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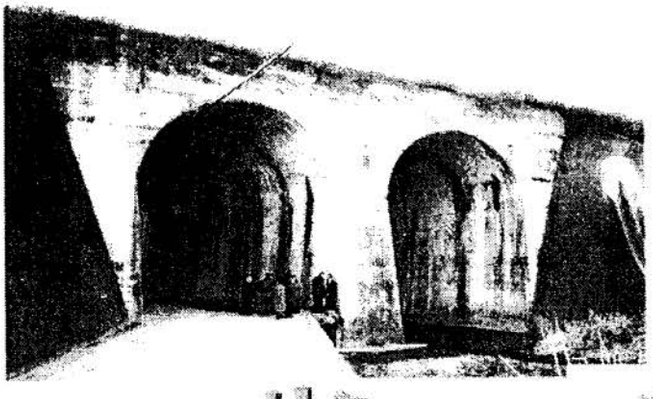
Korea Democracy Foundation

美軍에 의한 노근리 양민학살 사건과 관련
韓美 NCC 활동사항 보고 자료집







1999/11/22

한국기독교교회협의회 인권위원회

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■ 한국기독교교회협의회 인권위원회 「미군에 의한 노근리 양민학살 사건」 관련 활동사항

1. **·97년 11월 16일**- 「노근리 학살사건 진상규명대책위」(위원장 : 정은용)로부터 청원서 접수.

2. **·97년 12월 2일** - 진상조사단(단장: 이명남 목사, 위원: 이해동 목사, 강성기 목사, 박연철 변호사, 노영우 목사, 김경남 목사)조직 및 사건현장 방문(단장: 이명남 목사, 이해동 목사, 강성기 목사, 김용헌 목사)하여 생존자 정구호씨 등 6명의 증언 녹취.

3.**·97년 12월 8일** - 인권주간 목요기도회에서 노근리 사건 증언(정은용 위원장)

4. **·98년 4월 22일** - 김대중 대통령과 박상천 법무부 장관에게 노근리 학살사건의 진상과 피해자에 대한 정당한 보상을 요구하는 탄원서 제출.

5. **·98년 4월 22일** - 미 클린턴 대통령과 미국기독교교회협의회(NCCC-USA, 총무 캠벨) 앞으로 노근리사건의 정당하고 조속한 해결을 촉구하는 청원서 제출.

6. **·98년 7월 28일** - 충북 영동군 황간면 노근리 앞 학살현장에서 가진 「한국전쟁 참전 미군의 노근리 양민학살 사건 희생자 합동위령제」 참석 및 입장발표(이명남 목사, 임홍기 목사, 김용헌 목사).

7. **·99년 3월 22일** - 미국기독교교회협의회가 미육군성(Department of army)으로부터 "남한의 노근리에서 미군에 의해 저질러진 양민학살에 대한 기록없음"이란 내용의 회신받다.

8. **·99년 9월 30일** - 美언론(AP) 발표이후 노근리 양민학살 사건에 대한 성명발표

9. **·99년 10월 8일** - 노근리 양민학살 진상규명과 올바른 해결을 촉구하는 「제 시민사회 종교단체 공동기자회견」 참여 및 「미군에 의한 양민학살 진상규명을 위한 공동대책위원회」 구성에 참여.

10. **·99년 10월 12일** - 노근리 사건 가족대책 회의 임홍기 인권국장 참석(장소: 영동군 임계리)

11. **·99년 10월 14일** - 노근리 학살 사건 진상촉구 목요기도회 기최(증언: 정은용

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위원장, 정구도씨)

12. **·99년 11 월 8일** - 미국 NCC 50주년 행사에 초청받고 김동완 총무와 노근리 대책위 및 생존자, 정은용,정구도,양해숙,금초자,정구도씨 방미.-KNCC 입장발표.

13. **'99년 11월 9일** - 미국 증언 방문단 클리브랜드 도착, 미국 언론 TV News, 신문 노근리 생존자 방문보도 시작. 미국NCC 50주년 기념 행사에 조안 캠벨 (Rev. Dr. Joan B. Campbell) 총무 방문단 소개

14. **·99년 11월 10일** - 화해와 추모를 위한 예배참석, 정은용 위원장의 보고와 김동완 총무인사, 가해자의 보고와 사건진상을 밝히기 위한 촛불예식, 韓美기독교교회협의회 공동성명 발표, 가해자 3명과 증언자 3명 대면, 미국NCC와 한국NCC 주최로 공동기자회견 진행.

15. **·99년 11월 11일** - 워싱톤 도착, 한국참전용사 기념탑 방문 헌화,

16. **·99년 11월 12일** - 美국방부 공식방문 증언함, 공동 성명서 발표, National Press Club에서 기자회견, 주한미대사관 방문 노근리사건 대책위와 함께 논의, 이홍구 주미대사 초청만찬 참석.

17. **·99년 11월 13일** - 벨츠빌 교회에서 「증언의 밤」시간에 김동완 총무 인사 및 정은용 위원장 보고와 생존자의 증언.

18. **·99년 11월 14일** - 수도장로교회 예배 참석 및 증언의 시간, 김동완 총무 설교, 정은용 위원장 인사, 생존자 증언의 시간.

19. **·99년 11월 15-18일** - 대책위와 증언자의 LA방문, 증언의 시간.

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미군에 의한 노근리 양민학살 사건
증언 방문단 과정과 일정

1. 방문자 명단

1) KNCC 김동완 총무
노정선 통일위원회 부위원장 (통역)
2) 대책위원회 정은용 위원장
정구도 기획위원
3) 생존증언자 양해숙 (왼쪽 눈 잃음)
금초자 (오른쪽 옆구리 관통)
정구학 (코와 안면 총상)

2. 방문일정 및 과정

1) 방문기간 1999.11.8-18
2) 방문초청단체 NCCC-USA
3) 방문하게 된 과정

(1) KNCC는 1997년 11월, 미군에 의한 노근리 양민학살 사건을 접하게 되어 아래와 같은 과정을 진행하였다.

가. 과정일지

1997년11월14일 정은용 노근리 학살사건 진상규명 대책위원회 위원장으로부터 청원서를 접수받다.
1997년11월24일 한국기독교교회협의회 진상조사단 구성
1997년12월 2일 진상조사단이 노근리를 방문하고 생존자들과 면담
1997년12월 8일 목요기도회를 개최하고 정은용 위원장으로부터 증언 청취
1998년 4월24일 김대중 대통령과 박상천 법무부 장관에게 사건 진상 조사와 피해자에 대한 정당한 보상을 요구하는 탄원서 제출
1998년 6월15일 빌 클린턴 대통령과 미국교회협의회(조안 브라운 캠벨 총무)앞으로 노근리 사건의 정당하고 조속한 해결을 촉구하는 청원서 제출
1998년 7월28일 충북 영동군 황간면 노근리 앞 학살현장에서 가진 <한국전쟁참전 미군의 노근리 양민학살 사건 희생자 합동위령제> 참석
1998년12월18일 미국교회협의회가 윌리엄 코헨 국방장관에게 노근리 사건에 대한 답변을 요청
1999년 3월22일 미국교회협의회가 미육군성으로부터 '남한의 노근리에서 미군에 의해 저질러진 양민학살에 대한 기록없음'이란

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내용의 회신을 받음

1999년 9월30일 미언론(AP통신)이 에드워드 데일리의 증언에 기초해서 노근리사건을 보도함. 보도된 후 성명서 발표

1999년10월 7일 에드워드 데일리가 미국교회협의회 조안 브라운 캠벨 총무 앞으로 노근리에서 있었던 일에 대해 기록한 편지를 보냄

1999년10월 8일 노근리 양민학살 진상규명과 올바른 해결을 촉구하는 <제 시민사회 종교단체 공동기자회견> 참여 및 <미군에 의한 양민학살 진상규명을 위한 꽁동대책위원회>구성에 참여

1999년10월12일 노근리 양민학살 진상규명 대책위원회 회의에 참석

1999년10월14일 진상규명을 촉구하는 목요기도회 개최

1999년11월 8일 미국교회협의회 50주년 기념행사 일환으로 미국으로 초청 11월18일까지 클리브랜드, 워싱톤, LA등을 방문

나. AP통신의 노력 : AP통신은 긴 기간동안 이 사건을 추적 1999년 9월 30일 참전 미군 에드워드 데일리 (E. Daily)의 증언을 기초로 하여 사건을 보도하다.

다. 에드워드 데일리의 인적사항 및 증언 내용

- 주소 : Korean War Veterans Chapter
  7th U. S. Cavalry Association Life Member
  2888 Kirk Road Clarksville, TN 37043-1302
- 참전당시 18세로 고등학교를 졸업,
  노근리 현장에서 30분간 명령에 따라 기관총을 발사했음.
  노근리 쌍굴에 현장을 조사, 어린아이와 여성 부상자와 노인 뿐임을 보고했으나 다시 사살 명령을 받고 총격을 가했음을 시인했음.
  자신은 현장에서 생존자가 한 사람도 없었을 것으로 생각했다고 증언했음.

3. 방문 중요 일정

11월 8일 13:30 기독교회관에서 방문 증언자들, 내외신 출발 기자회견

18:30 서울 출발 (KE 035편)

20:25 시카고를 거쳐 클리브랜드에 도착,
미국NCC 빅터 슈 국장등의 영접을 받음

11월 9일 아침 TV News와 신문이 증언자 방문을 보도하기 시작

12:00 미국NCC 50주년 기념 오찬에 참석,
조안 캠벨 (Rev. Dr. Joan B. Campbell) 총무가 내빈으로 소개

11월10일 현지 각 언론이 증언자와 가해자들의 참석 예배에 대해 보도

12:00 화해와 추모를 위한 예배에 참석, 정은용 위원장의 보고와 김동완 총무의 인사가 있었고, 가해자의 보고와 사건 진상을 밝히기 위한

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촛불 키는 예식이 있었음. 한미기독교교회협의회 공동성명 발표

13:00 (-15:00) 가해자 3명과 증언자 3명의 만나과 대화를 가짐

16:00 (-17:00) 공동기자회견을 미국NCC와 한국NCC 주최로 진행함

11월11일 13:05 클리브랜드 출발 (UA7334편)

14:27 워싱톤 도착

17:00 미국 현충일이어서 증언자들이 한국참전용사 기념탑 방문, 헌화함

11월12일 11:00 미국방부 공식방문 증언함, 공동 성명서 발표

미국 참석자 대표 Charles L. Cragin (국방부 차관보),
Patrick T. Henry (육군성 인력국 부비서관),
Michael Ackerman (육군성 수사국, 육군 중장)
등 18명

한국 참석자 KNCC 김동완 총무
노정선 교수(KNCC 통일위 부위원장, 통역)
대책위 정은용 위원장
정구도
증언자 이해숙
금초자
정구학
NCCCUSA 빅터 슈 국장
A.P.C 미리암 영 국장
황인성

15:00 National Press Club에서 세계언론과 기자회견

17:00 주한미대사관 방문. 노근리사건대책위와 함께 논의

19:00 이홍구 주미대사 초청 만찬 참석

11월13일 19:00 벨츠빌 교회에서 증언의 밤
김동완 총무 인사 및 정은용 위원장 보고와 생존자의 증언

11월14일 13:00 수도장로교회에서 예배 참석 및 증언의 시간을 가짐
김동완 총무 설교, 정은용 위원장 인사, 생존자 증언의 시간

11월15-18일 대책위와 증언자의 LA방문, 증언의 시간을 가짐

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

1950년 7월 26-29일

노근리 양민학살 사건에 대한 공동성명서

한국기독교교회협의회와 미국교회협의회는 한국전쟁 중 1950년 7월 26일-29일 사이에 일어난 노근리 사건의 생존자들의 탄원에 대해 협조해 줄 것을 요청받았다. 우리는 양국가와 국민들을 치유하고 화해하는 긴 과정을 시작하기 위해 이 사건에 대응하기로 합의했다.

