong Jik confirms in this article that **Korean comfort women were recruited by Korean prostitution brokers, not by Japanese military.**

<http://archive.today/1jcC4>

The Korean comfort station manager's diary (available only in Korean and Japanese) can be downloaded at the following site.

[http://www.naksung.re.kr/xe/index.php?mid=seupdate&document\\_srl=181713&ckattempt=1](http://www.naksung.re.kr/xe/index.php?mid=seupdate&document_srl=181713&ckattempt=1)

(\*4) The photo below is a recruitment ad in Korean newspaper Maeil Sinbo on October 27, 1944 by a Korean prostitution broker. There are more ads like this.



Maeil Sinbo (Korean newspaper)  
October 27, 1944 edition  
Comfort women wanted  
18 - 30 years old in good health  
Apply between Oct. 27 & Nov. 8  
Will depart on November 10th  
Will negotiate pay upon interview  
Apply at Kyeongseong-bu,  
Jongrogu, Akwon-jeong 195  
Inside Joseon Inn  
Telephone: (3) 2645  
Ask for Mr. Ho

(\*5) The photo below is a record of how much a typical Korean comfort woman made.

(\*6) The photo below is an article in Korean newspaper Dongailbo (동아일보 東亞日報) on August 31, 1939. It says, "**About 100 Korean women were abducted by Korean prostitution brokers but were rescued by Japanese military police.**" There are dozens of articles like this. (other articles)





(\*8) The photo below is an article in Korean newspaper Kyunghyang Shinmun (경향신문 京郷新聞) on June 6, 1977. It says that a female Korean prostitution broker trafficked dozens of Korean comfort women to Rabaul, Papua New Guinea to provide sex to Japanese soldiers there during World War II. It was common knowledge in South Korea until 1970's that Korean prostitution brokers recruited Korean comfort women and operated comfort stations, and no South Koreans contested that notion. Then Asahi Shimbun published a series of fabricated articles in 1980's falsely accusing Japanese military of abducting Korean comfort women. South Korean left (= North Korea) thought this was a great opportunity to discredit Japan and block reconciliation between Japan and South Korea. So it formed the anti-Japan lobby Chong Dae Hyup in 1990 and created the comfort women issue.

모든 뒷거래는 「관훈동요정」에서 이뤄져

상승을 불러오나 李萬福은 예사일  
 을 아니었다.  
 라바울마담의 안타까운 심정과는  
 아담못있는 수사는 급전전, 프가  
 대부들의 부정사건이 라바울마담의  
 요정에서 유출됐고 같은 수사관들  
 도 라바울마담의 죄와자랑에 휘둘  
 러 공판정판의 간사신이 드러났다.  
 드디어 주萬福은 피인계와 뇌물중  
 세를 떨쳐온 라바울마담을 보기 좋  
 게 구출하기의 능다. 이듬의  
 사건은 「萬福龍사건」이 막기되라  
 바울마담사건」으로 양리지기도  
 했다.

라바울마담은 일제강점기 일제강점  
 무관松家의 여점으로 수시명의 위  
 안부출 때리고 남태평양라바울유역  
 에까지 위안정당중 하나 라바울마  
 담이란 수천명의 일본 병사의 매관  
 이었다. 「萬福龍」은 그 일제강점  
 인연과정당명인 피구출대의 사  
 보장은 없고 (銀澤龍)의 죄악부  
 고부안과정당구출한 사상을 의미  
 소재전파 있다. 「萬福龍」의 사보  
 장에 자라판드는 있었지만 「만  
 향록인」고위관직을의 사보장은  
 작부 만스파티로 일었었다.  
 라바울마담의 수모는 「만향록」  
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【韓國通譯版】

1977.6.6 京郷日報

(\*9) The photo below shows the relationship between the anti-Japan lobby Chong Dae

Hyup (Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan) and North Korea.



Asahi Shimbun (left-wing Japanese newspaper with close ties to North Korea) published a series of fabricated articles on comfort women in 1980's. Based on these articles, the anti-Japan lobby Chong Dae Hyup was formed in South Korea in 1990. Then out of nowhere a woman named Kim Hak-sun came forward in 1991 and claimed she was abducted by Japanese military. There is clear evidence (recorded tapes) that suggests she was coached by Chong Dae Hyup to give false testimony. If Korean women were indeed abducted by Japanese military, it is rather odd that not a single woman claimed anything for over 45 years after the end of World War II. Former South Korean President Roh Tae-woo said in 1993 interview with Bungeishunju, "Asahi Shimbun created the comfort women issue out of nothing, provoked Korean nationalism and infuriated Korean people."

It is ironic that 99% of Westerners fell for Chong Dae Hyup's (North Korean) propaganda and believe 200,000 young girls including Koreans were coerced by

**Japanese military** while the majority of South Korean scholars (Professor Park Yuha of Sejong University, Professor Lee Yong-hoon of Seoul University, Professor Ahn Byong-jik of Seoul University, Professor Jun Bong-gwan of Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, Professor Han Sung-jo of Korea University, Professor Lee Dae-gun of Sungkyunkwan University, Professor Choi Kei-ho of Kaya University, Professor Oh Seon-hwa of Takushoku University, Professor Chunghee Sarah Soh of San Francisco State University, etc.) **and a good number of South Korean public agree that Japanese military did not coerce Korean women** and that the number of women (Dutch and Filipino) coerced by Japanese military was less than a hundred. Westerners must realize that **North Korean and Chinese operatives are using the comfort women issue to drive a wedge into U.S.-Japan-South Korea security partnership.**

Posted by Pursuit of Truth Institute at 12:15 PM 1 comment:  
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October 24, 2014

**"The Comfort Women" by Professor C. Sarah Soh**

Professor Chunghee Sarah Soh was born in South Korea and graduated from Sogang University there. She received her Ph.D. in anthropology from University of Hawaii. She is a professor of anthropology at San Francisco State University.



Professor Chunghee Sarah Soh

Professor Chunghee Sarah Soh's book "The Comfort Women" is available on Amazon.  
<http://www.amazon.com/The-Comfort-Women-Postcolonial-Sexuality/dp/0226767779>

The following is an excellent book review.  
<http://www.japantimes.co.jp/culture/2009/05/10/books/book-reviews/continuing-controversy-of-comfort-women/#.VLzLMpX9mcx>

In this book, Professor Soh criticizes the South Korean activist group "Korean Council" (also known as Chong Dae Hyup) for spreading North Korean propaganda and using the comfort women issue to block reconciliation between Japan and South Korea. She insists that Korean society must repudiate victimization, admit its complicity and accept that the system was not criminal. She also argues that the case of a small number of Dutch and Filipino women who were coerced by lower ranked Japanese soldiers in the battlefields was an anomaly, and that most women (Japanese, Korean and Taiwanese) were recruited and employed by prostitution brokers.

The following is an excerpt from her book "The Comfort Women." (Pages 10 - 11)



By 1920 some Korean women had become "overseas prostitutes." Those who worked at a restaurant in Sapporo, Japan, became what Yun Chŏng-ok calls "industrial comfort women," serving Korean men who worked there.<sup>43</sup> When the adult entertainment business in Korea suffered as a result of the Great Depression of the 1920s, female workers and business owners migrated to China. By the late 1920s the capital of colonial Korea, Kyŏngsŏng, was home to four pleasure quarters, which employed a total of 4,295 prostitutes.<sup>44</sup> By the mid-1930s 45 percent of Koreans had become infected with syphilis, compared to 15 percent of the French.<sup>45</sup> Beginning in the early 1930s many Korean women were sold overseas to labor as prostitutes. *Dong-a Ilbo*, one of Korea's major daily newspapers dating from the colonial days, reported on December 2, 1932, that about a hundred women a month were sold for 40 to 50 wŏn to brothels in Osaka, Hokkaido, Sakhalin, and Taiwan; this report, in hindsight, seems to predict the large-scale mobilization of Korean women to serve the troops through the 1930s up to 1945. In fact, the survivors' testimonials amply illustrate that during the war Korean men and women actively collaborated in the recruitment of young compatriots to service the Japanese military and also ran comfort stations. For young, uneducated women from impoverished families in colonial Korea, to be a victim of trafficking became "an ordinary misfortune" in the 1930s.<sup>46</sup> Amid widespread complicity and indifference to young women's plight, the adult entertainment business in Korea began to recover after the start of the Second Sino-Japanese War in 1937, and it flourished until early 1940.

When the war effort intensified in the early 1940s, however, many adult entertainment establishments had to close down, and by 1943 it was practically impossible to run such a business. This encouraged some brothel owners to seek their fortune abroad, including in Taiwan and occupied territories in the Southeast Asia. As Song Youn-ok noted, had there not been a "widespread network of traffic in women used in the state-managed prostitution system, the mobilization of Korean comfort women would have been a very different process."<sup>47</sup> Under grinding poverty, working-class families in colonial Korea sold unmarried daughters for 400–500 wŏn for a contractual period of four to seven years. The parents received 60–70 percent of the money after various expenses involved in the transaction had been deducted, such as the mediator's fee, clothing, document preparation, transport, and pocket money.<sup>48</sup> Kim Sun-ok, who labored at a comfort station in Manchuria for four years, recalled:

I had no childhood. I was sold four times from the age of seven. As soon as I returned to my home in P'yŏngnam from Simŭn after pay-



In this excerpt it says, "By 1920 some Korean women had become overseas prostitutes. Beginning in the early 1930's many Korean women were sold overseas to labor as prostitutes. Dong-a-Ilbo, one of Korea's major daily newspapers dating from the colonial days, reported on December 2, 1932, that about a hundred women a month were sold to brothels in Osaka, Hokkaido, Sakhalin and Taiwan; this report predicted the large-scale mobilization of Korean women to serve the troops through the 1930's up to 1945. In fact, survivors' testimonials amply illustrate that during the war Korean men and women actively collaborated in the recruitment of young compatriots to serve the Japanese military and also ran comfort stations." In an interview with Professor Chunghee Sarah Soh of San Francisco State University, a former Korean comfort woman Kim Sun-ok said that she was sold by her parents four times.

Yet she testified in front of UN interrogator Radhika Coomaraswamy that she was abducted by Japanese military.



Kim Sun-ok



In an interview with Professor Park Yuha of Sejong University in South Korea, a former Korean comfort woman Bae Chun-hee said that she hated her father who sold her.

Yet she testified in front of UN interrogator Radhika Coomaraswamy that she was abducted by Japanese military.

Bae Chun-hee



A former Korean comfort woman Mun Oku-chu said in her memoir:

"I was recruited by a Korean prostitution broker. I saved a considerable amount of money."

According to Professor Chunghee Sarah Soh's book, Mun Oku-chu continued to work as a prostitute in Korea after the war.

Yet she testified in front of UN interrogator Radhika Coomaraswamy that she was abducted by Japanese military.



Mun Ok-chu



In an interview with Korean newspaper The Hankyoreh (the article was published on May 15th, 1991) a former Korean comfort woman Kim Hak-sun said that she was sold by her mother.

In an interview with Professor Chunghee Sarah Soh of San Francisco State University, Kim Hak-sun said that her mother sent her to train as a Geisha in Pyongyang before she sold her.

Yet she testified in front of UN interrogator Radhika Coomaraswamy that she was abducted by Japanese military.



Kim Hak-sun

◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇

In an interview with Professor Ahn Byong Jik of Seoul University, a former Korean comfort woman Kim Gun-ja said that she was sold by her adoptive father.

Yet she testified in front of UN interrogator Radhika Coomaraswamy that she was abducted by Japanese military.

Kim Gun-ja also testified in front of United States House Committee on Foreign Affairs in 2007 and said she was abducted by Japanese military.



Kim Gun-ja

◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇

In an interview with Professor Ahn Byong Jik of Seoul University, a former Korean comfort woman Lee Yong-soo said that she and her friend Kim Pun-sun were recruited by a Korean prostitution broker.

In an interview with Professor Chunghee Sarah Soh of San Francisco State University, Lee Yong-soo said, "At the time I was shabbily dressed and wretched. On the day I left home with my friend Pun-sun without telling my mother, I was wearing a black skirt, a cotton shirt and wooden clogs on my feet. You don't know how pleased I was when I received a red dress and a pair of leather shoes from a Korean recruiter."

Yet she testified in front of UN interrogator Radhika Coomaraswamy that she was abducted by Japanese military.

Lee Yong-soo also testified in front of United States House Committee on Foreign Affairs in 2007. She was told that she had five minutes to speak. She ignored the instruction and went on for over one hour putting on a performance of crying and screaming. Her false testimony resulted in the passage of United States House of Representatives House Resolution 121.