우리는 도덕적 책임을 갖고 있기 때문에 비극적으로 사살된 400여명이나 되는 원혼들의 유족들이 겪은 고통과 수백명의 생존자 및 그 가족들의 고통을 정치지도자들에게 알렸다. 반세기라는 장구한 세월이 흘렀음에도 불구하고 정신적인 고통과 상처들은 여전히 지울을 괴롭히고 있다.

우리는 또한 노근리 생존자들의 증언들을 확인해 주는 참전자들에게 정확한 사실을 알려주어야 할 필요가 있기 때문에 이 사건에 대해 대응해왔다. 많은 참전자들은 노근리 양민을 사살한 기억으로 고통스러워하고 있었다. 현재 자신들의 행위에 대한 공식적인 증인 때문에 그들은 함께 참전했던 전우들의 분노에 찬 피드백을 견뎌내야만 했다.

양국의 공식적인 조사가 시작되었고, 우리는 이 조사단이 진실을 밝힐 것을 촉구한다. 우리 양국의 역사는 특별히 국가 안보가 위협에 처할 때 많은 부분이 왜곡되었다. 우리는 이 사건의 경우 한국전쟁 당시 노근리에서 어떤 일이 있었는지 그 진실을 정확히 규명하는 것만이 희생자들과 생존자들, 그리고 그 가족들을 치유하는 초석을 놓는 길이라고 믿는다. 우리는 또한 노근리 사건에 대한 군당국의 설명이 불충분하고 부적당했다고 본다. 이번 조사에서는 모든 진실이 밝혀져야 하며 생존자들이 말하는 증언들과 넬넬 참전군인들의 증언들도 수용해야 한다. 이 증언은 과에 의해 지금까지 무시되어 왔다.

한국기독교교회협의회와 미국교회협의회는 뼈속 깊이 사무친 노근리 생존자들의 증언들을 지켜볼 것이다. 많은 불의한 일과 고통이 생존자들과 그 가족들을 괴롭혀왔다. 그들은 조사가 빠른 속도로 이루어지고 있다는 소식을 듣고 기뻐하고 있다. 조사를 해 달라는 생존자들의 탄원은 오랫동안 무시되어 왔고 따라서 이것은 양국의 군이 가지고 있는 효율적인 민주시 봉사망에 심각한 의문을 불러일으켰다. 노근리 진상규명을 위한 대책운동은 잘못된 과거를 알리고, 기록을 꾸밈없이 남기며, 생존자들과 그의 가족들의 고통을 배상할 수 있는 좋은 기회이다. 양 교회협의회는 이 사건이 종결될 때까지 지속적으로 협력하고 함께 할 것인을 밝힌다.

1999년 11월10일
미국 · 클리브랜드
한국기독교교회협의회
미국교회협의회

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

Nov. 12. 1999

STATEMENT APPROVED
for release upon conclusion of Henry/Cragin meeting with Nokuen-Ri Committee

Charles L. Cragin, Principal Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Patrick T. Henry, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and Lt. Gen. Michael Ackerman, the Army's Inspector General, today met with four survivors of the Nokuen-Ri bridge incident. The group is travelling in the United States under the sponsorship of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Ackerman previously met with the survivors during a trip to Korea in October. During the hour long meeting today, Henry, Cragin and Ackerman expressed their appreciation to the group for making the trip to the United States, reiterated the US pledge to continue to work closely with the ROK government, and assured the survivors that the Department of Defense will vigorously and expeditiously pursue and publish the facts of what happened at Nokuen-Ri. Henry, Cragin and Ackerman also explained how the review is being conducted. Members of the Korean group related experiences about the Nokuen-Ri bridge incident. Both parties agreed that communication is key to the integrity of the review. The meeting ended with assurances from Henry, Cragin and Ackerman that the US will continue its effort to determine expeditiously the facts of what happened at Nokuen-Ri as a tribute to the shared sacrifices of the Korean and American people during the Korean War.

Korean Representatives present at the meeting

Survivors
Chung Eun Yong
Chung Koo Do
Chung Koo Hak
Yang Hae Sook
Keum Cho Ja

Rev. Kim, Dong Wan. General Secretary, National Council of Churches in Korea
Noh, JONGSUN Vice Chair. Reunification Committee, NCCK.
Professor. Yonsei University.

Also Present
Victor Hsu Director NCCCUSA
Hwang In Sung Fellow APC
Miriam A. Young Director. Asia Pacific Center for Justice and Peace

Jong Sun Noh

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Korea Democracy Foundation

노근리 미군 양민학살 사건 진상조사 보고서

1. **한국기독교교회협의회 정의와 인권위원회**는 노근리 미군양민학살 사건에 대한 진상조사단(단장 이명남 목사)을 구성하고 영동군 황간면 노근리 학살현장을 방문하였습니다. 그리고 당시 생존자들의 증언과 「노근리사건 대책위원회」의 자료 등을 토대로 이 보고서를 작성했습니다.

   보다 자세한 사건의 배경과 일시, 장소, 정황, 피해상황 등은 노근리 대책위원회의 사건개요서를 참조하시기 바랍니다.

2. **진상조사단**
   - 이명남 목사(교회협 정의와 인권위원장, 단장)
   - 이해동 목사(교회협 정의와 인권위원)
   - 강성기 목사(교회협 정의와 인권위원)
   - 김용헌 목사(교회협 사회국 간사)

3. **진상조사일**

   1997년 12월 2일

4. **진상조사 내용**

   1) **생존자 면담**

   조사단은 주곡리 마을회관에서 당시 생존자 정진명씨등 7명의 증언을 듣고 녹화하였습니다.

   (1) 정구호
   - 생년월일 : 1938년(당시 국민학교 6학년)
   - 현거주지 : 영동군 주곡리
   - 증언내용 : 7월 25일 미군들이 주곡리와 임계리 마을에 와서 주민들을 피난시켜 주겠다며 따라오라고 해 500여명이 경부선 철로변 국도를 따라 걸어갔다. 하룻밤을 노숙한 다은날인 26일, 노근리 입구에서 미군들이 철로위로 올라가라고 해서 모두 올라갔으며 미군들은 외곽에서 경계를 섰고, 미군정찰기가 선회하고 있었다. 그리고 미군들이 없어지고 갑자기 미군정찰기가 모여있는 주민들에게 폭탄을 떨어뜨리고 기관총을 쏘아댔다. 이 때 100명 이상이 철로위에서 죽었다.

     갑작스러운 폭력에 놀란 주민들은 철로밑 수로로 숨기도 하고 사방으로 흩어져 숨었다. 그리고 미군이 다시 나타나 노근리마을 입구 굴다리로 모이라고 해서 살아남은 사람들 300여명이 굴다리 안에 모였다. 당시 젊은이들은 거의 도망가고 모인 사람들은 대부분이 부녀자

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와 노인, 어린이들이였으며 갓난아이들도 있었다. 그러나 미군은 굴다리 양쪽 입구에 기관총을 설치하고 굴속을 향하여 사격을 하였다. 놀란 사람들은 죽은 사람의 몸으로 입구를 막고 이 때부터 29일까지 나흘간 아무것도 먹지 못한 채 지내야 했다. 굴다리 밑 개울물을 먹으러 내려가다가 총에 맞아 죽기도했으며, 29일까지 굴다리에서 살아남은 사람은 10여명에 불과했고 나머지 300여명은 모두 죽었다. 죽은 어미의 젖을 빨던 갓난아이도 죽었다. 다행이 젊은이 몇 명이 탈출에 성공하기도 했다.

당시 폭격과 사격으로 일가족이 몰살을 당하여 누구도 호적정리를 못해 현재까지 당시 사망자가 호적상에 생존해 있는 것으로 되어 있는 경우도 있다.

(2) 양해수

- 생년월일 : 1938년 4월 26일, 60세
- 현거주지 : 영동읍 해동리(전화 0414-43-4957)
- 증언내용 : 7월 26일 노근리 철로 위에서 미군비행기의 폭격과 사격으로 부, 조모, 오빠, 고모부가 죽었다. 미군이 굴다리 밑으로 피신하면 살 수 있다고하여 부상당한 어머니와 여동생(당시 3살), 고종사촌과 함께 굴다리로 피신했다. 그러나 미군은 굴다리 앞에 기관총을 갔다놓고 나흘동안 사람들을 향하여 총을 쏘았다. 며칠동안 아무것도 먹지 못한 상태에서 물을 먹으러 개울로 내려가면 미군이 총을 쏘아댔고 죽은 사람의 시체로 개울물은 붉은 피로 물들었다.

(3) 정진명

- 생년월일 : 1930년 10월 10일생
- 현거주지 : 대전 대사동 전화 042)253-3280
- 증언내용 : 7월 26일 철로 위에서 미군비행기 폭격에 의해 어머니(양계순)와 형수가 현장에서 사망하였다. 또한 숙부(정찬석)와 숙모, 사촌인 정진주, 정순오, 정순덕 등 일가족이 사망하였다.(97년 11월 14일 정진명씨가 친족으로서 숙부의 사망신고를 하였으며, 늦게 했다는 이유로 과태료까지 지불함)

폭격에 살아남은 사람들이 철로밑 수로에 숨어 있었을 때 미군들이 나타나 나오라고 하면서 사격을 하였다. 이 때 우측 대퇴부에 관통상을 입었으며 지금까지 장애가 남아 있다.

(4) 조남주

- 생년월일 : 1933년 2월 5일
- 현거주지 : 대구시 대명5동(전화 053-623-2914)
- 증언내용 : 당시 임계리에 살았으며 21살이었다. 임계리에 피신해 있을 때 미군이 들어와 피난가야한다고 해서 따라 나섰다. 당시 부모와 형수, 동생들, 숙부내 식구가 함께 따라 나섰다. 노근리 철로 위에서 미군비행기의 폭격으로 모(정선분), 누이동생(조종례), 남동생 3명(조남

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열, 조길진, 조남옥), 숙부, 형수가 즉사하고 여동생과 본인만 살아남았다.

(5) 박용대

- 생년월일 : 70세 이상
- 현거주지 : 영동군 주곡리
- 증언내용 : 당시 아들이 굴다리 안에서 죽었다. 그러나 당시 아들의 출생신고를 하지 못해 보상신청도 하지 못한다. 당시에는 혼인신고도 하지 않고 사는 사람이 많았고, 죽은 사람들 가운데는 출생과 혼인 미신고로 친족이 확인되지 않은 사람들이 많았다. 그리고 우리 마을(주곡리, 임계리) 사람들 외에 대전에서 피난 온 사람들도 상당히 많았다.

(6) 전춘자

- 생년월일 : 1943년 9월 8일
- 현거주지 : 부산시 광안동(전화 051-753-7597)
- 증언내용 : 7월 26일 미군을 따라 피난을 가던중 철로 위로 올라가라고하여 올라갔으나 잠시후 미군비행기의 폭격이 있었고 어머니는 머리에 총을 맞고 즉사했다. 그리고 할아버지, 작은아빠, 작은엄마도 현장에서 사망했다. 그리고 나는 다른 사람의 손에 이끌이어 굴다리로 들어갔다.

(7) 양해찬

- 생년월일 : 당시 9세
- 현거주지 : 영동군, 영동군의회 의원
- 증언내용 : 피난중인 주민들에게 미군은 폭탄을 터트리고 사격을 가했다. 이를 피해 수로에 숨어 있던 사람들에게도 총을 쏘았다. 굴다리에 모아놓고 나흘동안 사격하였다. 당시 나도 굴다리에 사흘동안 있다가 7월 28일 늦은 밤이나 29일 새벽에 굴다리를 탈출하여 집으로 가던중 하가리(노근리에서 서울쪽 7Km)마을 앞에서 인민군을 처음 만났다. 7월 26일부터 29일사이 인민군은 사건 현장에 없었다.

  현재 영동군의회 차원에서 노근리 사건의 진실여부와 실태파악을 위해 특별위원회를 구성하도록 제안한 상태이다.

2) 사건현장 방문

(1) 노근리 마을입구 경부선 철로밑 쌍굴다리(폭 5미터, 길이 20미터)에는 당시 미군의 집중사격으로 수십곳에 탄흔이 남아있었다.

(2) 철로변에서의 폭격과 기총소사를 피해 수로로 몸을 숨긴 피난민들을 향해 사격을 가함으로 수로에도 여러개의 탄흔이 남아있었다.

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본회는 이 사건은 전쟁중이라는 미명아래 인간의 존엄성을 유린한 양민학살 사건으로 보고 있으며, 반인도적 범죄에는 법적인 시효가 중지된다는 국제인권법의 정신에 따라 해결하여 주실 것을 바랍니다. 또한 본회는 귀 정부가 30년전인 1968년 3월 16일, 베트남 전쟁 때 미군이 수백명의 양민을 학살한 '미라이 학살사건'의 진상을 밝히고 양민학살을 증언한 미군병사들에게 무공훈장까지 수여한 것에 주목하고 있습니다. 또한 미국무부가 종군위안부 문제와 관련하여 일본정부가 피해자에게 배상할 책임이 있다고 밝힌 것을 환영하고 있습니다.

이에 본회는 우리 민족의 최대 비극인 한국전쟁의 쓰라린 많은 상처들을 조속히 치유하고 더욱 긴밀한 한미관계의 증진을 위해서 귀 정부가 조속히 노근리 사건의 진상규명과 피해보상에 임하기를 바라면서 아래와 같이 청원합니다.

1) 노근리 사건의 철저한 진상조사를 위하여 미국정부가 조사단을 구성하여 면밀히 조사하여 주시기 바랍니다.

2) 한국전쟁에 관한 기록중 영동 · 황간에서의 전투상황에 대한 귀 국의 각종 자료들을 조사하여 공개하여 주실 것을 바랍니다.

3) 미국정부가 이 사건 피해자와 그 유가족들에 대하여 정당한 보상 또는 배상을 시행하기를 바랍니다.

4) 미국정부가 노근리 사건의 희생자와 유가족에게 사죄하는 입장을 밝히기를 바랍니다.

* 첨부자료

1. 진상조사 보고서 1부.(한국기독교교회협의회 정의와 인권위원회)
2. 노근리 미군양민학살 사건 개요 1부.(노근리사건 대책위원회)

1998. 4.

한국기독교교회협의회 총 무 김 동 완
정의와 인권 위 원 회 위원장 이 명 남

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총무실 : 763-7990 행정국 : 763-8427 홍보실 : 742-8981 FAX : 744-6189

수 신 : 김대중 대통령 귀하 1998년 4월 22일
참 조 : 비서실장 귀하
내 용 : 한국전쟁 참전 미군의 영동군 노근리 양민학살사건 진상규명과 피해자보상 등 청원에 관한 건

국가적 경제위기 극복과 사회개혁을 위하여 애쓰시는 대통령과 정부 각 부처 위에 하나님의 도우심이 함께 하시기를 기원합니다.

본회는 97년 11월 16일 한국전쟁중 미군의 무차별 학살로 희생된 충북 영동군 임계리와 주곡리 마을사람들의 노근리 학살사건의 진상규명과 피해보상 등을 바라는 청원서를 접수받았습니다.

이에 본회 정의와 인권위원회는 위원회를 개최하고 이 문제에 대한 정확한 조사를 위하여 진상조사단(단장 이명남 목사, 이해동 목사, 강성기 목사, 박연철 변호사, 노영우 목사, 김경남 목사)을 구성하였습니다. 그리고 97년 12월 2일 조사단은 사건현장을 방문하고 생존자들의 증언을 녹취하는 등의 조사활동을 벌였습니다.

그 결과 본회는 비전투중인 상황에서 미군이 무고한 양민을 고의로 학살했다는 사실을 생존자들의 증언을 통하여 확인할 수 있었습니다. 이에 지금이라도 노근리 학살사건의 진상과 피해자에 대한 정당한 보상이 이루어져야 한다는 취지에서 별첨 '청원서'와 같이 본회의 입장과 바램을 정리하여 청원하오니 조속히 문제가 해결될 수 있도록 조치하여 주시기 바랍니다.

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총 무 김 동 [illegible]
정의와 인권 위원회
위원장 이 명 [illegible]

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수 신 : 박상천 법무부장관님 귀하 1998년 4월 22일
참 조 : 본부배상심의회 위원장님 귀하
내 용 : 한국전쟁 참전 미군의 영동군 노근리 양민학살사건 진상규명과 피해자보상 등 청원에 관한 건

국가적 경제위기 극복과 법치사회 실현을 위하여 애쓰시는 장관님과 귀 기관 위에 하나님의 도우심이 함께 하시기를 기원합니다.

본회는 97년 11월 16일 한국전쟁중 미군의 무차별 학살로 희생된 충북 영동군 임계리와 주곡리 마을사람들의 노근리 학살사건의 진상규명과 피해보상 등을 바라는 청원서를 접수받았습니다.

이에 본회 정의와 인권위원회는 위원회를 개최하고 이 문제에 대한 정확한 조사를 위하여 진상조사단(단장 이명남 목사, 이해동 목사, 강성기 목사, 박연철 변호사, 노영우 목사, 김경남 목사)을 구성하였습니다. 그리고 97년 12월 2일 조사단은 사건현장을 방문하고 생존자들의 증언을 녹취하는 등의 조사활동을 벌였습니다.

그 결과 본회는 비전투중인 상황에서 미군이 무고한 양민을 고의로 학살했다는 사실을 생존자들의 증언을 통하여 확인할 수 있었습니다. 이에 지금이라도 노근리 학살사건의 진상과 피해자에 대한 정당한 보상이 이루어져야 한다는 취지에서 별첨 '청원서'와 같이 본회의 입장과 바램을 정리하여 청원하오니 조속히 문제가 해결될 수 있도록 조치하여 주시기 바랍니다.

한국기독교교회협의회
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Korea Democracy Foundation

청 원 서

본회는 97년 12월 우리 역사상 첫 경험인 여야간 수평적 '정권교체'가 5천년 우리 민족의 새 역사를 열기 위한 하나님의 섭리라고 생각하고 있습니다.

또한 국가적 경제위기 상황을 국민적 합의와 사회 각 분야에서의 개혁과 개선을 통하여 슬기롭게 극복하려는 정부의 노력에 격려를 보내드립니다.

그러나 실업문제를 비롯한 당면한 문제와 함께 정치 · 경제개혁을 통한 선진 민주사회 건설, 민족의 통일이라는 산적한 과제들이 놓여 있는 상황에서 새 정부의 개혁에 대한 확고한 의지와 노력이 무엇보다 중요하리라 생각합니다.

또한 개혁의 첫 출발은 과거 민주화와 통일의 외침을 힘으로 억누르고 탄압했던 왜곡된 역사를 바로세우는 일이라 생각합니다. 왜곡된 역사의 진실을 밝히지 않고는 결코 새로운 역사를 만들어 나갈 수 없다는 것이 역사가 우리에게 가르쳐 주는 교훈이기 때문입니다.

특별히 본회는 한국전쟁 당시인 1950년 7월 25일부터 동월 29일까지 사이에 미군(제 1기병사단 소속)들이 충북 영동군 황간면 노근리 소재 경부선 철로위와 철로밑 굴다리 밑에서 인근마을 피난민 5백여명을 공중폭격과 기총소사, 집중사격으로 최소 3백명 이상을 학살한 사건의 진실규명과 피해자들의 보상 등을 위해 정부가 노력해 줄 것을 간절히 바랍니다.

현재 생존자와 유가족 135명은 이 사건과 관련하여 97년 8월 25일 청주지구배상심의회 국가배상청구를 하였으나 청주지구배상심의회는 ▶미군에 의한 불법행위라 입증할 만한 증거가 없고 ▶전투활동(교전)중 발생한 사고로 민사청구권이 배제되고 ▶국가의 불법행위로 인한 손해배상청구권의 시효가 소멸되었다는 이유로 기각하였습니다. 그리고 지금은 법무부 본부배상심의회에 재심을 신청한 상태입니다.

그러나 당시 현장에 있다가 살아남은 생존자들은 미군과 미군비행기에 의한 학살이 명백하며, 7월 25일부터 29일까지는 북한군과의 교전이 단 한 차례도 없었던 비전투 상황이었으며, 희생자들은 대부분이 피난민인 부녀자와 어린이, 노인들이었다고 증언하고 있습니다.

노근리 사건은 48년전 미군에 의해 저질러진 사건입니다만 우리 사회의 반공이데올로기로 인해 지금까지 숨겨져 왔던 사건이기도 합니다. 그러나 당시의 학

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살만행을 목격한 생존자들이 많이 돌아가시고 몇 분만이 살아 있습니다. 생존자들은 이 사건의 진실이 밝혀지고 이에 따른 정당한 배상을 국가가 책임질 것을 간절히 바라고 있습니다.

본회는 이 사건은 전쟁중이라는 미명아래 인간의 존엄성을 유린한 양민학살 사건으로 보고 있으며, 반인도적 범죄에는 법적인 시효가 중지된다는 국제인권법의 정신에 따라 해결하여 주실 것을 바랍니다. 또한 미군은 노근리 양민학살이 반인도적 행위임을 반성하고 희생자와 그 유가족에게 사과해야 할 것입니다.

이에 본회는 우리 민족의 최대 비극인 한국전쟁의 쓰라린 많은 상처들을 조속히 치유하고 남북의 화해와 민족 번영의 길을 열기 위한 차원에서 정부가 조속히 노근리 사건의 진상규명과 피해보상에 임하기를 아래와 같이 청원합니다.

1) 정부는 노근리 사건의 진상을 조사하기 위한 조사단 구성, 또는 진상조사 위원회를 구성하여 면밀히 조사하여 주시기 바랍니다.

2) 한국전쟁에 관한 기록중 영동 · 황간에서의 전투상황에 대한 미군자료 등 각종 자료들을 조사하여 공개하여 주실 것을 바랍니다.

3) 정부가 이 사건 피해자와 그 유가족들에 대하여 정당한 보상 또는 배상을 시행하기를 바랍니다.