Lee Yong-soo

◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇

In an interview with Professor Ahn Byong Jik of Seoul University, a former Korean comfort woman Kim Ok-sil said that she was sold by her father.

In an interview with Professor Chunghee Sarah Soh of San Francisco State University, Kim Ok-sil said that her father sent her to train as a Geisha in Pyongyang before he sold her.

Yet she testified in front of UN interrogator Radhika Coomaraswamy that she was abducted by Japanese military.

◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇

In an interview with Professor Ahn Byong Jik of Seoul University, a former Korean comfort woman Kil Won-ok said that she was sold by her parents.

In an interview with Professor Chunghee Sarah Soh of San Francisco State University, Kil Won-ok said that her parents sent her to train as a Geisha in Pyongyang before they sold her.

Yet she testified in front of UN interrogator Radhika Coomaraswamy that she was abducted by Japanese military.



Kil Won-ok



Several people had witnessed the scenes in which Chong Dae Hyup (anti-Japan lobby) coached women to say "I was abducted by Japanese military."

Professor Ahn Byong Jik of Seoul University who interviewed former Korean comfort women says, "When I first interviewed them, none of them had anything bad to say about Japanese military. In fact they all reminisced the good times they had with Japanese soldiers. But after Chong Dae Hyup confined them, their testimonies had completely changed."



Korean women were not abducted by Japanese military because the Korean Peninsula was not the battlefield and therefore Japanese military was **NOT** in Korea. (Korean prostitution brokers recruited Korean women in Korea and operated comfort stations in the battlefields) Japan apologized and compensated, and Netherlands, Indonesia, the Philippines and Taiwan had all accepted Japan's apology and reconciled with Japan. So there are no comfort women issues between those nations and Japan. The comfort women issue remains only with South Korea because Chong Dae Hyup refuses to accept Japan's apology and continues to spread the false claim of "200,000 young girls including Koreans were abducted by Japanese military" throughout the world.

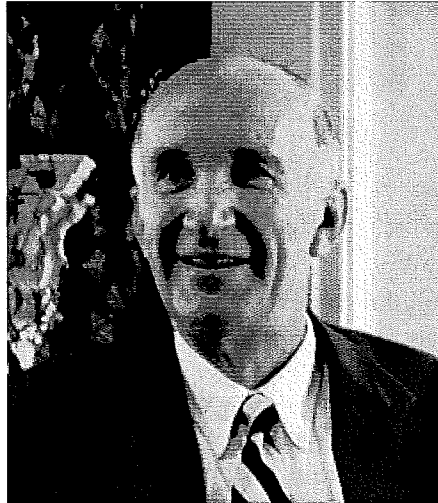
Posted by Pursuit of Truth Institute at 10:30 PM No comments:  
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**October 23, 2014**

**What Is Behind South Korea's Criticism On Comfort Women Issue**

The following is a summary English translation of Professor James E. Auer's op-ed in Sankei Shimbun on October 22, 2014. Dr. Auer is an emeritus professor of international relations and public policy at Vanderbilt University.

The original post: <http://www.sankei.com/column/news/141022/clm1410220001-n1.html>



Professor James E. Auer

It is not surprising that China criticizes Japan because China is under Communist Party dictatorship. But why did South Korea begin to criticize Japan in the 1990's? and insists Japan's apology and compensation were not enough.

When the allied forces prosecuted war criminals, the comfort women system never became an issue because the U.S. military reports concluded with testimonies from Korean women that they either volunteered or were sold by their parents to Korean prostitution brokers.

Let us verify some facts.

1) Past and present, there were/are women who got/get into prostitution unwillingly. But prostitution is not slavery.

2) The comfort women system was not illegal in Japan's eyes in 1930's, and the allied forces didn't think it was illegal, either.

3) Korean government established comfort women system for U.S. troops in 1970's. Koreans for some reason think coercion and confinement took place in Japan's system but not in Korea's system.

4) If Japanese government or people tried to get facts out, the international community would perceive that effort as revisionism.

5) In August, Asahi Shimbun published retraction articles admitting it falsely reported on abduction in Jeju Island. Asahi also admitted it mistook factory workers for comfort women, which inflated the number of comfort women. Many Westerners praised Asahi for admitting its mistakes. However, what they failed to realize was Asahi told more lies in its retraction articles, which infuriated Japanese public. Westerners mistook mainstream Japanese's disgust toward Asahi for right wing's bashing on Asahi.

**When Japan apologized for what it did during the war, its sincerity was backed by 50 odd years of good behavior.**

**In 1998, South Korean president Kim Dae-jung accepted apology from Japan's Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi and promised South Korea would never bring up the comfort women issue again. But subsequent Korean presidents have annulled Kim's gesture and used nationalism to bolster their low approval ratings.**

Footnote: The following is a U.S. military report. Under 'Recruiting' this report misrepresents ethnic Korean agents and house masters using Japanese surnames as Japanese agents and house masters. (Ethnic Koreans were Japanese citizens at the time, so in that sense they were Japanese)

<http://ww2db.com/doc.php?q=130>

The following is excerpts from Korean comfort woman Mun Oku-chu's memoir. Her memoir is consistent with the U.S. military report.

<http://scholarsinenglish.blogspot.jp/2014/10/former-korean-comfort-woman-mun-oku.html>

Posted by [Pursuit of Truth Institute](#) at 8:37 AM No comments:  
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October 19, 2014

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October 18, 2014

**"Comfort Women of the Empire" Reviewed by Professor Jun BongGwan**

The following is a summary English translation of Professor Jun BongGwan's review of the book "Comfort Women of the Empire." Dr. Jun is a professor of Korean Literature at Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology. The review was published on July 20, 2014 in Korea's leading newspaper ChosunIlbo. The original article is shown at the

bottom.



Professor Jun BongGwan

After reading the book, I was a little bit disappointed because there was nothing in the book that I didn't know. We all knew that Korean comfort women were not coercively taken away by Japanese military. Japanese military commissioned Korean prostitution brokers to recruit women in the Korean Peninsula and operate comfort stations in the battlefields. Japanese military was busy fighting all over Asia, and it certainly didn't have time to be in Korea recruiting women.

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**October 17, 2014**

Posted by Pursuit of Truth Institute at 12:32 PM No comments:  
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**October 16, 2014**

**Former Korean Comfort Woman Mun Oku-chu's Memoir** The following is a English translation of excerpts from a former Korean comfort woman Mun Oku-chu's memoir.

The original memoir: <http://goo.gl/sI8Ett>





Ms. Mun Oku-chu

Posted by [Pursuit of Truth Institute](#) at 4:16 AM No comments:

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Maire d'Osaka  
Sindaco di Osaka  
Alcalde de Osaka

MAYOR OF OSAKA  
CITY HALL  
OSAKA, JAPAN

오사카시장  
Oberbürgermeister von Osaka  
Mey Osaka  
Prefeito de Osaka  
August 27, 2015

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PSNS, Leg  
Pip  
CPASCA

Dear Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco,

I would like to notify you that I have read the "Resolution Urging the Establishment of a Memorial for 'Comfort Women'" currently pending in the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

I am aware that this resolution is still under deliberation, and will be referred to the committee for further consideration, and presumably there will be a public meeting in which public opinions will be openly expressed. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to express my thoughts at this moment as the mayor of one of your sister cities.

Please allow me to respond to your resolution in detail in the form of an open letter, so that the citizens of San Francisco can directly read the letter and understand my views. I hope that this may be of some use during the decision-making process.

**We must bring about efforts to strive for a world where the dignity and human rights of women, both having universal value, are protected on the battlefield as well**

In today's 21<sup>st</sup> century, women's dignity and human rights have been recognized as having universal value. This is indeed an enormous achievement made by humankind. However, in reality, the issue of violations of the dignity of women by soldiers has not been eradicated. We must strive for a future where women's rights are respected all over the world.

What is essential for that purpose is to directly face what has happened in the past and what is happening right now. Each nation in the world, including Japan, should squarely face the past violations of women's rights on the battlefield by its own soldiers. Each nation and its citizens should come together, be fully determined not to repeat the same mistakes in the future, bring about efforts to protect the dignity of women who are under threat in areas of regional conflict in the present-day world, and create a future where women's rights are respected all over the world.

I am in favor of activities to protect the dignity and human rights of women. However, if the purpose is to protect the human rights of women, I would suggest that some of the special attention currently being given to Japan's "comfort women" issue should be broadened to memorialize all the women who have been sexually assaulted and abused by soldiers of countries in the world, and should represent a pledge to the world that we will never allow the same offense and tragedy to happen again.

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The violation of the dignity of women by soldiers during wartime is a common problem in many parts of the world. Each nation in the world, including Japan, should address this unacceptable problem as a "common" issue for human beings. It is also an undeniable historical fact that troops of countries around the world as well as those of wartime Japan used women for sexual purposes on the battlefield. It is regrettable that even to this day, there are many news reports on women and children being sexually abused on the battlefield.

**Reject the denial of the "comfort women" issue; expressing understanding and remorse towards the indescribable pain and suffering inflicted on "comfort women"**

It goes without saying that the use of "comfort women" by Japanese soldiers before and during World War II was an unforgivable act that violated the dignity and human rights of women. I am aware that the great pain inflicted on those who were forced to work as "comfort women" against their will and the deep emotional scars they have borne afterwards are beyond description.

Therefore, I am not on the side of any attempts to justify Japan's "comfort women" issue in any sense, nor do I intend to do so in the future. Japan must express deep remorse and offer a sincere apology to former "comfort women," and show determination not to repeat the same mistakes and tragedies in the future.

**However, trivializing the issue by singling out Japan will not lead to resolving it as a global issue**

On the other hand, the issue of sex on the battlefield is not a problem particular to the former Japanese army. This problem was present during World War II with the American, British, French, German, and Soviet armies, as well as during the Korean War and Vietnam War with the South Korean Army.

I have no intention to legitimize or defend the problem of "comfort women" by the former Japanese Army just because the other countries have had the same issue. Still, attempts to single out and criticize only Japan will make us blind to other past atrocities and also to contemporary problems of the same kind. This issue should not be treated as an issue specific solely to the Japanese military. As long as widespread sexual problems on the battlefields by countries other than Japan are not openly recognized, past offenses, which the whole world must face, will go uncorrected, and those violations in other parts of the world will not be resolved. This is my biggest concern.

Counterargument for Japan's case being called "exceptional"

There are two reasons behind why Japan's comfort women issue is called "exceptional." One is the change in attitude by the Republic of Korea, and the other is the clever development of their argument to persuade people to accept mistaken notions as true.

Firstly, the change in attitude by the Republic of Korea is a big factor. Disputes between Japan and the Republic of Korea from the colonial period have already been resolved through signing the Treaty on Basic Relations between Japan and the Republic of Korea and Agreement between Japan and the Republic of Korea Concerning the Settlement of Problems in Regard to Property and Claims and Economic Cooperation. However, the Republic of Korea has recently claimed that the "comfort women" issue has not been included in the agreements.

There is a big difference in acknowledgement between the two countries with regard to legal responsibilities. From Japan's standpoint, the government acknowledges that they have inflicted indescribable suffering on "comfort women," but believes that the issue has been resolved with the signing of treaties, and therefore does not need to accept further legal responsibility, whereas the Republic of Korea disagrees because they do not believe the legal disputes were resolved by the peace treaties.

I agree that Japan bears moral responsibility in global society. However, with the Japanese Government having already provided the appropriate compensations according to the above treaties, as well as from an international law standpoint, it is unrealistic to expect Japan to take on any further legal responsibility for this issue.

If there are exceptional cases in which we could hold people accountable, then it should be for "incomparable" acts of genocide or crimes against humanity such as the Holocaust, where individuals involved would be charged for committing such war crimes, with no statutes of limitation.

It is similar to what is stated in the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 of 2000, Article 11, which emphasizes the need to exclude "genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes...from amnesty provisions" indicating the need to prosecute those responsible without statutes of limitations or regardless of treaties.

In recent years, the Korean side has strengthened its criticisms now, repeatedly claiming that Japan's "comfort women" issue involves a crime against humanity.

This leads to the second factor, which is the clever development of their argument to emphasize the "comfort women" issue as if it were an act of genocide or crime against humanity, when it is not. There seem to be activists and reports that argue

that the use of “comfort women” during wartime is an act of genocide or crime against humanity, but these are not correct.