* 첨부자료

1. 진상조사 보고서 1부.(한국기독교교회협의회 정의와 인권위원회)
2. 노근리 미군양민학살 사건 개요 1부.(노근리사건 대책위원회)

1998. 4. 22

한국기독교교회협의회
총 무 김 동 완
정의와 인권 위 원 회
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THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN KOREA

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TEL : 82-2-763-8427, 7323, 7990 FAX : 744-6189

REV, KIM DONG WAN
GENERAL SECRETARY

To : President Bill Clinton April 22, 1998

From : Committee for Justice and Human Rights, National Council of Churches in Korea

Contents : Request for unveiling of the truth about the killing of innocent civilians at Nokeun-ri and the payment of compensation to the victims

May God bless you !

On Nov. 16, 1997, Our committee received an official request for help from the survivors and bereaved family members of the victims of the 1950 "Nokeun-ri incident". They demanded compensation and unveiling of the truth that the lives of at least four hundred Korean civilians inhabitants were sacrificed due to the U. S. Army's indiscriminate assault at Nokeun-ri during the Korean War.

We held a meeting on Nov. 24, 1997, and formed an investigation committee (head: Rev. Myun-Nam Lee, members: Rev. Hae-Dong Lee, Rev. Sung-Ki Kang, Lawyer Yun-Choel Park, Rev. Young-Woo Noh, Rev. Kyung-Nam Kim) for careful study of the case. On Dec. 2, 1997, the committee visited Nokeun-ri and recorded survivors' testimonies.

From our investigation, we conclude that the U.S. Army soldiers did kill innocent civilians deliberately, under non-combat circumstances. Though it happened fourty years ago, we think that the truth should be disclosed to the public and the families of the victims should be compensated adequately. Our judgements on the genocide and suggestions for resolution of the case are included in the following investigation report. We ask that you take action immediately to resolve this issue.

National Council of Churches in Korea (NCCK)
General Secretary : Rev. Dong-Wan Kim

Committee for Justice and Human Rights in NCCK
Chairperson & Human Right Committee : Rev. Myung-Nam Lee

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

Request

NCCK is making efforts to restore the honour and rights of those who were unjustly sacrificed in the past when the Korean authorities or foreign governments violated the basic human rights of Korean civilians. History has taught us that we cannot create a new future without disclosing the truth about the past.

Now, we are especially concerned about the case that occurred in Nokeun-ri, Chungbuk Province, Korea between the 25th and 29th of July 1950. In that incident, U.S. Army troops (belonging to the 1st Cavalry division) the took 500 civilian inhabitants to the railway and airbombed and machine-gunned them, killing at least three hundred. We requested the NCCC-USA to acknowledge the truth and pay appropriate compensation to those concerned in the case.

135 survivors and bereaved family members have requested for compensation through the Korean Compensation Investigation Committee, as of on Aug, 25, 1997. But they were decided at the district office and main office from the republic of Korea ministry of justice

Earlier the victims of the Nogun-ri case constituted a committee of their own to resolve the issue (committee president: Eun-Young Jung). These victims, consisting of the wounded, survivors, and bereaved family members, decided to demand compensation from the U.S. government a petition letter three times on request through the U.S. Ambassador in Korea on July 5, 1994 for the first time but have not received any response yet.

On Oct 28, 1994, the compensation officer of the U.S. Army in Korea said, "We have no legal responsibility for the issue because it was a case of Korean civilians being killed in the combat between the U.S. Army and the North Korean People's Army."

Survivors from the incident, however, say that it was a case of genocide committed by the U.S. Army. They have testified that there was no combat between the U.S. Army and the North Korean People's Army between July 25th and 29th, 1950, at that incident site(Nokeun-ri). Those sacrificed were mostly women, children, and the old. (See the attached investigation report).

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Until now, the truth about this mass murder committed 48 years ago could not be opened to the public because of the extreme anti-communist sentiment in our society. Many survivors and witnesses have already died before compensation could be made and the victims' honour restored. The Survivors desperately wish to settle the past event by making the truth public and by being compensated for their loss.

We regard this case as genocide against innocent civilians in wartime. According to the convention on the Non-applicability at the International Charter on Human Rights, this anti-human crime is an exception to the statute of limitations and therefore can be tried in court. We know that the USA government made the truth public about "My Lai massacre", in which U.S. Army froops hundreds of innocent Vietnam civilians on Mar. 16, 1968, and that the U.S. soldiers who testified about the killings were honored for their testimony Therefore, we request that your government investigate this case, open the truth to the public, and take action according to the International Charter on Human Rights.

To promptly resolve the Nogun-ri case, which occurred during the Korean War the greatest tragedy in Korean history and to promote a friendly relationship between the U.S. and Korea, we request the NCCC-USA to :

1) collect the documents related to the combat in Young-dong and Hwang-gan area and disclose to the public;

2) to insist that the U. S. Government should take a inquiry and compensate for the victim of the Nokeun-ri.

3) make sure that the Nokeun-ri case will stir up public opinion and get well known inside of the states.

Attached materials

1. Investigation Report (Committee for Justice and Human Rights, NCCK)
2. The evidence and details on the Nokeun-ri incident on U.S. Army Killings of Civilians at Nokeun-ri

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

Investigation Report

1. The Committee for Justice and Human Rights of the NCCK formed an investigation committee (head: Rev. Lee Myung-Nam) and visited Nokeun-ri, the area where the took place. They wrote this report based on survivors' testimonies and materials submitted by the victims' committee. For more details such as dates, places, circumstances and damages, refer to the Summary on U.S. Army Killings of Civilians at Nokeun-ri, made by the victims' committee.

2. Investigation Committee
- Rev. Myun-Nam Lee (head of CJHR)
- Rev. Hae-Dong Lee (member of CJHR)
- Rev. Sung-Ki Kang (member of CJHR)
- Rev. Young-Hun Kim (member of CJHR)

3. Investigation Date
December 2, 1997

4. Contents of Investigation

1) Interview with Survivors

(1) Jeong, Gu-Ho
- Year of Birth : 1935 (6th grade pupil in elementary school)
- Current Address : Jugok-ri, Youngdong-kun
- Testimony

On July 25, 1950, U.S. soldiers came to our villages - Jugok-ri, Imgye-ri - and told the in, habitants to follow them, promising to supply us with shelter. The about 500 to 600 inhabitants followed them and walked along the road by the railroad. On July 26, at the entrance to Nokeun-ri, the U.S. soldiers ordered us to go up to the railroad. When the civilians went up to the railroad, U.S. combat planes bombed and machine-gunned them so that more than one hundred civilians were killed. The pe frightened by the abrupt attack, scattered and hid around that place. The U.S. soldiers came back and took the survivors into a tunnel road which was located at the entrance to Nokeun-ri.

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Korea Democracy Foundation

About 300 civilian survivors from the first attack were gathered in the tunnel. Most of them were children, women, and old people. The U.S. soldiers set up machine guns at both near entreicise of the tunnel and fired into the tunnel. Some civilians managed to survive this second attack by building barricades using the dead bodies. They went without food for four days. When some survivors went to the creek near the tunnel to drink water, the U.S. soldiers fired at them. Only about 10 civilians remained alive. About 300 civilians were killed in the tunnel. A mother breastfeeding her baby was killed, and her baby later died of starvation. Fortunately a few young people managed to escape. For some families, every member was killed so there was no one left to report the deaths. These families are officially registered to be alive even today.

(2) Yang, Hae-Sok

- Year of Birth: April 26, 1938
- Current Address: Haedong-ri Young Dong-eup (Tel: 0414-43-4957)
- Testimony

My father, grandmother, brother, and uncle were killed at Nokeun-ri by the air-bombing and shooting on July 26, Believing the U.S. soldiers' words that it was safe to go to the tunnel, I went for shelter with my mother, younger sister (3 years old), and my cousin. But the U.S. soldiers fired at us with machine-guns set up at the entrance to the tunnel. As soon as the survivors went down to a near by creek to drink water, having been without any food for the past four days, the soldiers fired at them so that the creek was filled with blood.
I lost my sight of one eye, at that incident site.

(3) Jeong, Jin-Myung

- Year of Birth: Oct 10, 1930
- Current Address: Daesa-dong, Daejeon (Tel : 042-253-3280)
- Testimony

On April 26, on the railroad, bombing by U.S. fighters inst killed my mother (Yang, Kye-Soon), my sister-in law, my uncle (Jeong, Chan-Seok), my aunt, and my cousins (Jin-Joo, Sun-O, and Sun-Duk) (On Nov 14, 1997, Mr. Jeong notified his uncle's death to a local office but was fined for his late notification.) At that time, civilians including me were hiding under the railroad. The U.S. soldiers ordered us to come out but fired at us. I was hit in my right thigh and became crippled.

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(4) Cho, Nam-Joo

- Year of Birth: Feb 5, 1933
- Current Address: Daemyung 5-dong, Daegu (Tel : 053-623-2914)
- Testimony

Then I was 21 years old and living in Imgye-ri. I followed the U.S. soldiers' guidance and went to Nokeun-ri with my family. On Nokeun-ri railroad the U.S. fighters' bombing instartly killed my mother (Jeong, Sun-Bun), my sister (Cho, Jong-Rye), my three brothers (Nam-Yul, Gil-Jin, Nam-Ok), my uncle, and my sister-in-law instantly. My sister and I survived.

(5) Park, Yong-Dae

- Year of Birth : (more than 70 years old)
- Jugok-ri, Youngdong-Gun
- Testimony

At that time, my son died in the tunnel. As I had not notified the registration office of my son's birth, I cannot be compensated for his loss. In the past, many couples didn't register, their marriages. Many among the dead people cannot be identified because of their failures to register marriages and births. In Jugok-ri and Imkye-ri, there were many refugees from Daejeon.

(6) Jeon, Chun-Ja

- Year of Birth: Sept 8, 1943
- Current Address: Kwangan-dong, Pusan (Tel : 051-753-7597)
- Testimony

On July 26, I followed the U.S. soldiers' order and went on to the railroad. After a while, the U.S. fighter plares attacked us and my mother died after being hit in the head. My grandfather, uncle, and aunt were killed. I was pulled into the tunnel by someone.

(7) Yang, Hye-Chan (member of local assembly in Youndong-kun)

- Year of Birth: nine years old at that time
- Current Address: Youngdong-Gun
- Testimony

The U.S. Army bombed and fired at civilians trying to find shelter. They fired at civilians hiding in the water-way beside the railroad. They fired into the tunnel for four days. Late on the night of the 28th or in the early morning of the 29th, I escaped from the tunnel to my house. After my escape, I first met soldiers belonging to the North Korean People's Army in Haga-ri (8.5

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kilometers north away from Nokeun-ri). Between the 26th and 29th of July, the North Korean People's Army was not present at the place where the killings took place. The local assembly in Youngdong-kun has suggested that a special committee be formed to investigate the Nokeun-ri case and unveil the truth about it.

2) Visit to Nokeun-ri

(1) At the wall of tunnel (width: 5 meters, length: 20 meters) under the railroad, Seoul-Pusan line, at the entrance to Nokeun-ri, dozens of shooting marks exist.

(2) As the U.S. soldiers fired at civilians who were trying to the bombing by the fighter place and the machine-gun shooting by the U. S. ground troops, there exist several shooting marks at the wall of waterway caused by U.S. soldiers firing at civilians who were running away from the attack.