If we focus on the argument that the “comfort women” issue is genocide or a crime against humanity, then the accuracy of the terminology in the inscription of the “comfort women” memorial, such as “kidnapped by the Imperial Japanese Army,” “forced into sexual slavery,” and “200,000” women and young girls, is an important point to clarify. To seek the true nature of the problem, there needs to be some verification regarding the inhumane treatment of “comfort women,” including further investigation on whether the state authority of Japan was systematically involved in the coercive recruitment of “comfort women.” It is obvious that these terms are not accurate, from the information that was recently made public and in the light of other actively debated topics.

To give an example, the Coomaraswamy Report (submitted in 1996 by Ms. Radhika Coomaraswamy, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women to the UN Commission on Human Rights) states that “comfort women” were “military sex slaves.” The testimony of Seiji Yoshida is used as evidence, in which he states that he had “taken part in the slave raids where as many as 1,000 women were obtained for ‘comfort women’ duties.” Yoshida himself has acknowledged that his testimony had been fabricated, and the Asahi Shimbun, which had been reporting on the “comfort women” issue, also concluded Yoshida’s testimony as false on August 5, 2014 and retracted a series of articles that said many Korean women were “forcibly taken away” to become “comfort women.” This caused a big controversy in Japan and is still fresh in our memories.

Against this backdrop, in October 2014, the Japanese Government requested that part of the Coomaraswamy Report (the portion based on Yoshida’s falsified testimony which stated that the Imperial Japanese Army had forcibly taken away “comfort women” from the Republic of Korea) be retracted, but was rejected because Coomaraswamy argued that Yoshida’s testimony was only one part of the evidence. In addition, the Coomaraswamy Report uses *The Comfort Women* written by the journalist George Hicks as the main source of reference; however, researchers have pointed out that this book lacks sufficient evidence.

The Coomaraswamy Report itself is a 50-page-long report on violence against women. The “comfort women” issue is mentioned in the “Report on the mission to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the Republic of Korea and Japan on the issue of military sexual slavery in wartime,” which is one of the two documents attached to the report. The United Nations Commission on Human Rights adopted a 6-page resolution called “The Elimination of Violence against Women,” which uses Coomaraswamy’s special report as a reference. The resolution states that it “welcomes” the work of the Special Rapporteur. However, it only “takes note” of the attached document, which means that the document was not highly evaluated enough to be “welcomed.” If the Coomaraswamy report had been appreciated at the

highest level, the resolution would have "commended" it. Therefore, we can conclude that the UN Commission on Human Rights does not "endorse" the notion that "comfort women" were "sex slaves."

Let me show you another example. During World War II, according to the high school world history textbook *Traditions & Encounters: A Global Perspective on the Past*, published by McGraw-Hill, a major U.S. textbook publisher, "the Japanese army forcibly recruited, conscripted, and dragooned as many as two hundred thousand women age fourteen to twenty to serve in military brothels, called 'comfort houses' or 'consolation centers,'" "others were killed by Japanese soldiers, especially if they tried to escape or contracted venereal diseases," and "at the end of the war, soldiers massacred large numbers of comfort women to cover up the operation." The textbook contains many false statements like these that have been introduced in classroom environments as if they were true, even though they are based on the wrong perception and completely contrary to fact. When the Japanese Government asked McGraw-Hill to retract these statements as they contained serious factual errors, the author responded that this request was "an infringement on his freedom of speech and academic freedom." This is simply wrong. It is he who criticizes the individual pointing out the factual errors who is the one infringing on the freedom of speech and academics.

On May 5, 2015, American scholars remarked in their "Open letter in support of historians in Japan" statement, "Among the many instances of wartime sexual violence and military prostitution in the twentieth century, the 'comfort women' system was distinguished by its large scale and systematic management under the military, and by its exploitation of young, poor, and vulnerable women in areas colonized or occupied by Japan." However, this is not an issue of scale, nor is it one of whether or not there was systematic management by the military. We must approach this issue as a "common" problem regarding the human rights of women by military groups from countries all over the world regardless of the scale or systematic management. If people do not squarely face what was done by their own countries, treating the issue as a problem unique to Japan, it will only cause us to avert our eyes from the pain and suffering experienced by young, poor and vulnerable women in other parts of the world.

In addition, the "comfort women" issue is often regarded as the same kind of problem as the Holocaust. However, the Holocaust was an unprecedented historical crime involving an attempt at the extermination of an ethnic group. Although the "comfort women" system was an inexcusable act that violated the dignity and human rights of women, equating the issue of "comfort women," which is one of the "common" phenomena as wartime violations of the dignity of women by soldiers, with the Holocaust, which is an incomparable act of genocide in the history of mankind, is far beyond my understanding.

In addition, organized rape that occurred during the Rwanda Genocide in 1994 was

judged as an act of genocide at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR). In the case of the genocide in Rwanda, rape was part of an organized act of hostility with the intent to exterminate an entire group of people, whereas the comfort women system by the former Japanese Army was of a different nature in its purpose and method.

Currently, there is no concrete evidence that shows that the state authority of Japan had systematically been involved with the coercive recruitment of "comfort women." As long as this is the case, we must conclude that Japan cannot take further legal responsibility for this issue.

There are many expressions that describe the former Japanese Army's "comfort women" issue as "exceptional" and "distinguished." However, this is because the depiction of Japan's "comfort women" issue as "a clear act of genocide" has wrongly been spread across global society, on top of countries not accepting Japan's apologies and existing peace treaties, and not being aware of Japan's efforts.

**If Japan must take legal responsibility, so must the rest of the world**

If the global society persists in believing that Japan has not fulfilled its duty for accepting responsibility after signing treaties and bilateral agreements, and that Japan's "comfort women" issue is comparable to genocide or crimes against humanity, then those countries must also be guilty of the same crime.

It is an undeniable historical fact that troops around the world as well as Japan used women for sexual purposes on the battlefield. Aside from the contentious point of whether or not the military was systematically involved, no matter what authority the orders come from and no matter what nationalities partake, the deed of making women into sexual targets violates women's dignity.

As I said before, each nation in the world should address this problem as not just unique to Japan but as a common issue for all human beings, in other words, accept it as one of their own problems and squarely face the past. If not, the violations of women's dignity by soldiers that still occur today will not be eradicated.

**Concerns about the resolution and the problem with the inscription of the "comfort women" memorial in Glendale**

My concern about the resolution is that there will be inaccurate statements written on the inscription of the memorial based on the wrong perception of the "exceptional" behavior of the former Japanese Army.

The "comfort women" memorial established in the City of Glendale in July 2013 states, "In memory of more than 200,000 Asian and Dutch women who were removed from their homes in Korea, China, Taiwan, Japan, the Philippines,

Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, East Timor and Indonesia, to be coerced into sexual slavery by the Imperial Armed Forces of Japan between 1932 and 1945..." This statement has no historical evidence behind it. The "Open letter in support of historians in Japan" released on May 5, 2015 and signed by 187 scholars mainly from the United States has confirmed that there is disagreement among historians regarding the precise number of "comfort women" and regarding the degree to which the former Japanese Army was involved in the recruitment of these women. Regardless, due to this memorial inscription and the wide media coverage, many people around the world will have an unconfirmed, one-sided view and will accept this as historical truth. I find this highly regrettable.

Although this resolution does not specifically state what will be included in the inscription on the memorial, I am concerned that expressions similar to those on the Glendale memorial may be used, as the resolution already contains words such as "200,000" women and young girls who were "kidnapped" and "forced into sexual slavery by the Imperial Japanese Army."

The inscription of the memorial in Glendale concludes with, "It is our sincere hope that these unconscionable violations of human rights shall never recur." I fully agree with the sentiment of this sentence. However, the problem resides in the rest of the inscription, which is what will be presented as being historically true.

As indicated in the UN Security Council Resolution 1325, during armed conflicts women and children have been particularly adversely affected by violence including sexual abuse, and this has been observed all over the world. I believe that all countries must bring about efforts to fight against sexual violence on the battlefield.

Meanwhile, the statement "of the few top Japanese military leaders who were investigated and convicted as war criminals...many escaped prosecution" is false. In the postwar war crimes tribunals, many relevant parties convicted as war criminals were prosecuted. In the Batavia Military Tribunal, Japanese military officers were found guilty for forcibly taking Dutch women from camps in Semarang, Java, and other areas in Indonesia to work at comfort stations, and one of the Japanese officers responsible was sentenced to death. In this way, those who deserved to be punished were prosecuted, including the officers who had been involved in the "comfort women" system.

**Accurate understanding and perception of the truth is what will truly prevent future mistakes; that is why it is essential to eliminate inaccuracies and present the truth if the memorial is established**

Allow me to repeat myself in order to avoid any misunderstandings: I have no intention of legitimizing or defending the institution of "comfort women" on the grounds that other countries besides Japan have had the same problem. Japan must face its past mistakes and express sincere remorse.



If there is any significance in establishing a "comfort women" memorial, it should be that it serves as a declaration to squarely face the past and strive for a world where every country respects the dignity and human rights of women as a universal value. Thus, if such memorial were to be established, the inscription should be written from this standpoint so that the message can be shared by the whole world.

Regardless of what soldiers from other countries have done, the violation of the dignity and human rights of women by Japanese soldiers is an unforgivable act. That is why, in addition to squarely facing the past, Japan has worked through this issue as its own problem, and has contributed to resolving the issue by making public apologies and providing compensation.

**The stance of the Japanese Government, and how it has given sincere care to former "comfort women," and the determination to create a world that protects the dignity and human rights of women**

Currently, some former "comfort women" are requesting reparations from the Japanese Government. However, legal disputes (including individual compensation) between Japan and the Republic of Korea have been completely resolved with the 1965 "Treaty on Basic Relations between Japan and the Republic of Korea," and the "Agreement between Japan and the Republic of Korea Concerning the Settlement of Problems in Regard to Property and Claims and Economic Cooperation." In addition, China had declined Japan's offer of compensation for individual victims, as communicated to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, based on the premise of renouncing war reparations claims in the 1972 "Joint Communiqué of the Government of Japan and the Government of the People's Republic of China," and therefore there are no legal disputes between Japan and China.

Since resolving its legal disputes with the Republic of Korea and China, Japan has also made extra effort to demonstrate its acceptance of moral responsibility for "comfort women" with the establishment of the Asian Women's Fund in 1995 by soliciting donations from Japanese citizens. The Asian Women's Fund was started for "comfort women" all over the world, and has provided compensation for "comfort women" from four countries and one region, which include not only the Republic of Korea, but also the Philippines and Indonesia, after discussing the appropriate solutions according to each country's circumstances. Compensation was offered to former comfort women from China as well, but it is said that the Chinese Government had declined the offer. The Asian Women's Fund has also sent the Japanese Prime Minister's letter of apologies and messages from Japanese citizens today. It has taken part in activities to advocate women's dignity by supporting projects on contemporary issues, such as violence against women, in a manner reflective upon the harm done by Japan's past atrocities to women's dignity. In this

way, the Japanese Government has made sincere efforts along with the Asian Women's Fund's activities.

In his statement on the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World War II, Prime Minister Abe displayed determination that Japan will squarely face the fact that the dignity and honor of many women were severely injured during the wars, and that Japan will lead the world in making an era in which women's human rights are not infringed upon.

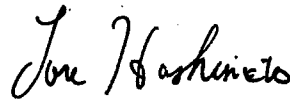
**Request for consideration of Japanese in the U.S., concern about the influence on sister city relations, responsibility to create environment where young generations can live in cooperation without disputes**

For today's generation, directly facing past mistakes and tragedies and remembering the people who have suffered in order to not repeat such mistakes and ease the pain of the victims is a task to be undertaken by everyone across borders. Furthermore, it is also our responsibility to create an environment for the younger generation where people can cooperate without disputes for a better future.

There are many Japanese people living in San Francisco. I am concerned that the establishment of a "comfort women" memorial will likely cause disruption amongst communities. As the mayor of Osaka, one of your sister cities, I request that you give careful consideration for the greater relationship between the United States and Japan.

By building on the strong foundation of friendship that both cities have enjoyed over many years, I sincerely hope that we can create an even better future by deepening our mutual cooperation.

Sincerely,



Toru Hashimoto  
Mayor  
The City of Osaka

## Carroll, John (BOS)

---

**From:** Carroll, John (BOS)  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2015 10:58 AM  
**To:** 'Keiko Dam'  
**Cc:** Evans, Derek (derek.evans@sfgov.org)  
**Subject:** RE: Victory for democracy as comfort women statue fails to get the go-ahead | Our Strathfield

Thank you for your comment letter. I am adding the message to the official file for the matter.

John Carroll  
Legislative Clerk  
Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
(415)554-4445 - Direct | (415)554-5163 - Fax john.carroll@sfgov.org | bos.legislation@sfgov.org

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-----Original Message-----

**From:** Keiko Dam [mailto:mintvioletsf@icloud.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2015 10:22 AM  
**To:** Carroll, John (BOS) <john.carroll@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** Victory for democracy as comfort women statue fails to get the go-ahead | Our Strathfield

We are against erecting a comfort woman statue in SN Francisco. Keiko D.

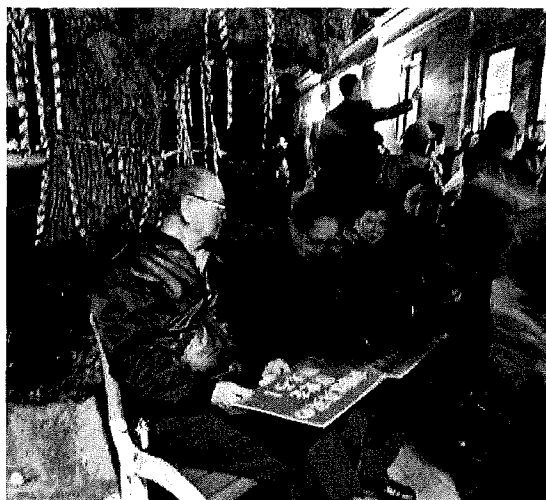
<http://www.ourstrathfield.com.au/article/victory-democracy-comfort-women-statue-fails-get-go-ahead>

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Home

## Victory for democracy as comfort women statue fails to get the go-ahead

ARTICLE | TUE, 11/08/2015 - 23:00 | BY PETER LYNCH



Peter Lynch

In what most agreed was a victory for Australian democracy played out on an international stage, Strathfield councillors tonight voted to take no action on a proposal to build a statue to commemorate the so-called comfort women of World War II.

The decision is expected to finally draw a line under a long running and at times emotion-charged debate on whether or not Strathfield's town square was the place for such a memorial.

The issue made headlines and led news bulletins in Japan and Korean

– the two countries at the centre of claims that 200,000 young women were taken from Korea, China and other Asian countries to serve as sex slaves to Japanese soldiers over 70 years ago.

It became a major historical argument which last night spilled into Strathfield Town Hall at an extraordinary council meeting devoted solely to the topic.

Security personnel manned the entrance as more than 160 mainly Japanese and Koreans turned up to give their views or listen.

There were TV screens explaining proceedings in three languages and copies of the Strathfield Scene, which published a preview in English, Korean and Japanese.

But while some were concerned that the outcome would spark protests, in the end the debate was civilised, sensible and well conducted.

Mayor Gulian Vaccari, who chaired the meeting, told three reporters from the foreign media: "I saw respect for Australian democracy. I saw Australian democracy in action."

Asked if he thought the 15 months it took to reach a conclusion was too long, Cr Vaccari replied: "I wish it was over sooner – but we had to get it right."

A survey of residents showed the majority were against the monument, and opinions sought from the Prime Minister's office, the Department of Foreign Affairs and the State.

Six councillors voted unanimously to take no action, a position endorsed by council officers who maintained the memorial breached the municipality's policy.

Monuments should commemorate the sacrifice of local residents, said their report. The proposal did not "meet the criteria of the Council's Memorial Policy".

Cr Sang Ok absented himself from the proceedings because, he said, he was a passed chairman of the Korean Committee of the United Astral Korean-Chinese Alliance Against Japanese War Crimes.

Eight speakers – four from each side of the argument – were allowed five minutes to put their points. All received applause as they left the speaker's chair.

There were claims the comfort women issue was a plot to destabilise relations between Australia, Japan and America. And there were pleas to erect the statue as a way of righting a historical wrong.

South African born Brian Rycroft, whose Japanese wife recently gave birth, maintained the statue was "not a humanitarian nor a women's rights issue".

Peter Wertheim told the meeting: "If we can't commemorate these things in multi-cultural Strathfield, where can we?"

Glenn McRae, on the other hand, read from a letter from a Chinese resident opposing the statue and maintaining those for the plan did not represent the Chinese community of Strathfield.

Mr McRae maintained some migrant communities continued to play out their historical hostilities when they came to Australia. "They must accept and respect our Australian values," he said.

Dr Panayiotis Diamadis, a UTS lecturer in genocide studies, maintained reports that Islamic State was selling women and young girls showed the issues raised by comfort women was still relevant today, and the statue was a monument to women of all races.

Retired newsagent Geoff Boyce, son of a former mayor and alderman of Strathfield, said the council's memorials policy was for war heroes who came from the area. The statue, he said, was divisive.

"This is Australia – we don't have sub-branches of Koreans, Chinese or citizen of United States. We are all Australians."

He added that council had been "somewhat remiss" in letting the issue get this far.

Mr Dong Dong Yang of the Sydney Inner West Chinese Business Federation and the Australia Chinese Korean Alliance, said: "This statue... represents women of all races around the world who suffered during war times."

But Mieko Goto maintained the statue would compromise Australia's national security, and Japan had apologise many times over the comfort women issue.

Finally, 21-year-old Yeo Ji Yan said the statue would help stop violence against all women.

Cr Helen McLucas told the meeting this was not a Strathfield issue, but had been "foisted on us" by an "anti Japanese" organisation.

There was no support for the statue in the local community, she said, and references to Australia's Anzacs and claims this would help end violence against all women were "offensive".

"It's creating great division in the community", she added.

Cr Daniel Bott maintained this was an issue for the Department of Foreign Affairs, not Strathfield.

Cr Stephanie Kokkolis said she was bound to represent the views of residents, the majority of whom were not in favour of the statue. Cr Andrew Soulos agreed and said it was not appropriate at this time.

Cr Vaccari told the meeting: "There are no winners in war. It's a tragedy for men, women and for mankind."

Acknowledging there were "two sides to the story", he too maintained the issue was a Federal one and

“greater than Strathfield.”

Finally, Cr Raj Datta said it was a tribute to Australia that this debate could take place. In the end, he said, most would accept the decision made and “go home as Australians.”

And so, it appears, they did. The meeting broke up peacefully.

*About the Author »*

**Peter Lynch**

*Editor, Strathfield Scene*

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## Carroll, John (BOS)

---

**From:** Carroll, John (BOS)  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2015 10:58 AM  
**To:** 'Keiko Dam'  
**Cc:** Evans, Derek (derek.evans@sfgov.org)  
**Subject:** RE: Strathfield Council knocks back plan to build a Comfort Women statue proposed by Korean community | DailyTelegraph

Thank you for your comment letter. I am adding the message to the official file for the matter.

John Carroll  
Legislative Clerk  
Board of Supervisors  
San Francisco City Hall, Room 244  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
(415)554-4445 - Direct | (415)554-5163 - Fax john.carroll@sfgov.org | bos.legislation@sfgov.org

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-----Original Message-----

**From:** Keiko Dam [mailto:mintvioletsf@icloud.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2015 10:30 AM  
**To:** Carroll, John (BOS) <john.carroll@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** Strathfield Council knocks back plan to build a Comfort Women statue proposed by Korean community | DailyTelegraph

We are against erecting a comfort woman statue in San Francisco. Keiko.D.

<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/newslocal/inner-west/strathfield-council-knocks-back-plan-to-built-a-comfort-women-statue-proposed-by-korean-community/story-fngr8h4f-1227480838923>

Inner West

## Strathfield Council knocks back plan to build a Comfort Women statue proposed by Korean community

🕒 August 13, 2015 5:32pm

👤 Catherine Zuill Inner West Courier Inner City

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The statue aimed to commemorate women such as Australian Jan Ruff O'Herne (second from right) pictured here with other comfort women in Tokyo in 1993.



# NEWSLOCAL

This week Strathfield councillors voted unanimously to “take no further action” concerning the Comfort Women Memorial, saying it did not meet the criteria of the council’s memorial policy.

The decision comes after the proposed statue honouring women who were forced into sexual servitude by the Japanese during WWII was first raised in April last year.

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Deputy mayor Salim’s dark past



‘Get out of here, you f\*\*\*ing little b\*\*\*\*!’



Relatives say they were snubbed by Aysha

## NEWSLOCAL



An example of a comfort women statue that has been erected in California.

A council spokeswoman said this week's decision "was not taken lightly."

Strathfield Council's Memorial Policy is aimed at building harmony in the community by not supporting requests that are deemed to be offensive to any community groups," the spokeswoman said.

"This proposal in itself has divided the community."

The proposed Three Girls statue became a long drawn-out issue after the Korean Committee of United Austral Korean-Chinese Alliance approached the council in March 2014 wanting to erect the statue in Strathfield Square or a nearby public location.

## NEWSLOCAL



A Strathfield Council meeting where opposing sides argued for and against the statue being erected last year.

But it was quickly criticised as misguided by the Japanese embassy in Australia and emotions ran high. Opposing sides packed the council's chambers last April and submitted petitions containing thousands of signatures.

At one stage the council even sought Prime Minister Tony Abbott's advice on the matter.

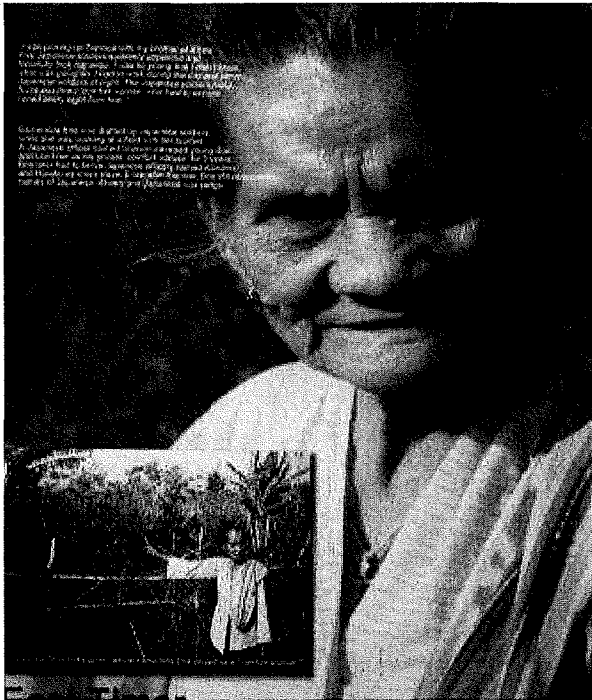
A council spokeswoman said that Strathfield Council had heard from numerous people for and against the proposal over the past year.

"With this in mind and after extensive community consultation, it was decided at an extraordinary council meeting last night to take no further actions concerning the proposal as it does not meet the criteria of the council's memorial policy."

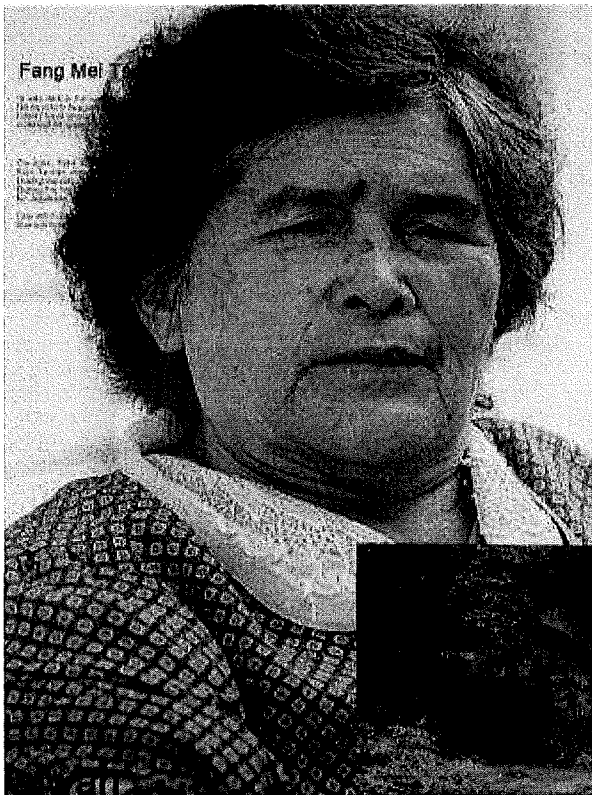
SEE ALSO: COMMUNITY DIVIDED OVER STATUE PROPOSAL

SEE ALSO: MAYOR SAYS STATUE MIGHT 'GO AWAY'

# NEWS LOCAL



A Comfort Women exhibition was held at Strathfield Square recently.




Women and their stories were used in the exhibition.