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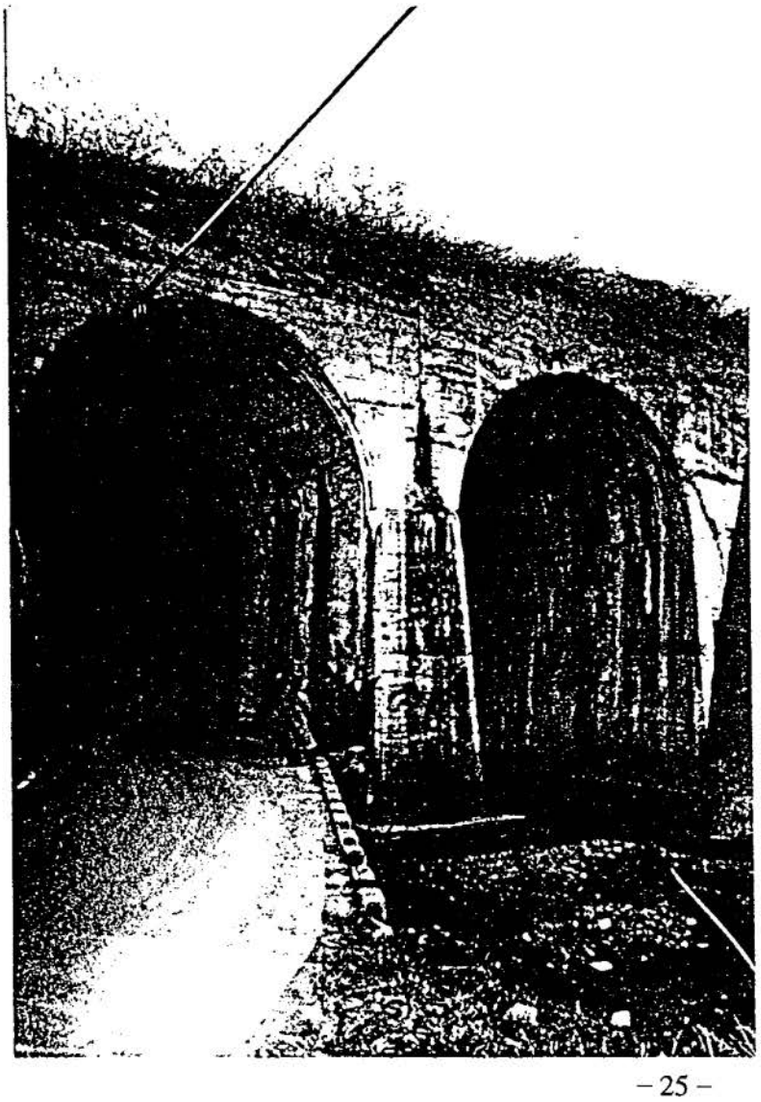
No.1



No.2



* Committee for Justice and Human Rights in Neck made a investigation about Nokeun-Ri genocide on 2nd December, 19

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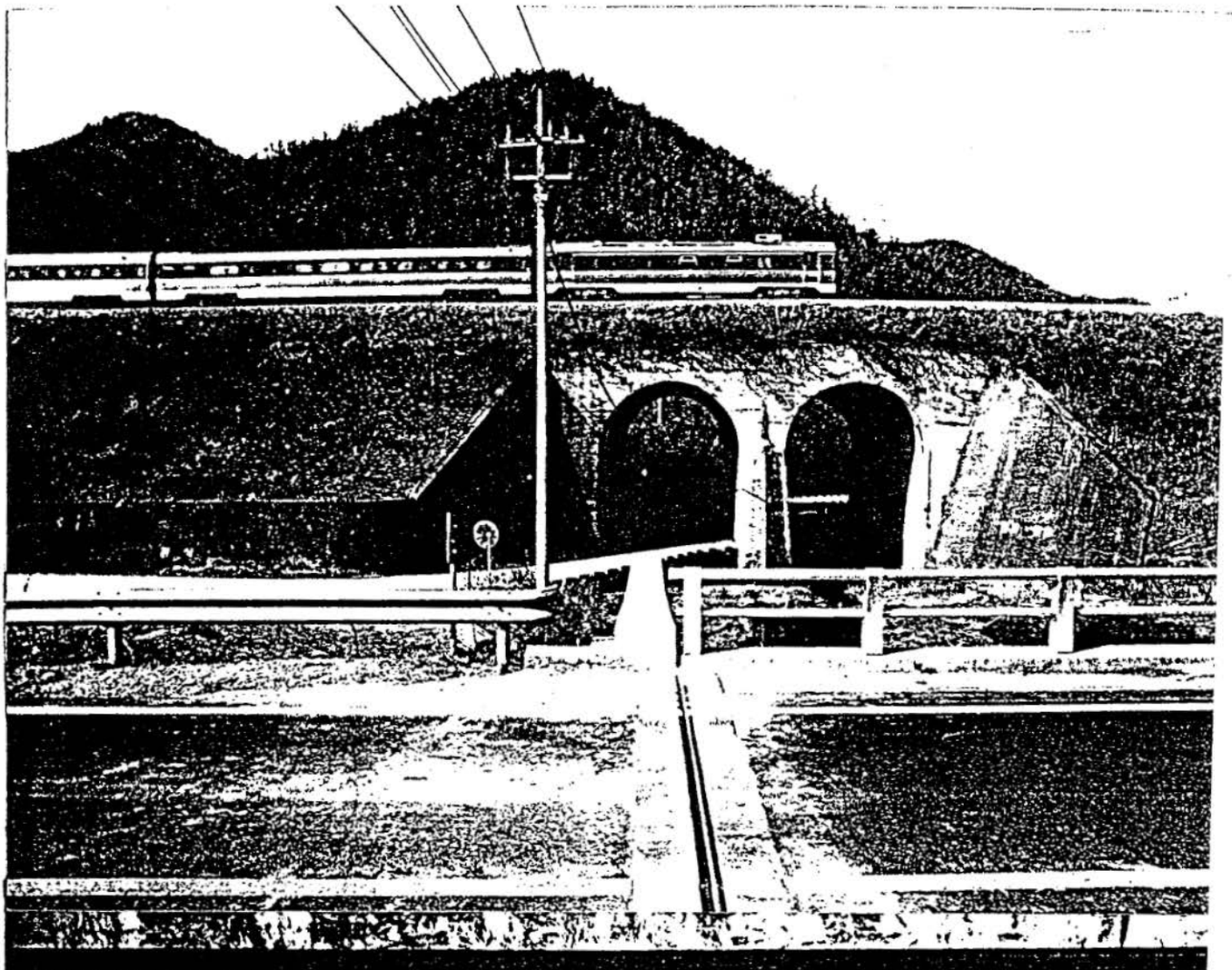
< pictures of the incident place and the bullet-pocked wall >

10.3



10.4



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Korea Democracy Foundation

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN KOREA

Room 706 Christian Building 136-46 YUNCHI-DONG CHONGRO-KU, SEOUL, 110-470 KOREA

TEL : 82-2-763-8427, 7323, 7990 FAX : 744-6189

REV. KIM DONG WAN
GENERAL SECRETARY

To

Rev. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell
General Secretary,
NCCC-USA
4475 Riverside Drive, New York
NY 10115-0050
U.S.A

Mr. Victor Hsu
Director, East Asia and Pacific Office
NCCC-USA
4475 Riverside Drive, New York
NY 10115-0050
U.S.A

From : Committee for Justice and Human Rights, National Council of Churches in Korea

Contents : Request for unveiling of the truth about the killing of innocent civilians at Nokeun-ri and the payment of compensation to the victims

Warmest greetings from Seoul

On Nov. 16, 1997, Our committee received an official request for help from the survivors and bereaved family members of the victims of the 1950 "Nokeun-ri incident". They demanded compensation and unveiling of the truth that the lives of at least four hundred Korean civilians inhabitants were sacrificed due to the U. S. Army's indiscriminate assault at Nokeun-ri during the Korean War.

We held a meeting on Nov. 24, 1997, and formed an investigation committee (head: Rev. Myun-Nam Lee, members: Rev. Hae-Dong Lee, Rev. Sung-Ki Kang, Lawyer Yun-Choel Park, Rev. Young-Woo Noh, Rev. Kyung-Nam Kim) for careful study of the case. On Dec. 2, 1997, the committee visited Nokeun-ri and recorded survivors' testimonies.

From our investigation, we conclude that the U.S. Army soldiers did kill innocent civilians deliberately, under non-combat circumstances. Though it happened fourty years ago, we think that the truth should be disclosed to the public and the families of the victims should be

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compensated adequately. Our judgements on the genocide and suggestions for resolution of the case are included in the following investigation report. We are asking for your cooperation to resolve this issue.

National Council of Churches in Korea (NCCK)
General Secretary : Rev. Dong-Wan Kim

Committee for Justice and Human Rights in NCCK
Chairperson & Human Right Committee : Rev. Myung-Nam Lee

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

Apr-07-99 10:03A

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS
111 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0111

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

March 22, 1999

Mr. Victor W. C. Hsu
Director
National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA
475 Riverside Drive
New York, NY 10115-0050

Dear Mr. Hsu:

This is in further reply to your letter of December 18, 1998, concerning the deaths of innocent villagers in the Nokuen-ri area of Korea during the summer of 1950.

The Army's center of Military History reviewed the enclosures to the packet created by The National Council of Churches in Korea and also available U.S. Army records for the Korean War for July 1950 located in the National Archives and Records Administration. Their review found no information to substantiate the claim that U.S. Army soldiers perpetrated a massacre of South Korean civilians at Nokuen-Ri. They examined several Record Groups at the National Archives that contain records of the U.S. Army in the Korean War. These records include:

a. Army Adjutant General Command Reports, 1949-1954.

b. Operational Records of the 1st Cavalry Division and its organic regiments, the 5th, 7th and 8th for the period July 7, to August 1, 1950.

c. Operational Records of the 25th Infantry Division and its organic regiments, the 24th, 27th and 35th for the period July 7, to August 1, 1950.

d. The Eighth U.S. Army War Dairies for July 1950

e. Records of the Office of the Judge Advocate General, War Crimes Division, Historical Reports of War Crimes Division, 1952-1954.

f. Records of the Office of the Inspector General, Indexes to the Formerly Secret Correspondence, 1917-1954.

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Korea Democracy Foundation

The period of time, 26-29 July 1950, was one of great stress and chaos with U.S. Army units conducting a fighting retreat against the invading North Koreans and facing heavy odds. Frequent relocation of friendly units, difficulties in supervising refugee withdrawal, the prevalence of fighting during limited visibility, the communist practice of using civilians to test for minefields and of infiltrating disguised as civilians, and the technological limits of air and artillery coordination combined to make very real the danger of potential civilian casualties. Our research, however, produced no evidence to demonstrate U.S. Army involvement with the death of the villagers of Nokuen-Ri, Korea, in 1950.

I hope you find this information of assistance.

Sincerely,

John P. McLaurin, III
Deputy Assistant Secretary
(Military Personnel Management
and Equal Opportunity Policy)

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA

Fax Transmittal No.: 82-2-744-6189

Office of the
General Secretary

October 11, 1999

Rev. Kim Dong Wan, General Secretary
National Council of Churches in Korea
Rm. 706, Christian Building
136-46 Yunchi-dong, Chongro-ku,
Seoul, KOREA

Dear Rev. Kim,

I am pleased to share with you a copy of my letter to Mr. Edward Daily who was one of the machine gunners in the No-Gun-Ri incident. You will note from my reply that I was very moved by his letter and I would like to respond to his excellent suggestion of facilitating a reconciliation event between the veterans of the No-Gun-Ri incident and the survivors.

It seems to me that an event of this significance should be well prepared and publicized. As the NCCCUSA has a 50th anniversary celebration in Cleveland during the week of November 8, this may be an excellent forum for the event. Will it be possible for the NCCK to bring a small group of survivors to Cleveland for that week?

I will ask Victor Hsu to be in touch with you about this possibility. It is my hope that our two councils can help bring off the event so that we can make a contribution to the task of reconciliation between our two countries.

With every good wish,

Grace and Peace,

Joan Brown Campbell

Rev. (Dr.) Joan Brown Campbell

CC: Victor Hsu
Enc: Letter to Mr. Daily

475 Riverside Drive • Room 880 • New York, NY 10115-0050 • 212-870-2141 • Fax: 212-870-281

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA

Office of the
General Secretary

October 11, 1999

Mr. Edward L. Daily
2888 Kirkwood Road
Clarksville, TN 37043

Dear Mr. Daily,

It is with a deep sense of emotion that I reply to your letter of October 7 regarding the No-Gun-Ri incident. I was indeed moved. I was moved because your letter came out of the blue, totally unsolicited. You are the first to have written to us since the AP carried the investigative report. I was also deeply touched by your sharing with me that you "have been living with the haunting memory of that horrible day of July 26, 1950."

Mr. Daily, I feel your pain. I know that there are many more in our country who continue to live with the consequences of their involvement in war and conflict, even though they were performing their duty in the service of our country. This is one of the reasons why I have repeatedly urged our political leaders in Washington to pursue peace and diplomacy at all costs. I believe there are no winners in war.

But I am most of all moved by your impassioned appeal to me to consider making the appropriate arrangements for reconciliation between the survivors and the veterans of the No-Gun-Ri incident. I cannot say it better than you did in your letter: "What a beautiful way to have a better understanding in the presence of God and Jesus Christ." As you may know, there have been many people in similar situations around the world who have experienced the promise of the scripture: the truth will set you free. The most recent example of this is in the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa spearheaded by Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

I have asked the Director of the East Asia and the Pacific Office, Mr. Victor Hsu, to be in touch with you and Pastor William Luffman to see what we can arrange with our counterpart in South Korea. Know that I am most supportive of your appeal to me. Perhaps you can help facilitate the process by helping us to identify a few of your veteran colleagues who would be willing to participate in a reconciliation event.

Once again, thank you very much for writing.

Grace and Peace,

Joan Brown Campbell

Rev. (Dr.) Joan Brown Campbell

CC: Victor Hsu
Rev. Kim Dong Wan

475 Riverside Drive • Room 880 • New York, NY 10115-0050 • 212•870•2141 • Fax: 212•870•28

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REV, KIM, DONG WAN
GENERAL SECRETARY

Rev. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell
General Secretary
National Council of the Churches
of Christ in the USA

Oct. 15, 1999

Dear Dr. Joan Brown Campbell,

Greetings from Seoul.

I appreciate your sharing of a copy of your letter to Mr. Edward Daily. I am very glad that our joint efforts have been responded by the media and both governments. I was also touched very much by Mr. Daily's courageous suggestion to facilitate reconciliation between the veterans of the NO-Gun-Ri incident and the survivors of the village.

We had a special Thursday Prayer Meeting yesterday with people from No-Gun-Ri and discussed your suggestion with representatives of the village after the meeting. They were encouraged very much and responded with enthusiasm to launch a process of reconciliation in cooperation with NCCK and NCCC-USA.

I will contact with Mr. Victor Hsu to discuss details for the visit of survivors of the No-Gun-Ri incident.

I appreciate again your letter and suggestion and believe we could contribute to reconciliation.

Sincerely yours,

Kim Dong Wan(Rev.)
General Secretary

C.C. Mr. Victor Hsu

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REV. KIM, DONG WAN
GENERAL SECRETARY

Mr. Edward L. Daily
2888 Kirkwood Road
Clarksville, TN 37043
U. S. A.

Oct. 15, 1999

Dear Mr. Edward Daily,

Warmest greetings from Korea.

I am very glad to write you on behalf of NCCK and people in No-Gun-Ri who have been struggled to find out truth in cooperation with NCCK. I read your interview with Donga Daily and was touched very much by your courageous decision and desire to make reconciliation with survivors in No-Gun-Ri.

I received a copy of the letter which Dr. Joan Brown Campbell sent you. NCCK have been working with NCCC-USA to raise the issue and demanding an official fact-finding investigation at the government level of both countries. I am really glad that our efforts and prayers with people in No-Gun-Ri have been finally responded. I believe with concern and contribution of righteous people including you the truth will be revealed and reconciliation will be achieved between people in No-Gun-Ri and the veterans of the No-Gun-Ri incident as well as between two countries. We will closely cooperate with NCCC-USA to find the truth. We believe our efforts will finally heal all people in both countries and accomplish reconciliation.

May God's grace always be with you.

Sincerely yours,

Kim Dong Wan(Rev.)
General Secretary

C.C. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell
Mr. Victor Hsu

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REV, KIM, DONG WAN
GENERAL SECRETARY

Mr. Victor Hsu
East Asia and the Pacific Office
NCCC-USA

Oct. 15, 1999

Dear Victor,

Greetings from Seoul.

As you know, I received a letter from Rev. Campbell and appreciate NCC-USA's suggestion to facilitate reconciliation event.

We had a meeting last night with No-Gun-Ri people and discussed your suggestion. They expressed strong interest in visiting and participating in the forum. Regarding the forum I would like to ask you followings.

1. What kind of forum do you think? Will there be any opportunity to meet the veterans?

2. Rev. Campbell mentioned a small group of survivors. How many people do you expect?

3. Regarding their expenses including airfare I think they need financial support. Can you bear it?

I think details should be discussed as soon as possible because most people in Nogun-Ri do not have passports and need some time to get passports and visa.

I look forward to receiving your reply ASAP.

Sincerely yours,

Kim Dong Wan(Rev.)
General Secretary

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Korea Democracy Foundation

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총무실 : 763-7990 행정국 : 763-8427 홍보실 : 742-8981 FAX : 744-6189

보 / 도 / 자 / 료

수 신 : 각 언론사 1998년 6월 12일

내 용 : **한국전쟁 참전 미군의 노근리 양민학살사건 진상규명과 피해자보상에 관한 청원서 제출**의 보도협조 요청의 건

한국기독교교회협의회(총무 金東完) 정의와 인권위원회(위원장 李明南 목사)는 97년 11월 한국전쟁중 미군의 무차별 학살로 희생된 충북 영동군 임계리와 주곡리 마을사람들의 '노근리 학살사건'의 진상규명과 피해보상 등을 바라는 탄원서를 접수받았습니다.

이에 정의와 인권위원회는 위원회를 개최하고 이 문제에 대한 정확한 조사를 위하여 진상조사단(단장 이명남 목사, 이해동 목사, 강성기 목사, 박연철 변호사, 노영우 목사, 김경남 목사)을 구성하였습니다. 그리고 97년 12월 2일 조사단은 사건현장을 방문하고 생존자들의 증언을 녹취하는 등의 조사활동을 벌였습니다.

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본회는 정부의 기각결정이 사실을 은폐하고 역사의식을 도외시한 잘못된 결정이라 여겨 6월 15일 클린턴 대통령과 미국기독교교회협의회(NCCC-USA)에 노근리사건의 정당하고 조속한 해결을 촉구하는 청원서를 제출하고자 합니다. 본회는 청원서와 함께 본회 진상조사단의 진상조사보고서 및 관련자료 등을 함께 전달할 예정입니다.

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이에 귀 언론사에 노근리 사건의 진실이 밝혀지고 피해자들이 보상을 받을 수 있도록 취재 및 보도하여 주실 것을 요청하오니 협조하여 주시기 바랍니다.

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

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보 / 도 / 자 / 료

수 신 : 각 언론사 1998년 7월 24일

내 용 : **한국전쟁 참전 미군의 노근리 양민학살사건 희생자 합동위령제**에 대한 취재 및 보도협조 요청의 건

한국전쟁중인 1950년 7월 26일에서 29일까지 4일간 충북 영동군 황간면 노근리 앞 철로변에서 미군들에 의해 학살된 수백명의 영혼들을 위안하고자 유족들 및 뜻을 같이하는 이들이 모여 합동위령제를 개최합니다. 금번 위령제는 사건이 있은 후 48년만에 처음으로 갖게 된 것으로 '노근리 미군양민학살사건 대책위원회'가 주관하여 개최합니다.

한편 교회협 정의와 인권위원회(위원장 李明南 목사)는 진상조사단 구성 97년 12월 2일 사건 현장을 방문하고 생존자들의 증언을 녹취하는 등의 조사활동을 벌였습니다. 그 결과 본회는 비전투중인 상황에서 미군이 무고한 양민을 고의로 학살했다는 사실을 생존자들의 증언을 통하여 확인할 수 있었습니다. 본회는 지금이라도 노근리 학살사건의 진상과 피해자에 대한 정당한 보상이 이루어져야 한다는 취지에서 지난 4월 24일 김대중 대통령과 법무부장관에게 탄원서를 제출한바 있습니다. 또한 6월 15일에는 클린턴 대통령과 미국기독교교회협의회(NCCC-USA)에 이 사건의 정당하고 조속한 해결을 촉구하는 청원서를 보낸바 있습니다.

이에 귀 언론사에 무고하게 희생된 노근리 사건 희생자들을 위한 합동위령제를 취재 및 보도하여 주실 것을 아래와 같이 요청하오니 협조하여 주시기 바랍니다.

- 아 래 -

일시 : 1998년 7월 28일 오전 11시

장소 : 충북 영동군 황간면 노근리 앞 학살현장(경부선 굴다리)

* 교통편 : 영동 - 황간을 정기운행하는 일반버스 이용 노근리 하차
오전 9시부터 영동역전 농협 앞에서 위령제 장소까지 차량운행

* 연락처 : 노근리 대책위(정은용 위원장) 042) 541-6881
교회협 사회국(김용헌 목사) 02) 764-0203

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

한국기독교교회협의회
110-470 서울시 종로구 연지동 136-46(한국기독교회관 706호)
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「노근리 양민학살 사건 미언론 보도」에 대한 입장

한국기독교교회협의회 인권위원회는 9월 30일 AP통신에 의해 밝혀진 「미군에 의한 노근리 양민학살 사건진상」보도를 접하고 다음과 같이 입장을 밝힌다.

-- 다 음 --

본 인권위원회는 1997년 11월 노근리 미군양민학살사건피해자의 피해구제를 위한 협조요청을 노근리사건 대책위(위원장 정은용)로부터 받고(당시 인권위원장 이명남 목사), 1) 노근리사건에 대한 진상규명과 2)피해자 손해배상 청구를 위해 협력키 위해 그해 12월에 「진상조사단」을 조직하여 생존자 정구호씨(당시 초등학교 6년생)를 비롯하여 6명의 증언을 청취했고, 노근리현장을 직접방문 조사하여 보고서를 작성했으며 지난해 현지에서 진행된 추모회를 함께 갖기도 했다.

특히, 1998년 6월 17일 미국과 한국정부 그리고 미국기독교교회협의회(총무 조안 캠벨.Joan Campell) 앞으로 「노근리 양민학살 사건에 대한 진상규명과 희생자 보상청구」가 이루어지도록 요청했다.