The spokeswoman added: "Strathfield prides itself in being a multicultural community bringing people from

# NEWSLOCAL

...through mutual respect and understanding, it is Strathfield's hope that this potentially divisive issue can be turned into an opportunity to engage with each other in a positive way moving forward.

"If a jointly agreed-upon proposal for a statue is put forward in the future, Strathfield Council will consider the application at that time."

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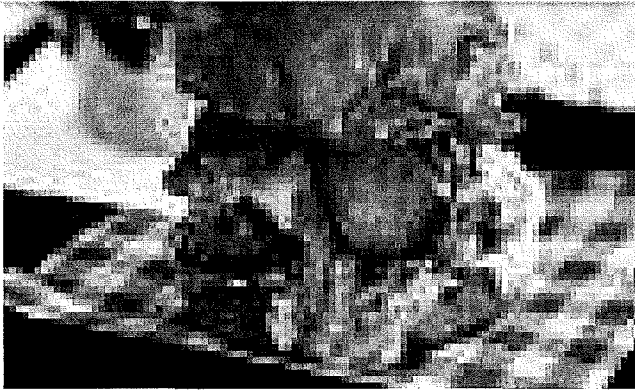


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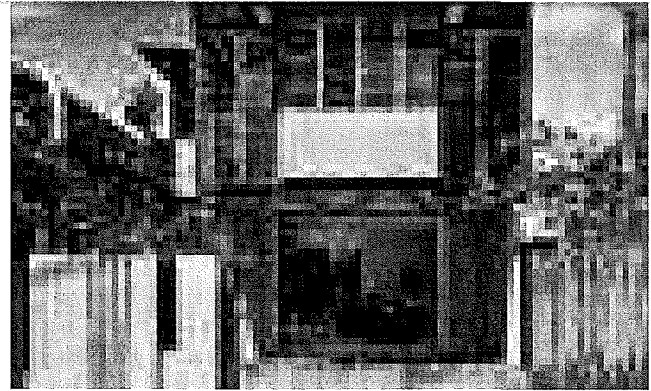
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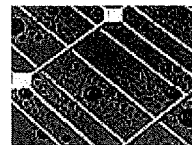
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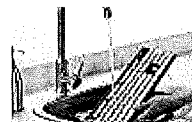
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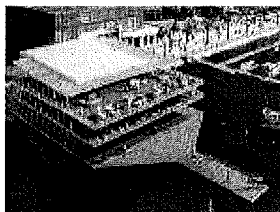
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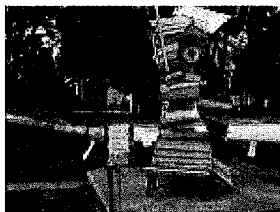
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# NEWSLOCAL

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## Evans, Derek

---

**From:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 05, 2015 8:36 AM  
**To:** BOS-Supervisors; Evans, Derek  
**Subject:** FW: File No. 150764 Intelligence activities of the communist forces. I am against Item 72 Resolution [Urging the Establishment of a Memorial for "Comfort Women"]

**From:** shigeshige77 [mailto:3eco-elements@jcom.home.ne.jp]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 05, 2015 7:47 AM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>  
**Subject:** Intelligence activities of the communist forces. I am against Item 72 Resolution [Urging the Establishment of a Memorial for "Comfort Women"]

I am against Item 72 Resolution [Urging the Establishment of a Memorial for "Comfort Women"]

Dear and rational to the United States, San Francisco city council of everyone.

I am one citizen living in rural Japan.

"LAW & ORDER" and "HOMELAND", it is "THE BLACKLIST" every day to watch the drama of the United States is looking forward to such.

Why you say that you like American drama, attitude to explore the truth on the back of the sense of justice and things because appealing.

But American society of reality sounds like different.

And why Korean and hostile view of the Japanese extraordinary if, is in China Communist forces to take advantage of them because there is you who are trying to pander.

Communist forces, is the people using the comfort women issue is trying to bad the relationship between Japan and the United States and Japan and South Korea.

It might not know less information in the United States mainland.

However, here in Japan it is offensive of communist forces can be significantly identified.

**One of them is the comfort women issue.**

Japan and South Korea is home to people of many North Korean system.

Currently, the intelligence agencies of North Korea has succeeded in bad the relationship of Japan and by using the comfort women issue with South Korea.

It is also the bill necessary to supply munitions to South Korea and the USFK in the event of war in the Korean Peninsula.

Originally, comfort women is a wartime prostitutes.

Private company that received the request of the army gave the recruitment of comfort women.

Comfort women had a contract because there is a contract period.

A copy of the consent form and the family register of parent in order to Japanese women and the Korean Peninsula of women become comfort women was needed.

And, it was also necessary passbook of post office in order to pay the high salary.

The military had dispatched a doctor for health management of infection-comfort women of venereal disease in the living quarters of the comfort women.

Many of the above documents and materials have remained.

More than anything, many of the military private company that has received the request, is the Koreans management. Also remain diary of comfort women and administrators.

Communists who ignores these evidence.

Japan at the fuss the comfort women issue is the "Japan Communist Party," "Socialist Party" and North Korea-based organizations and the Communists.

In addition, "Asahi Newspaper" a lot of people from North Korea in the employees "Mainichi Newspaper" also commotion newspapers and broadcasters such as.

The other day, Asahi Newspaper has apologized to the comfort women issue was a forgery.

However, they are clamoring to change the issue.

Currently, they are in the bill to strengthen the alliance between Japan and the United States, has a impressive operation as people have a bad image.

And, people who are active in the previous Parliament of Japan in order to oppose the bill is a communist and North Korea-born persons and Chinese people in Japan.

In this way, the offensive of the communist who in Japan are you day by day stronger.

Wise America San Francisco city council of everybody, you ask so that it is not fooled by the ruse of whether communists us.

Postscript

Comfort women problem is there is conclusive evidence is fake.

Was summarized in 2007 is "and Nazi war crimes Japan each ministry working group of the imperial government of the record (IWG)" of the United States Congress addressed the final report.

For example, the United States average annual income of Japanese generals to report wartime information station of comfort women in the era of 6600 yen salary, it is described that it was 9000 yen.

In addition, only South Korea's rioting in comfort women issue. China and North Korea are on the back does not fuss almost.

South Korea North Korea is the same Koreans. North Korea do not think strange not to attack Japan with comfort women problem?

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Shigeru Ishiwada

Japan Shimonoseki, Yamaguchi Prefecture Mukuno cho 3-24-27

## Where Should We Cast the First Stone in Condemning War Crimes?

By Jim Smith

(From John 8)

Protecting a woman about to be stoned for adultery by people Jesus perceived as hypocrites, Jesus said, **He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.**

Do we have prostitution in SF? Did a now-defunct progressive SF newspaper, for many years, earn a great deal of revenue from prostitution advertising?

Has prostitution been associated with the U.S. military? **Did the U.S. Army and Navy forces avail themselves of the comforts provided by prostitutes throughout Asia in the postwar period?** Did any of our Asian allies in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines, and Vietnam make money off prostitution set up to serve U.S. forces?

**Has prostitution increased or decreased in China since Deng Hsiao-ping came to power?** Do girls from poor farming families in China come to Shanghai and sometimes end up as prostitutes?

In the 1960s, a different type of Chinese government issued statements—often on Radio Peking—saying that “The U.S. imperialists are worse than Hitler.” Any idea why they used such strong language? Were they justified? That was during the Vietnam War, when U.S. imperialist forces attacked the Vietnamese people. **Were there brothels in Vietnam serving U.S. troops in those days?**

**Do we have a monument to Vietnamese victims of U.S. imperialist atrocities?**

We do have a monument in Washington DC honoring U.S. military war dead. Is there any monument in Washington in memory of Vietnamese women and children killed by U.S. bombing?

The Japanese government and Japanese conservative political leaders are attacked for visiting Yasukuni, a shrine honoring Japanese war dead, including military fighters some would call war criminals.

**Does San Francisco have a monument glorifying U.S. imperialism and colonialism in Asia?**

**At Union Square, on May 13, 1903, Theodore Roosevelt dedicated a monument to the U.S. Navy's victory on May 1, 1898, when Commodore George Dewey steamed into Manila Bay in the Philippines;** 200,000 San Franciscans crowded the streets to see the event. The Chronicle's editorial page, declared that “. . . this city is destined to become the future seat of empire.”

Atop an 83-foot column, sculptor Robert Aitken designed a 12-foot statue of Victory carrying a laurel wreath in one hand and Neptune's trident in the other. The SF municipal report of 1901 explained that Dewey "added glory to American arms and gave the United States a position in the world as one of the great powers, thus extending American influence and exalting American citizenship.

Today imperialist rivalry between Chinese imperialists on one side and Japanese and U.S. imperialists on the other is intensifying. China and Japan are in an arms race. Each government is mounting propaganda campaigns against the other. **Could some of the impetus for monuments to victims of Japanese war crimes come from Chinese imperialist rivals?** Millions of Japanese citizens are disgusted by the

activities of Prime Minister Abe, Osaka Mayor Hashimoto and other right-wing Japanese politicians and academics who deny Japanese war crimes and promote Japanese patriotism and imperialism.

Do we have any right-wing pro-imperialist politicians in the U.S.? In San Francisco?

Do we have any monuments in the city to victims of U.S. war crimes?

I would urge the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to think a little more deeply about these issues and hold off on monuments to **particular sets of victims of war crimes committed by non-U.S. forces**. We should particularly hold off on such monuments while we have a disgraceful monument glorifying U.S. imperialism in the center of our city.

In the early 1900s, Filipinos resisted American occupiers, sustaining heavy casualties. Stanley Karnow, in his history of the islands, "In Our Image," wrote that "**an estimated 200,000 people died, the overwhelming majority of them Filipino civilians.**"

We should be concerned about war crimes, and the brutality of the Japanese Imperial Army and Navy inflicted on "comfort women," including Chinese, Korean AND Japanese women should be condemned. **But if we want to condemn war crimes in Asia, shouldn't we first address our own war crimes.** The annual observances of the dropping of Atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki are approaching. **Was the killing of more than 100,000 civilians with two atomic bombs justified? Or was that a war crime?** Arguments saying it was justified are regularly made in our history textbooks and on our big city newspaper editorial pages.

He who is w/o sin cast the first stone.

Our time and efforts can be better spent on working for international unity against imperialism be it Chinese, Japanese or American. **Let's start by getting rid of the Dewey Monument and cancelling the Blue Angels festival. We can also discuss developing a peace park with proper monuments and exhibits in memory of all victims of imperialist war.**

James B. Smith  
1985 Grove Street  
San Francisco, CA 94117  
Email: luckyj67@gmail.com

## **Carroll, John (BOS)**

---

**From:** Caldeira, Rick (BOS)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2015 9:28 AM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS); BOS Legislation, (BOS)  
**Subject:** FW: RE: Resolution Based on Propaganda  
**Attachments:** comfort women 1.pdf; comfort women 2.pdf; comfort women 3.pdf; comfort women 4.pdf; comfort women 5.pdf; comfort women 6.pdf; comfort women 7.pdf

**Categories:** 150764

For File No. 150764

-----Original Message-----

**From:** KATO Ken [mailto:kenkato.hra@nifty.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 9:27 PM  
**To:** Caldeira, Rick (BOS)  
**Subject:** Re: RE: Resolution Based on Propaganda

Dear Deputy Director Caldeira,

Thank you very much for including my message in the file.

I would very much appreciate it if you could also include the attached documents to the file. These are interrogation report on "comfort women" by the U.S. Office of War Information Psychological Warfare Team in 1944, and is the most important document on this issue written by a trustworthy third party officials.

Today's meeting of the Board of Supervisors has been reported by Japan's major newspaper the Sankei Shimbun, with a circulation of 1.61 million, on its front page and millions of Japanese people are watching it very closely.

<http://www.sankei.com/world/news/150719/wor1507190022-n1.html>

I am hoping that the Board of Supervisors will show discretion and fairness in looking into what really happened 70 years ago.

Yours truly,

Ken Kato  
Director, Human Rights in Asia

----- Original Message -----

>From: "Caldeira, Rick (BOS)" <rick.caldeira@sfgov.org>  
>To: KATO Ken <kenkato.hra@nifty.com>  
>Subject: RE: Resolution Based on Propaganda  
>Date: Mon, 20 Jul 2015 15:48:11 +0000

>

>

>Your e-mail has been received and included in File No. 150764.

>

>-----Original Message-----

>From: KATO Ken [mailto:kenkato.hra@nifty.com]  
>Sent: Monday, July 20, 2015 7:51 AM  
>To: Caldeira, Rick (BOS)

>Subject: Resolution Based on Propaganda

>

>Dear Deputy Director Caldeira,

>

>I have learned that the Board of Supervisors is going to adopt a resolution tomorrow that urges the City and County of San Francisco to establish a memorial for so called "comfort women."

><https://sfgov.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=3866247&GUID=1B765573-9914-45FE-8F03-B40036DAF02D>

>

>Regrettably, the issue is riddled with propaganda and I urge that you refer to reliable official documents, such as U.S. Army report written in 1944, in order to ascertain the veracity of the claims and avoid defaming U.S. ally on false charges. The issue has become a major human rights problem for the Japanese people who have been suffering from defamation campaigns.

>

>Many South Korean people, influenced by fictional TV dramas and cartoons, believe the women were forced to become sex workers, however, documentary evidence show that there was no Korean woman forced to become a sex worker by the Japanese authorities. They were very well paid and according to a U.S. Army document, some even married to Japanese soldiers.

>In a reply to a parliamentary question, the Japanese government stated on 16 March 2007 that they found no evidence of coercion by the Japanese authorities in recruiting "comfort women". Until now, there is no evidence to the contrary despite extensive and thorough researches conducted by various actors.

>

>Testimonies made by former "comfort women" change from time to time and sometimes contradict historical facts. For example, one of the most famous former "comfort women" Ms Kim Hak-sun told the media and the Tokyo District Court in Japan that she was sold to a Korean brothel by her mother, and then three years later her step father sold her to a brothel used by Japanese soldiers. However, she later changed her testimony and told the media: "A commissioned officer took me to the next room which was partitioned off by a cloth. Even though I did not want to go he dragged me into the room. I resisted but he tore off all of my clothes and in the end he took my virginity. That night, the officer raped me twice." She accused Japan of making her a sex slave.

>

>It is true that many Korean "comfort women" had hard time after the Second World War. In 1992 a former "comfort woman" Ms Moon Ok-ju sued the Japanese government demanding to pay back her postal savings she deposited in just a few years until 1945 and the amount was 26,145 Japanese Yen which is equivalent to US\$1,000,000 today. Many Japanese people, including ethnic Korean Japanese, lost their savings after the war owing to hyperinflation and I feel sympathy for "comfort women" who endured the hardship.

>

>However, the Japanese government cannot compensate for their losses. Japan and South Korea signed the Treaty on Basic Relations on 22 June 1965 and in the Agreement on the Settlement of Problems Concerning Property and Claims and on Economic Co-operation between Japan and the ROK, both countries agreed that it has been "settled completely and finally."

><http://www.ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~worldjpn/documents/texts/JPKR/19650622.T9>

>E.html After receiving tens of billions of dollars (in current value)

>from the Japanese government, South Korea's military government lead by the incumbent president Pak Geun Hye's father paid only a small amount to individuals seeking reparations, but Japan cannot intervene on South Korea's legal affairs and cannot be responsible for the action of the military government. This is basically South Korea's internal affairs.

>

>An interrogation report by the U.S. Office of War Information Psychological Warfare Team in 1944 tells us the truth about "comfort women". You can see it on the website of Mr. Tony Marano in Texas who received it from the National Archives.

><http://texas-daddy.com/comfortwomen.htm>

>It says very clearly: "A 'comfort girl' is nothing more than a prostitute or 'professional camp follower'"

>Their lifestyle was: "They lived in near-luxury in Burma in comparison to other places. This was especially true of their second year in Burma. They lived well because their food and material was not heavily rationed and they had plenty of money with which to purchase desired articles. They were able to buy cloth, shoes, cigarettes, and cosmetics to supplement the many gifts given to them by soldiers who had received 'comfort bags' from home.

>While in Burma they amused themselves by participating in sports events with both officers and men, and attended picnics, entertainments, and social dinners. They had a phonograph and in the towns they were allowed to go shopping."

>It was amazing for me to find out that: "However there were numerous instances of proposals of marriage and in certain cases marriages actually took place."

>However, for humanitarian grounds, the Japanese government cannot announce the fact that "comfort women" were well-paid prostitutes, and Japan's consideration for the old women has been taken advantage of by North and South Korea.

>

>I hope you would understand that the Japanese government's position is based on the rule of law. Japan already made an unlawful compromise and paid a huge amount in the 1990s and 2000s, and cannot bend the Treaty or deny historical facts anymore.

>

>

>South Korean media estimated that there are about 100,000 South Korean sex workers in the U.S., the EU, Australia and Japan and hundreds of thousands in their home country nowadays, but they cannot save one million dollars in just a few years like "comfort women". In 2011, South Korean sex workers threatened to set themselves on fire in a demonstration to protect their brothels and one protestor complained her earnings have plunged from as much as \$9,200 a month to about \$3,700 after police crackdown.

>[http://www.nbcnews.com/id/43650531/ns/world\\_news-asia\\_pacific/t/s-korea](http://www.nbcnews.com/id/43650531/ns/world_news-asia_pacific/t/s-korea)

>[n-sex-workers-threaten-set-themselves-fire-protect-their-brothels/](#)

>Decades later, South Korean sex workers in San Francisco might demand apology and compensation from the U.S. government.

>

>Finally, I would like to point out that raising the issue of military prostitution is not in the interest of the U.S. In 1945 when the U.S. military occupied Japan, something called the Recreation and Amusement Association was established in Japan for U.S. soldiers. I do not want to go further and I hope you will not ignite a row over it.

>

>Thank you for your consideration,

>

>Yours truly,

>

>Ken Kato

>Director, Human Rights in Asia

>

>

>P.S. If evidence emerged that "comfort women" were forced to become sex workers by the Japanese authorities, the Japanese government will certainly make a formal apology. I will be the first one to strongly demand it.

>Until such evidence emerges, accusations based on inconsistent testimonies are defamation.



Classified: *JMK*

UNITED STATES OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION  
Psychological Warfare Team  
Attached to U.S. Army Forces India-Burma Theater.  
APO 689

Japanese Prisoner of War Interrogation Report No. 49. Place interrogated: Lodo Stockade Date interrogated: Aug. 20 - Sept. 10, 1944 Date of Report: October 1, 1944 By: T/3 Alex Yoritshi

Prisoners: 20 Korean Comfort Girls Date of Capture: August 10, 1944 Date of Arrival at Stockade: August 15, 1944

**SECRET**

PREFACE:

This report is based on the information obtained from the interrogation of twenty Korean "comfort girls" and two Japanese civilians captured around the tenth of August, 1944 in the mopping up operations after the fall of Myitkyina in Burma.

The report shows how the Japanese recruited these Korean "comfort girls", the conditions under which they lived and worked, their relations with and reaction to the Japanese soldier, and their understanding of the military situation.

A "comfort girl" is nothing more than a prostitute or "professional camp follower" attached to the Japanese Army for the benefit of the soldiers. The word "comfort girl" is peculiar to the Japanese. Other reports show the "comfort girls" have been found wherever it was necessary for the Japanese Army to fight. This report however deals only with the Korean "comfort girls" recruited by the Japanese and attached to their Army in Burma. The Japanese are reported to have shipped some 703 of these girls to Burma in 1942.

RECRUITING:

Early in May of 1942 Japanese agents arrived in Korea for the purpose of enlisting Korean girls for "comfort service" in newly conquered Japanese territories in Southeast Asia. The nature of this "service" was not specified but it was assumed to be work connected with visiting the wounded in hospitals, rolling bandages, and generally making the soldiers happy. The inducement used by these agents was plenty of money, an opportunity to pay off the family debts, easy work, and the prospect of a new life in a new land - Singapore. On the basis of these false representations many girls enlisted for overseas duty and were rewarded with an advance of a few hundred yen.

The majority of the girls were ignorant and uneducated, although a few had been connected with "oldest profession on earth" before. The contract they signed bound them to Army regulations and to work for the "house master" for a period of from six months to a year depending on the family debt for which they were advanced

DECLASSIFIED BY: *JAD*  
JCS DECLASSIFICATION PROGRAM

DATE: *1973*

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Approximately 800 of these girls were recruited in this manner and they landed with their Japanese "house master" at Rangoon around August 20th, 1942. They came in groups of from eight to twenty-two. From here they were distributed to various parts of Burma, usually to fair sized towns near Japanese Army camps. Eventually four of these units reached the Myitkyina vicinity. They were; Kyoel, Kinsui, Bakushinro, and Momoya. The Kyoel house was called the "Maruyama Club", but was changed when the girls reached Myitkyina as Col. Maruyama, commander of the garrison at Myitkyina, objected to the similarity to his name.

PERSONALITY:

The interrogations show the average Korean "comfort girl" to be about twenty five years old, uneducated, childish, whimsical, and selfish. She is not pretty either by Japanese or Caucasian standards. She is inclined to be egotistical and likes to talk about herself. Her attitude in front of strangers is quiet and demure, but she "knows the wiles of a woman." She claims to dislike her "profession" and would rather not talk either about it or her family. Because of the kind treatment she received as a prisoner from American soldiers at Myitkyina and Ledo, she feels that they are more emotional than Japanese soldiers. She is afraid of Chinese and Indian troops.

LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS:

In Myitkyina the girls were usually quartered in a large two story house (usually a school building) with a separate room for each girl. There each girl lived, slept, and transacted business. In Myitkyina their food was prepared by and purchased from the "house master" as they received no regular ration from the Japanese Army. They lived in near-luxury in Burma in comparison to other places. This was especially true of their second year in Burma. They lived well because their food and material was not heavily rationed and they had plenty of money with which to purchase desired articles. They were able to buy cloth, shoes, cigarettes, and cosmetics to supplement the many gifts given to them by soldiers who had received "comfort bags" from home.

While in Burma they amused themselves by participating in sports events with both officers and men; and attended picnics, entertainments, and social dinners. They had a phonograph; and in the towns they were allowed to go shopping.

PRICE SYSTEM:

The conditions under which they transacted business were regulated by the Army, and in congested areas regulations were strictly enforced. The Army found it necessary in congested areas to install a system of prices, priorities, and schedules for the various units operating in a particular area. According to interrogations the average system was as follows:

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- 1. Soldiers 10 AM to 5 PM 1.50 yen 20 to 30 minutes
- 2. NCOs 6 PM to 9 PM 3.00 yen 30 to 40 minutes
- 3. Officers 9 PM to 12 PM 5.00 yen 30 to 40 minutes

These were average prices in Central Burma. Officers were allowed to stay overnight for twenty yen. In Myitkyina Col. Maruyama slashed the prices to almost one-half of the average price.

SCHEDULES:

The soldiers often complained about congestion in the houses. On many occasions they were not served and had to leave as the army was very strict about overstaying leave. In order to overcome this problem the Army set aside certain days for certain units. Usually two men from the unit for the day were stationed at the house to identify soldiers. A roving MP was also on hand to keep order. Following is the schedule used by the "Kyoei" house for the various units of the 18th Division while at Naymyo:

- Sunday ----- 18th Div. Hdqs. Staff
- Monday ----- Cavalry
- Tuesday ----- Engineers
- Wednesday ----- Day off and weekly physical exam.
- Thursday ----- Medics
- Friday ----- Mountain artillery
- Saturday ----- Transport

Officers were allowed to come seven nights a week. The girls complained that even with the schedule congestion was so great that they could not care for all guests, thus causing ill feeling among many of the soldiers.

Soldiers would come to the house, pay the price and get tickets of cardboard about two inches square with the price on the left side and the name of the house on the other side. Each soldier's identity or rank was then established after which he "took his turn in line". The girls were allowed the prerogative of refusing a customer. This was often done if the person were too drunk.

PAY AND LIVING CONDITIONS:

The "house master" received fifty to sixty per cent of the girls' gross earnings depending on how much of a debt each girl had incurred when she signed her contract. This meant that in an average month a girl would gross about fifteen hundred yen. She turned over seven hundred and fifty to the "master". Many "masters" made life very difficult for the girls by charging them high prices for food and other articles.

In the latter part of 1943 the Army issued orders that certain girls who had paid their debt could return home. Some of the girls were thus allowed to return to Korea.

The interrogations further show that the health of these girls was good. They were well supplied with all types of contraceptives, and often soldiers would bring their own which

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had been supplied by the army. They were well trained in looking after both themselves and customers in the matter of hygiene. A regular Japanese Army doctor visited the houses once a week and any girl found diseased was given treatment, secluded, and eventually sent to a hospital. This same procedure was carried on within the ranks of the Army itself, but it is interesting to note that a soldier did not lose pay during the period he was confined.