미육군성(Department of The Army)은 1999년 3월 22일자로 미국기독교교회협의회에 답신을 보내왔는 데, 주 내용은 미군 기록보관에 "남한의 노근리에서 미군에 의해 저질러진 주민에 대한 대량학살에 대한 기록은 없다" 것이었다.

본위원회는 AP 통신이 '노근리 학살사건'에 대해 미 육군성의 공식문서와 미군들의 증언을 통해 사실로 확인된 것을 환영하며, 다음과 같이 우리의 입장을 밝히고자 한다.

1. 향후 한국과 미국정부는 노근리 학살사건의 진상상규명을 철저히게 밝혀야 한다.
2. 미국정부는 노근리 사건 피해자와 희생자 가족들에게 공식적으로 사죄해야 한다.
3. 미국정부는 노근리 사건 피해자와 희생자 가족들에게 정당한 보상 및 배상을 조속한 시일내에 해야 한다.
4. 또한, 한국 정부도 이와같은 일들이 정의롭게 진행되도록 최선의 노력을 다해야 한다.

1999. 9. 30

한국기독교교회협의회
총 무 김 동 완
인 권 위 원 회
위 원장 김 재 열

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

노근리 양민학살 진상규명과 올바른 해결을 촉구하는

제 시민 · 사회 · 종교단체 공동기자회견

■ **일 시 : 1999년 10월 8일 (금) 오전 10시**
■ **장 소 : 종로5가 기독교회관 2층 강당**
■ **순 서**

사 회 : 정진우 목사(주한미군범죄근절운동본부 실행위원장)

1.참가자 소개 : 사회자
2.인사말 : 이해동 목사(인권목회자동지회 회장)
김재열 신부(KNCC 인권위원회 위원장)
3.경과보고 : 임홍기 목사(KNCC 일치협력국장)
4.기자회견문 낭독 : 문대골 목사(주한미군범죄근절운동본부 상임대표)
5.이후 계획 발표 : 이승환(자주평화통일민족회의 사무총장)
6.질의 응답

건강사회를여는치과의사회 · 경실련통일협회 · 기독교사회선교협의회 · 녹색연합 · 다비타의집 · 동두천민주시민회 · 두레방 · 매매춘근절을위한한소리회 · 메리놀수녀회여성분과 · 미국과일본의전쟁책동경체침탈분쇄와조국의자주평화통일을위한비상대책위원회 · 민족자주평화통일중앙위 · 민주사회를위한변호사모임 · 민주언론운동시민연합 · 민주주의법학연구회 · 민주화실천가족운동협의회 · 민중의기본권보장과양심수석방을위한공동대책위원회 · 불교인권위원회 · 사회진보를위한민주연대 · 새세상을여는천주교여성공동체 · 새움터 · 실천불교전국승가회 · 안산민주청년회 · 역사문제연구소 · 5공정치명예회복회의 · 원불교사회개벽교무단 · 군산미군기지우리땅찾기시민모임 · 우리땅미군기지되찾기평택시민모임 · 우리땅미군기지되찾기의정부시민연대회의 · 우리땅미군기지되찾기대구시민모임 · 의정부참여연대시민광장 · 인권과평화를위한국제민주연대 · 인권실천시민연대 · 인권운동사랑방 · 자주언론운동연대 · 자주평화통일민족회의 · 전국목회자정의평화실천협의회 · 전국민주노동조합총연맹 · 전국민주주의민족통일유가족협의회 · 전국빈민연합 · 전북평화와인권연대 · 제주4.3 50주년기념사업추진위원회 · 조국통일범민족연합남측본부 · 주한미군범죄근절운동본부 · 천주교인권위원회 · 천주교정의구현전국사제단 · 천주교정의구현전국연합 · 추모단체연대회의 · 카톨릭여성복지위원회 · 평택사람들 · 평화와참여로가는인천연대 · 평화와통일을여는사람들 · 한겨레신문전국독자주주모임 · 한국교회여성연합회 · 한국기독교교회협의회인권위원회/여성위원회 · 한국기독교장로회 교회와사회위원회 · 한국기독교사회발전협회 · 한국기독청년협의회 · 한국기독학생회총연맹 · 한벗노동자회 · 한총련학부모협의회 **총 62개 단체** (가나다순)

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

노근리 양민학살 진상규명과 올바른 해결을 촉구하는

시민.사회.종교단체 공동 기자회견문

지난 9월 30일 AP 통신이 비밀해제된 미공군 자료와 참전 미군의 증언을 보도한 '노근리 사건'은 우리 모두에게 역사의 진실은 결코 어둠속에 가둘 수 없음을 극명하게 보여주었다. 노근리 학살 만행 사건은 이미 지난 60년대부터 생존자들에 의해 줄기차게 진상규명이 요구되어 왔지만 한미 양국 정부는 증거 불충분과 시효 소멸을 핑계삼으며 진실을 외면해 왔다.

이미 1950년 8월 <조선인민보>에서 두 차례에 걸쳐 AP 통신이 보도한 내용과 거의 일치하는 기사를 낸 바 있지만 한미 양국 정부는 증거로 인정하지 않았고 주민들의 거듭된 증언들을 묵살해왔다. 명백한 증거를 두고도 눈을 감고 진실을 외면한 세계 최강대국 미국의 모습은 진실 앞에서 차라리 초라한 모습이었다고 할 수 밖에 없다. 또한 '한미관계의 특수성'을 앞세운 우리 정부의 무대책은 수십년간 유족들을 고통속에 살게 했으며, 이는 역사를 왜곡해 온 범죄행위에 다름 아니다.

피해 유족 대표인 정은용 옹은 94년 실화소설 <그대, 우리의 아픔을 아는가>(도서출판 다리)를 통해 노근리 양민학살을 세상에 알렸고, 일부 언론에서도 보도한 바 있다. 정은용 옹은 미군에 관해 부정적 제기를 했다가 무슨 화를 당할 지 몰라 소설의 형식을 빌어 사건을 알리게 되었다고 말한 바 있다. 우리는 이 땅에 미국의 실체가 무엇인지 다시 묻지 않을 수 없으며, 다시금 한미관계의 이지러진 모습을 확인한다. 노근리 사건이 알려지자 마산, 창녕, 사천 등지에서도 한국전쟁 당시 미군에 의한 양민학살이 있었다는 주장이 제기되고 있는 것은 무엇을 의미하는가?

노근리 사건은 우리에게 역사의 진실을 철저히 외면해 온 한미관계를 바로잡아야 한다는 것을 분명하게 보여주고 있다. 또한, 노근리 사건은 반인도적 범죄의 진상 규명이라는 인류사의 보편적 과제를 제시하고 있다. 감추어 둔 것은 드러나게 마련이고 진실은 승리할 수 밖에 없다고 우리는 확신한다. AP통신 보도를 계기로 노근리 양민학살이 공론화 된 것은 노근리 사건의 '끝'이 아니라 학살의 진실을 밝히고 올바른 한미관계를 정립하기 위한 새로운 '시작'일 뿐이다.

바람만 불면 아직도 어린아이들의 울부짖는 환청에 시달리는 학살자 미군의 지옥같은 삶, 차마 부녀자와 어린아이들에게 총을 겨눌 수 없어 허공에 대고 총을 쏘았다는 당시의 참전 군인들, 음력 6월 중순이 되면 '떼 제사'를 지내는 영동군 노근리 주민들... 그들의 기억 속에 전쟁의 비극은 여전히 계속되고 있다. 학살의 진상규명과 함께 불평등한 한미관계를 바로잡는 길만이 이런 비극을 멈추게 할 수 있으며 반인도적 범죄의 재발을 막을 수 있다.

수십년에 걸친 주민들의 요구를 묵살하고 AP통신 보도 직후까지도 어정쩡한 태도를 보이며 또 한번 유족들의 인권을 유린하려했던 한미 양국 정부가 빗발치는 여론에 밀려 사건 조사와 배상을 언급하고 있지만 베트남전 밀라이 학살에서도 알 수 있듯이 진실규명과 진정한 반성과 사과를 통한 피해자 배상은 결코 쉬운 일이 아니다. 또한 이런 비극적 사건이 50년간 어둠 속에 묻혀있었던 사실에서 보듯이 불평등한 한미관계를 청산하

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

고 정리하지 않고서는 진실에 기초한 진정한 한미간의 우호관계는 성립될 수 없을 것이다.

이에 우리 시민.사회.종교단체들은 노근리 주민들의 아픔과 고통을 치유하는 일에 깊은 관심과 노력을 아끼지 않을 것이며 불평등한 한미관계를 바로잡는 일에 더욱 힘차게 투쟁해 나갈 것이다. 만일 미국 정부가 진정한 반성과 성실한 책임을 외면하고 형식적인 미봉책으로 노근리 사건을 무마하려한다면 한국 국민들의 커다란 저항에 부딪힐 수 밖에 없으며 지울 수 없는 불행의 자국을 남길 것임을 경고한다.

우리는 노근리 학살의 철저한 진상 규명과 미국 측의 책임있는 사과와 반성을 요구한다. 이를 위해 조사에는 피해당사자인 노근리 주민들이 반드시 포함되어야 한다. 아울러 이와 유사한 사건들의 진실을 밝히는 일에도 책임적인 자세로 임할 것을 촉구한다. 진상규명과 진정한 반성을 통해 배상이 이루어질 때 지금도 고통당하고 있는 '노근리 사건'과 같은 피해자들의 고통은 조금이라도 덜어질 것이다. 또한 한미 양국 정부는 불평등한 한미행정협정을 비롯한 한미간의 잘못된 관계들을 바로잡는 일에 진지한 자세로 임할 것을 촉구한다.

우리는 힘과 성을 다하여 비극적 현대사 속에서 미군에 의해 저질러진 반인도적 범죄들의 진실을 밝히고 불평등한 한미관계를 바로잡는 일에 더욱 힘차게 매진해나갈 것이다.

1. 한미 양국 정부는 노근리 사건의 진상을 규명하라!
1. 미국정부는 노근리 양민학살 사건에 대해 공식 사과하고 배상하라!
1. 노근리 주민들과 함께 한미 합동조사단을 구성하라!
1. 정부는 노근리 주민들에게 사과하고 배상하라!
1. 정부는 마산,창녕 등에서 제기되는 양민학살 사건을 철저히 조사하라!
1. 불평등한 한미행정협정을 개정하라!

1999년 10월 8일

노근리 양민학살 진상규명과 올바른 해결을 촉구하는

시민.사회.종교단체 공동기자회견 참가단체 일동

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

한국기독교교회협의회
110-470 서울시 종로구 연지동 136-46(한국기독교회관 706호)
총무실 : 763-7990 행정국 : 763-8427 홍보실 : 742-8981 FAX : 744-6189

보 도 자 료

수 신: 각 언론사 1999. 10. 14
제 목: 「노근리 사건 피해가족- 미국NCC에서 초청」 보도협조의 건
발 신: 한국기독교교회협의회(KNCC)

미국기독교교회협의회(NCCC-USA, 총무 Joan Brown Campbell 목사)는 한국기독교교회협의회(총무 김동완 목사)를 통하여 노근리 사건 피해자 가족 중 몇몇을 미국 NCC 50주년 기념행사에 초청하여 그들의 증언을 듣고 진상규명을 위해 함께 노력하겠다는 의사를 전해 왔다.