#### REACTIONS TO JAPANESE SOLDIERS:

In their relations with the Japanese officers and men only two names of any consequence came out of interrogations. They were those of Col. Maruyama, commander of the garrison at Myitkyina, and Maj.Gen. Mizukami, who brought in reinforcements. The two were exact opposites. The former was hard, selfish and repulsive with no consideration for his men; the latter a good, kind man and a fine soldier, with the utmost consideration for those who worked under him. The Colonel was a constant habitue of the houses while the General was never known to have visited them. With the fall of Myitkyina, Col. Maruyama supposedly deserted while Gen. Mizukami committed suicide because he could not evacuate the men.

#### SOLDIERS' REACTIONS:

The average Japanese soldier is embarrassed about being seen in a "comfort house" according to one of the girls who said, "when the place is packed he is apt to be ashamed if he has to wait in line for his turn". However there were numerous instances of proposals of marriage and in certain cases marriages actually took place.

All the girls agreed that the worst officers and men who came to see them were those who were drunk and leaving for the front the following day. But all likewise agreed that even though very drunk the Japanese soldier never discussed military matters or secrets with them. Though the girls might start the conversation about some military matter the officer or enlisted man would not talk, but would in fact "scold us for discussing such un-lady like subjects. Even Col. Maruyama when drunk would never discuss such matters."

The soldiers would often express how much they enjoyed receiving magazines, letters and newspapers from home. They also mentioned the receipt of "comfort bags" filled with canned goods, magazines, soap, handkerchiefs, toothbrush, miniature doll, lipstick, and wooden clogs. The lipstick and clogs were definitely feminine and the girls couldn't understand why the people at home were sending such articles. They speculated that the sender could only have had themselves or the "native girls" in mind.

#### REACTION TO THE MILITARY SITUATION:

It appears that they knew very little about the military situation around Myitkyina even up to and including the time of

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their retreat and capture. There is however some information worth noting:

\* "In the initial attack on Myitkyina and the air strip about two hundred Japanese died in battle, leaving about two hundred to defend the town. Ammunition was very low.

"Col. Maruyama dispersed his men. During the following days the enemy were shooting haphazardly everywhere. It was a waste since they didn't seem to aim at any particular thing. The Japanese soldiers on the other hand had orders to fire one shot at a time and only when they were sure of a hit."

Before the enemy attacked on the west air strip, soldiers stationed around Myitkyina were dispatched elsewhere to stem the Allied attack in the North and West. About four hundred men were left behind, largely from the 114th Regiment. Evidently Col. Maruyama did not expect the town to be attacked. Later Maj. Gen. Mizukami of the 56th Division brought in reinforcements of more than two regiments but these were unable to hold the town.

It was the consensus among the girls that Allied bombings were intense and frightening and because of them they spent most of their last days in foxholes. One or two even carried on work there. The comfort houses were bombed and several of the girls were wounded and killed.

#### RETREAT AND CAPTURE:

The story of the retreat and final capture of the "comfort girls" is somewhat vague and confused in their own minds. From various reports it appears that the following occurred: on the night of July 31st a party of sixty three people including the "comfort girls" of three houses (Balashinro was merged with Kinsui), families, and helpers, started across the Irrawaddy River in small boats. They eventually landed somewhere near Waingnaw. They stayed there until August 4th, but never entered Waingnaw. From there they followed in the path of a group of soldiers until August 7th when there was a skirmish with the enemy and the party split up. The girls were ordered to follow the soldiers after a three hour interval. They did this only to find themselves on the bank of a river with no sign of the soldiers or any means of crossing. They remained in a nearby house until August 10th when they were captured by Kachin soldiers led by an English officer. They were taken to Myitkyina and then to the Leda stockade where the interrogations which form the basis of this report took place.

#### PROPAGANDA:

The girls know practically nothing of any propaganda leaflets that had been used against the Japanese. They had seen a few leaflets in the hands of the soldiers but most of them were unable to understand them as they were in Japanese and the soldiers refused to discuss them with the girls. One girl

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remembered the leaflet about Col. Maruyama (apparently it was Myitkyina Troop appeal), but she did not believe it. Others heard the soldiers discussing leaflets from time to time but no tangible remarks resulted from their eavesdropping. However it is interesting to note that one officer expressed the view that "Japan can't win this war".

REQUESTS:

None of the girls appeared to have heard the loudspeaker used at Myitkyina, but they did overhear the soldiers mention a "radio broadcast".

They asked that leaflets telling of the capture of the "Comfort girls" should not be used for it would endanger the lives of other girls if the Army knew of their capture. They did think it would be a good idea to utilize the fact of their capture in any droppings planned for Korea.

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APPENDIX "A"

Following are the names of the twenty Korean "comfort girls" and the two Japanese civilians interrogated to obtain the information used in this report. The Korean names are phoneticized.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
1. Shin Jyun Nini	21	Keishonando, Shinshu
2. Kok Yonja	28	" Sanzampo, Yunki
3. Pen Yonja	26	" Shinshu
4. Chinga Chunto	21	Keishohokudo, Taikyū
5. Chun Yonja	27	Keishonando, Shinshu
6. Kim Manju	25	Keishohokudo, Taikyū
7. Kim Yonja	19	" "
8. Kim Kenja	25	Keishonando, Hosen
9. Kim Sanni	21	" Kwaboku
10. Kim Kun Sun	22	" Taikyū
11. Kim Chongi	26	" Shinshu
12. Pa Kija	27	" "
13. Chun Panyi	21	" Keisan Hut, Koyasan Fur-
14. Koko Sunyi	21	" Kenjo, Sokiboku sa, Kyu Ruri
15. Yon Muji	31	Heionnando, Keijo
16. Opu Ni	20	" "
17. Kin Tonhi	20	Keikido, Keijo
18. Ha Tonyo	21	" "
19. Oki Song	20	Keishohokudo, Taikyū
20. Kim Guptogo	21	Zonranando, Koshu

Japanese Civilians:

1. Kitamura, Tomiko	38	Keikido, Keijo
2. " Eibun	41	" "

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## Carroll, John (BOS)

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**From:** Caldeira, Rick (BOS)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 8:29 AM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS); BOS Legislation, (BOS)  
**Subject:** FW: Resolution Based on Propaganda

**Categories:** 150764

For File No. 150764

-----Original Message-----

**From:** KATO Ken [mailto:kenkato.hra@nifty.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 7:51 AM  
**To:** Caldeira, Rick (BOS)  
**Subject:** Resolution Based on Propaganda

Dear Deputy Director Caldeira,

I have learned that the Board of Supervisors is going to adopt a resolution tomorrow that urges the City and County of San Francisco to establish a memorial for so called "comfort women."

<https://sfgov.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=3866247&GUID=1B765573-9914-45FE-8F03-B40036DAF02D>

Regrettably, the issue is riddled with propaganda and I urge that you refer to reliable official documents, such as U.S. Army report written in 1944, in order to ascertain the veracity of the claims and avoid defaming U.S. ally on false charges. The issue has become a major human rights problem for the Japanese people who have been suffering from defamation campaigns.

Many South Korean people, influenced by fictional TV dramas and cartoons, believe the women were forced to become sex workers, however, documentary evidence show that there was no Korean woman forced to become a sex worker by the Japanese authorities. They were very well paid and according to a U.S. Army document, some even married to Japanese soldiers.

In a reply to a parliamentary question, the Japanese government stated on 16 March 2007 that they found no evidence of coercion by the Japanese authorities in recruiting "comfort women". Until now, there is no evidence to the contrary despite extensive and thorough researches conducted by various actors.

Testimonies made by former "comfort women" change from time to time and sometimes contradict historical facts. For example, one of the most famous former "comfort women" Ms Kim Hak-sun told the media and the Tokyo District Court in Japan that she was sold to a Korean brothel by her mother, and then three years later her step father sold her to a brothel used by Japanese soldiers. However, she later changed her testimony and told the media: "A commissioned officer took me to the next room which was partitioned off by a cloth. Even though I did not want to go he dragged me into the room. I resisted but he tore off all of my clothes and in the end he took my virginity. That night, the officer raped me twice." She accused Japan of making her a sex slave.

It is true that many Korean "comfort women" had hard time after the Second World War. In 1992 a former "comfort woman" Ms Moon Ok-ju sued the Japanese government demanding to pay back her postal savings she deposited in just a few years until 1945 and the amount was 26,145 Japanese Yen which is equivalent to US\$1,000,000 today. Many Japanese people, including ethnic Korean Japanese, lost their savings after the war owing to hyperinflation and I feel sympathy for "comfort women" who endured the hardship.

However, the Japanese government cannot compensate for their losses. Japan and South Korea signed the Treaty on Basic Relations on 22 June 1965 and in the Agreement on the Settlement of Problems Concerning Property and Claims



and on Economic Co-operation between Japan and the ROK, both countries agreed that it has been “settled completely and finally.”

<http://www.ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~worldjpn/documents/texts/JPKR/19650622.T9E.html>

After receiving tens of billions of dollars (in current value) from the Japanese government, South Korea's military government lead by the incumbent president Pak Geun Hye's father paid only a small amount to individuals seeking reparations, but Japan cannot intervene on South Korea's legal affairs and cannot be responsible for the action of the military government. This is basically South Korea's internal affairs.

An interrogation report by the U.S. Office of War Information Psychological Warfare Team in 1944 tells us the truth about “comfort women”. You can see it on the website of Mr. Tony Marano in Texas who received it from the National Archives.

<http://texas-daddy.com/comfortwomen.htm>

It says very clearly: “A ‘comfort girl’ is nothing more than a prostitute or ‘professional camp follower’”

Their lifestyle was: “They lived in near-luxury in Burma in comparison to other places. This was especially true of their second year in Burma. They lived well because their food and material was not heavily rationed and they had plenty of money with which to purchase desired articles. They were able to buy cloth, shoes, cigarettes, and cosmetics to supplement the many gifts given to them by soldiers who had received ‘comfort bags’ from home.

While in Burma they amused themselves by participating in sports events with both officers and men, and attended picnics, entertainments, and social dinners. They had a phonograph and in the towns they were allowed to go shopping.”

It was amazing for me to find out that: “However there were numerous instances of proposals of marriage and in certain cases marriages actually took place.”

However, for humanitarian grounds, the Japanese government cannot announce the fact that “comfort women” were well-paid prostitutes, and Japan’s consideration for the old women has been taken advantage of by North and South Korea.

I hope you would understand that the Japanese government's position is based on the rule of law. Japan already made an unlawful compromise and paid a huge amount in the 1990s and 2000s, and cannot bend the Treaty or deny historical facts anymore.

South Korean media estimated that there are about 100,000 South Korean sex workers in the U.S., the EU, Australia and Japan and hundreds of thousands in their home country nowadays, but they cannot save one million dollars in just a few years like “comfort women”. In 2011, South Korean sex workers threatened to set themselves on fire in a demonstration to protect their brothels and one protestor complained her earnings have plunged from as much as \$9,200 a month to about \$3,700 after police crackdown.

[http://www.nbcnews.com/id/43650531/ns/world\\_news-asia\\_pacific/t/s-korean-sex-workers-threaten-set-themselves-fire-protect-their-brothels/](http://www.nbcnews.com/id/43650531/ns/world_news-asia_pacific/t/s-korean-sex-workers-threaten-set-themselves-fire-protect-their-brothels/)

Decades later, South Korean sex workers in San Francisco might demand apology and compensation from the U.S. government.

Finally, I would like to point out that raising the issue of military prostitution is not in the interest of the U.S. In 1945 when the U.S. military occupied Japan, something called the Recreation and Amusement Association was established in Japan for U.S. soldiers. I do not want to go further and I hope you will not ignite a row over it.

Thank you for your consideration,

Yours truly,

Ken Kato  
Director, Human Rights in Asia

P.S. If evidence emerged that “comfort women” were forced to become sex workers by the Japanese authorities, the Japanese government will certainly make a formal apology. I will be the first one to strongly demand it. Until such evidence emerges, accusations based on inconsistent testimonies are defamation.

**Carroll, John (BOS)**

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**From:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 11:04 AM  
**To:** BOS-Supervisors; BOS Legislation, (BOS)  
**Subject:** File 150764 FW: Anti-Japanese Racism By SF Board of Supervisors  
**Attachments:** ltr-comfort%20women-1.docx

**Categories:** 150764

**From:** Dana Sack [mailto:ds@sackrosendin.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 19, 2015 6:10 PM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS)  
**Subject:** Anti-Japanese Racism By SF Board of Supervisors

Dana Sack  
One Kaiser Plaza, Suite 340  
Oakland CA 94612  
510-286-2200  
ds@sackrosendin.com

July 16, 2015

Board of Supervisors  
City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco CA 94102

Re: Resolution No. 130632 – Bashing Japanese Citizens Over WWII

Dear Supervisors:

Please vote No on the racist anti-Japanese motion regarding the war crimes committed by the fascist government which took over Japan and drove its people to war. That government was conquered. That government is gone. The current people of Japan have had a constitution dedicated to peace ever since, and have abided by the literal terms and the principles which it represents.

Why do members of the Board of Supervisors believe that it is alright to insult the current peaceful people of Japan, and not pass similar resolutions and build similar monuments to the Native Americans and Africans slaughtered and enslaved by Americans, or the Tibetans and Uighurs attacked by the Chinese, or the Native Americans slaughtered and enslaved by the Spanish throughout Central and South America, or Christians and Jews slaughtered and exiled throughout the Arab world? Why single out the Japanese living today for conduct by people long dead and a government conquered, its leaders imprisoned and executed?

I am a native San Franciscan and the product of San Francisco schools and one of its universities. I majored in Chinese history and politics in college.

This resolution will not solve any problem and will not promote better relations among any of the parties. It will encourage anti-Japanese passions in Korea and China, and it will insult and demean the peaceful people of Japan. It could even promote and encourage a fascist movement in Japan which has been a fringe element since the war. This resolution will make the problem and the bad feelings in that part of the world worse.

Please do the right thing and vote no.

Very truly yours,

*Dana Sack*

Dana Sack

## **Carroll, John (BOS)**

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**From:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 11:05 AM  
**To:** BOS-Supervisors; BOS Legislation, (BOS)  
**Subject:** File 150764 FW: Resolution Based on Propaganda

**Categories:** 150764

-----Original Message-----

From: KATO Ken [mailto:kenkato.hra@nifty.com]  
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2015 7:50 AM  
To: Board of Supervisors, (BOS)  
Subject: Resolution Based on Propaganda

Dear Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,

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<https://sfgov.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=3866247&GUID=1B765573-9914-45FE-8F03-B40036DAF02D>

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Many South Korean people, influenced by fictional TV dramas and cartoons, believe the women were forced to become sex workers, however, documentary evidence show that there was no Korean woman forced to become a sex worker by the Japanese authorities. They were very well paid and according to a U.S. Army document, some even married to Japanese soldiers.

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It is true that many Korean "comfort women" had hard time after the Second World War. In 1992 a former "comfort woman" Ms Moon Ok-ju sued the Japanese government demanding to pay back her postal savings she deposited in just a few years until 1945 and the amount was 26,145 Japanese Yen which is equivalent to US\$1,000,000 today. Many Japanese people, including ethnic Korean Japanese, lost their savings after the war owing to hyperinflation and I feel sympathy for "comfort women" who endured the hardship.

However, the Japanese government cannot compensate for their losses. Japan and South Korea signed the Treaty on Basic Relations on 22 June 1965 and in the Agreement on the Settlement of Problems Concerning Property and Claims and on Economic Co-operation between Japan and the ROK, both countries agreed that it has been "settled completely and finally."

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## Carroll, John (BOS)

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**From:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 11:07 AM  
**To:** BOS-Supervisors; BOS Legislation, (BOS)  
**Subject:** File 150764 FW: Letter in support of Resolution #72  
**Attachments:** SF\_CW\_support.pdf  
**Categories:** 150764

**From:** yukoyukoyukoyuko@gmail.com [mailto:yukoyukoyukoyuko@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** SANS Nuclear  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 8:09 AM  
**To:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS); Lee, Mayor (MYR)  
**Subject:** Letter in support of Resolution #72

July 20th, 2015

Mayor Edwin Lee

City and County of San Francisco

City Hall, Room 200

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

San Francisco, California 94102

Dear Mayor Lee and the Members of the Board of Supervisors,

We are writing to you in support of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors for building a memorial to commemorate the victims of "Comfort Women" system.

We are NYC-based group of activists and researchers organizing educational programs and actions for social and environmental justice. We are deeply troubled by Japanese Nationalists in Japan as well as in the US who are attempting to revise the history of "Comfort Women" system. They claim that the memorial is an attack on Japanese Americans, and that similar memorials elsewhere in the U.S. have resulted in widespread hate crimes against Japanese residents, even though no such incident has been reported to authorities.



We are sure that you are already receiving a great number of messages from Japanese far-right groups in opposition to the proposed memorial. We want to assure you that these antagonistic nationalists and historical revisionists do not speak for the Japanese-American communities.

We appreciate your interest in addressing this very important issue, and we recognize your efforts as one of the important steps to learn lessons from the atrocities advanced by colonialism. We hope that the Board of Supervisors will express full support for the victims and survivors of the women harmed in the "comfort women" system.

Sincerely,

Members of Sloths Against Nuclear State

Sloths Against Nuclear State  
227 E 7<sup>th</sup> Street Apt 7G  
Brooklyn, NY 11218

July 20th, 2015

Mayor Edwin Lee  
City and County of San Francisco  
City Hall, Room 200  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, California 94102

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**Carroll, John (BOS)**

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**From:** Board of Supervisors, (BOS)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 11:08 AM  
**To:** BOS-Supervisors; BOS Legislation, (BOS)  
**Subject:** File 150764 FW: In Support of Establishment of a Memorial for "Comfort Women"  
**Attachments:** SF\_CW\_BOS.pdf

**Categories:** 150764

**From:** yukoyukoyukoyuko@gmail.com [mailto:yukoyukoyukoyuko@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** SANS Nuclear  
**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 8:28 AM  
**To:** BreedStaff, (BOS); Board of Supervisors, (BOS)  
**Subject:** In Support of Establishment of a Memorial for "Comfort Women"

July 20th, 2015

The Honorable London Breed  
President of the Board of Supervisors  
City and County of San Francisco  
City Hall, Room 244  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, California 94102

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## Where Should We Cast the First Stone in Condemning War Crimes?

By Jim Smith

(From John 8)

Protecting a woman about to be stoned for adultery by people Jesus perceived as hypocrites, Jesus said, **He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.**

Do we have prostitution in SF? Did a now-defunct progressive SF newspaper, for many years, earn a great deal of revenue from prostitution advertising?

Has prostitution been associated with the U.S. military? **Did the U.S. Army and Navy forces avail themselves of the comforts provided by prostitutes throughout Asia in the postwar period?** Did any of our Asian allies in Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines, and Vietnam make money off prostitution set up to serve U.S. forces?

**Has prostitution increased or decreased in China since Deng Hsiao-ping came to power?** Do girls from poor farming families in China come to Shanghai and sometimes end up as prostitutes?

In the 1960s, a different type of Chinese government issued statements—often on Radio Peking—saying that “The U.S. imperialists are worse than Hitler.” Any idea why they used such strong language? Were they justified? That was during the Vietnam War, when U.S. imperialist forces attacked the Vietnamese people. **Were there brothels in Vietnam serving U.S. troops in those days?**

**Do we have a monument to Vietnamese victims of U.S. imperialist atrocities?**

We do have a monument in Washington DC honoring U.S. military war dead. Is there any monument in Washington in memory of Vietnamese women and children killed by U.S. bombing?

The Japanese government and Japanese conservative political leaders are attacked for visiting Yasukuni, a shrine honoring Japanese war dead, including military fighters some would call war criminals.

**Does San Francisco have a monument glorifying U.S. imperialism and colonialism in Asia?**

**At Union Square, on May 13, 1903, Theodore Roosevelt dedicated a monument to the U.S. Navy's victory on May 1, 1898, when Commodore George Dewey steamed into Manila Bay in the Philippines;** 200,000 San Franciscans crowded the streets to see the event. The Chronicle's editorial page, declared that “. . . this city is destined to become the future seat of empire.”

Atop an 83-foot column, sculptor Robert Aitken designed a 12-foot statue of Victory carrying a laurel wreath in one hand and Neptune's trident in the other. The SF municipal report of 1901 explained that Dewey “added glory to American arms and gave the United States a position in the world as one of the great powers, thus extending American influence and exalting American citizenship.

Today imperialist rivalry between Chinese imperialists on one side and Japanese and U.S. imperialists on the other is intensifying. China and Japan are in an arms race. Each government is mounting propaganda campaigns against the other. **Could some of the impetus for monuments to victims of Japanese war crimes come from Chinese imperialist rivals?** Millions of Japanese citizens are disgusted by the

activities of Prime Minister Abe, Osaka Mayor Hashimoto and other right-wing Japanese politicians and academics who deny Japanese war crimes and promote Japanese patriotism and imperialism.

Do we have any right-wing pro-imperialist politicians in the U.S.? In San Francisco?

Do we have any monuments in the city to victims of U.S. war crimes?

I would urge the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to think a little more deeply about these issues and hold off on monuments to **particular sets of victims of war crimes committed by non-U.S. forces**. We should particularly hold off on such monuments while we have a disgraceful monument glorifying U.S. imperialism in the center of our city.

In the early 1900s, Filipinos resisted American occupiers, sustaining heavy casualties. Stanley Karnow, in his history of the islands, "In Our Image," wrote that "**an estimated 200,000 people died, the overwhelming majority of them Filipino civilians.**"

We should be concerned about war crimes, and the brutality of the Japanese Imperial Army and Navy inflicted on "comfort women," including Chinese, Korean AND Japanese women should be condemned. **But if we want to condemn war crimes in Asia, shouldn't we first address our own war crimes.** The annual observances of the dropping of Atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki are approaching. **Was the killing of more than 100,000 civilians with two atomic bombs justified? Or was that a war crime?** Arguments saying it was justified are regularly made in our history textbooks and on our big city newspaper editorial pages.

He who is w/o sin cast the first stone.

Our time and efforts can be better spent on working for international unity against imperialism be it Chinese, Japanese or American. **Let's start by getting rid of the Dewey Monument and cancelling the Blue Angels festival. We can also discuss developing a peace park with proper monuments and exhibits in memory of all victims of imperialist war.**

James B. Smith  
1985 Grove Street  
San Francisco, CA 94117  
Email: luckyj67@gmail.com

# Introduction Form

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor

Time stamp  
or meeting date

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):

- 1. For reference to Committee:   
An ordinance, resolution, motion, or charter amendment.
- 2. Request for next printed agenda without reference to Committee.
- 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee:
- 4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor  inquires"
- 5. City Attorney request.
- 6. Call File No.  from Committee.
- 7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion).
- 8. Substitute Legislation File No.
- 9. Request for Closed Session (attach written motion).
- 10. Board to Sit as A Committee of the Whole.
- 11. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on

Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:

- Small Business Commission       Youth Commission       Ethics Commission
- Planning Commission       Building Inspection Commission

**Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a different form.**

Sponsor(s): *KIM*

*Mar, Cohen, Christensen, Yee, Farrell, Campos | AVALOS*

**Subject:**

Resolution Urging the Establishment of a Memorial for "Comfort Women" in San Francisco

**The text is listed below or attached:**

Please see attached document.

Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor: *ERIC MAR*

For Clerk's Use Only:



**Caldeira, Rick (BOS)**

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**From:** Lee, Ivy (BOS)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 14, 2015 3:18 PM  
**To:** BOS Legislation, (BOS)  
**Cc:** Caldeira, Rick (BOS); Lim, Victor (BOS)  
**Subject:** Mar - Resolution re: 'comfort women'

Please add Supervisor Kim as a co-sponsor. Thank you!

Ivy

Ivy Lee  
Legislative Aide, Supervisor Jane Kim/District 6  
415.554.7973 (direct)  
ivy.lee@sfgov.org

[Sign up for the District 6 newsletter](#)

File No. 150764

Committee Item No. \_\_\_\_\_

Board Item No. \_\_\_\_\_

## COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### AGENDA PACKET CONTENTS LIST

Committee: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Board of Supervisors Meeting

Date: July 21, 2015

#### Cmte Board

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|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Motion                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Resolution                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Ordinance                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Legislative Digest                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Budget and Legislative Analyst Report        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Youth Commission Report                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Introduction Form                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Department/Agency Cover Letter and/or Report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | MOU  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Grant Information Form                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Grant Budget                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Subcontract Budget                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Contract/Agreement                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Form 126 – Ethics Commission                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Award Letter                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Application                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Public Correspondence                        |

OTHER (Use back side if additional space is needed)

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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

Completed by: John Carroll

Date: July 16, 2015

Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_