이에 따라 KNCC는 노근리 사건 피해자 가족과 접촉하여 이들의 의사를 확인중이다. 이들이 미국 NCC를 방문하게 되면 11월 8일 주간이 될 것이다.

미국 NCC는 한국 NCC로부터 노근리 사건에 대한 문서를 접하고 그동안 백악관과 국방성에 진상규명을 위해 독자적으로 활동해 왔다.

아울러 당시 상황을 증언한 미군 병사 에드워드 데일리에게 보낸 미국 NCC 총무의 편지를 동봉한다.

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(별첨)

에드워드 데일리(Edward Daily) 씨께,

데일리 씨가 노근리 사건과 관련해서 10월 7일에 보내신 편지에 깊은 감동을 받고 답신을 보냅니다. 특히 데일리 씨께서 자발적인 결단으로 저희에게 편지를 보내셨기에 깊은 감동을 받았습니다. 데일리 씨는 AP 통신이 노근리 사건을 보도하고 난 후 처음으로 저희에게 서신을 보내신 분입니다. 저는 데일리 씨께서 편지를 통해 "1950년 7월 26일 이후 그날의 끔직했던 기억들이 계속 되살아 났다"며 자신의 고백을 공유해 주신데 또한 감동을 받았습니다.

데일리 씨, 저도 선생님께서 느끼시는 고통을 느낍니다. 미국에는 조국에 대한 의무로서 자신의 임무에 충실했음에도 각종 전쟁과 분쟁에 참여한 후유증을 겪으며 살아가고 있는 많은 사람들이 있습니다. 바로 이 때문에 저는 워싱턴의 정치 지도자들에게 끊임없이 평화적 외교를 추구하도록 촉구해 왔습니다. 전쟁에선 누구도 승자가 될 수 없습니다.

그러나 제가 가장 감동깊게 느꼈던 것은 데일리 씨께서 저에게 생존자들과 노근리 사건에 관계된 참전 용사들과의 화해를 주선해 주도록 부탁하신 것입니다. 데일리 씨도 아시다시피 전세계에는 비슷한 상황에서 "진리가 너희를 자유케 하리라"라는 성경의 약속을 경험한 사람들이 많습니다. 가장 최근의 예로서 남아공의 데스몬드 투투 대주교가 이끈 "진실과 화해 위원회"의 활동이 있습니다.

저는 저희 동아시아 태평양 사무실이 이 일과 관련해서 한국 NCC와 협의할 것입니다. 또한 데일리 씨께서도 우리의 화해 작업에 참여하기를 원하는 동료 참전 용사들을 찾을 수 있도록 저희를 도와주실 것으로 생각합니다.

다시 한번 저희에게 서신을 주신 것에 감사드립니다.

1999. 10. 11

미국 기독교교회협의회
총무 조안 브라운 캠벨 드림

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

National Council of Churches
National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

NCC Presses U.S. To Address Grievance Of No Gun Ri Massacre

NCC & South Korean Counterpart Assembled Dossier, Approached Pentagon in 1998

September 29, 1999, NEW YORK CITY — The U.S. government must give speedy, aggressive attention to the grievance of South Koreans against U.S. military personnel in the massacre of some 400 innocent Korean civilians at No Gun Ri (alternative spelling: Nokeun-ri) in July 1950, newly documented by the Associated Press, the (U.S.) National Council of Churches (NCC) declared today.

The NCC, together with its South Korean counterpart, the National Council of Churches in Korea, last December had asked the Pentagon's response to detailed testimony from Korean survivors and eyewitnesses to the massacre of mostly women, children and the elderly. In March, the U.S. Army replied that it had "found no information to substantiate the claim that U.S. Army soldiers perpetrated a massacre of South Korean civilians at Nokuen-ri."

Praising the Associated Press for bringing new evidence of the massacre to light in its report, released today, the NCC's General Secretary, the Rev. Dr. Joan B. Campbell, joined the NCCK in reiterating their demand that the "truth should be disclosed to the public and the families of the victims should be compensated adequately."

"Grievances filed away without any investigation should be reopened and those pending should be investigated post haste," she said. "Our country, committed to uphold human rights, can do no less. The South Korean victims and their relatives deserve justice.

"When justice is accorded for South Koreans, we will then have demonstrated our own humanity," she said. "Then and only then can we send a message around a world that has seen too much atrocity that no one, not even the military, can escape accountability."

At the same time, Dr. Campbell affirmed that "truth leads to reconciliation, as we've learned from our sisters and brothers in South Africa." And she hailed the courage of the U.S. servicemen who testified to their own participation in the massacre.

"While they share responsibility for these atrocities against Korean civilians, they also merit our pastoral concern and care. 'Going public' with such admissions carries a heavy price for themselves and their families, which must be acknowledged.

The (U.S.) National Council of Churches — the nation's leading ecumenical organization with 35 Protestant and Orthodox member bodies — got involved in pressing the Pentagon for answers on the "No Gun Ri Incident" at the request of its longstanding partner, the National Council of Churches in Korea (NCCK).

Responding to an official request from survivors and bereaved family members, the NCCK's Committee for Justice and Human Rights had recorded survivors' testimonies as part of its own investigation of the incident, then forwarded the dossier to the NCC with a

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request "for your cooperation to resolve this issue."

NCC East Asia and the Pacific Office Director Victor W.C. Hsu wrote Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen on December 18, 1998, enclosing the NCCK-assembled dossier and asking the Pentagon's response to the allegations. "According to the NCCK," Mr. Hsu wrote, "the U.S. Army 'refuses to take responsibility for this massacre' because 'this incident happened during the war.'"

The investigation was put in the hands of John P. McLaurin, III, Deputy General Secretary (Military Personnel Management and Equal Opportunity Policy), who on March 22, 1999, wrote Mr. Hsu to report, "The Army's center of Military History reviewed the enclosures to the packet created by the National Council of Churches in Korea and also available U.S. Army records for the Korean War for July 1950 located in the National Archives and Records Administration. Their review found no information to substantiate the claim that U.S. Army soldiers perpetrated a massacre of South Korean civilians at Nokuen-ri."

-end-

Contact: NCC News

민주화운동기념사업회
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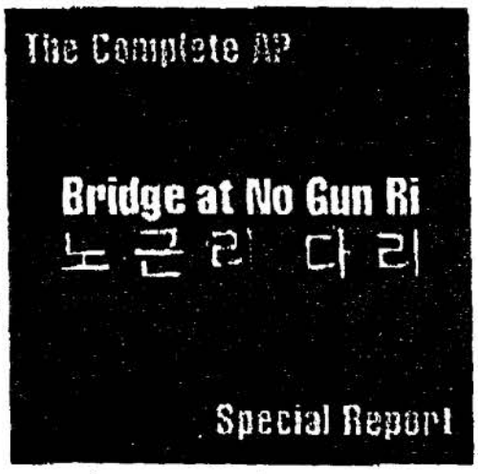
SEPTEMBER 29, 13:21 EDT

Ex-GIs Tell AP of Korea Killing

By SANG-HUN CHOE,
CHARLES J. HANLEY
and MARTHA MENDOZA



It was a story no one wanted to hear: Early in the Korean War, villagers said, American soldiers machine-gunned hundreds of helpless civilians under a railroad bridge in the South Korean countryside.

When the families spoke out, seeking redress, they met only rejection and denial, from the U.S. military and their own government in Seoul. Now a dozen ex-GIs have spoken, too, and support their story with haunting memories from a ``forgotten'' war.

American veterans of the Korean War say that in late July 1950, in the conflict's first desperate weeks, U.S. troops killed a large number of South Korean refugees, many of them women and children, trapped beneath a bridge at a hamlet called No Gun Ri.

In interviews with The Associated Press, ex-GIs speak of 100 or 200 or ``hundreds'' dead. The Koreans, whose claim for compensation was rejected last year, say 300 were killed at the bridge and 100 in a preceding air attack.

American soldiers, in their third day at the warfront, feared North Korean infiltrators among the fleeing South Korean peasants, veterans told the AP.

The ex-GIs described other refugee killings as well in the war's first weeks, when U.S. commanders ordered their troops to shoot civilians, citizens of an allied nation, as a defense against disguised enemy soldiers, according to once-classified documents found by the AP in U.S. military archives.

Six veterans of the 1st Cavalry Division said they fired on the civilians at No Gun Ri, and six others said they witnessed the mass killing.

``We just annihilated them,'' said ex-machine gunner Norman Tinkler of Glasco, Kan.

After five decades, none gave a complete, detailed account. But the ex-GIs agreed on such elements as time and place, and on the preponderance of women, children and old men among the victims.

Some said they were fired on from among the refugees beneath the bridge. But others said they don't remember hostile fire. One said they later found a few disguised North Korean soldiers among the dead. But others disputed this.

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Some soldiers refused to shoot what one described as ``civilians just trying to hide."

The 30 Korean claimants — survivors and victims' relatives — said what happened July 26-29, 1950, was an unprovoked, three-day carnage. ``The American soldiers played with our lives like boys playing with flies," said Chun Choon-ja, a 12-year-old girl at the time.

The reported death toll would make No Gun Ri one of only two known cases of large-scale killings of noncombatants by U.S. ground troops in this century's major wars, military law experts note. The other was Vietnam's My Lai massacre, in 1968, in which more than 500 Vietnamese may have died.

From the start of the 1950-53 conflict, North Korean atrocities were widely reported — the killing of civilians and summary executions of prisoners. But the story of No Gun Ri has remained undisclosed for a half-century.

The Pentagon, told generally of the AP's findings, said it had found no substantiation for the allegations in the official record. The AP's research also found no official Army account of the events.

Some elements of the No Gun Ri episode are unclear: What chain of officers gave open-fire orders? Did GIs see gunfire from the refugees or their own ricochets? How many soldiers refused to fire? How high in the ranks did knowledge of the events extend?

The troops dug in at No Gun Ri, 100 miles southeast of Seoul, South Korea's capital, were members of the 7th Cavalry, a regiment of the 1st Cavalry Division. The refugees who encountered them had been rousted by U.S. soldiers from nearby villages as the invading army of communist North Korea approached, the Korean claimants said.

It was the fifth week of the Korean War. Word was circulating among U.S. troops that northern soldiers disguised in white peasant garb might try to penetrate American lines via refugee groups.

``It was assumed there were enemy in these people," ex-rifleman Herman W. Patterson of Greer, S.C., said of the civilian throng.

As they neared No Gun Ri, leading ox carts, with children on their backs, the hundreds of refugees were ordered off the dirt road by American soldiers and onto parallel railroad tracks, the Koreans said.

What then happened under the concrete bridge cannot be reconstructed in full detail. Although some ex-GIs poured out chilling memories, others offered only fragments, or abruptly ended their interviews. Over the three days, soldiers were dug in over hundreds of yards of hilly terrain, and no one — Korean or American — saw everything.

But the veterans corroborated the core of the Koreans' account: that American troops kept the large group of refugees pinned under the No Gun Ri railroad bridge and killed almost all of them.

``It was just wholesale slaughter," said Patterson.

Both the Koreans and several ex-GIs said the killing began when American planes suddenly swooped in and strafed an area where the white-clad refugees were resting. Bodies fell everywhere, and terrified parents dragged their children into a narrow culvert

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beneath the tracks, the Koreans said.

Some ex-GIs believe the strafing was a mistake, that the pilots were supposed to strike enemy artillery miles up the road. But declassified U.S. Air Force reports from mid-1950, found by the AP, show that pilots also sometimes deliberately attacked ``people in white,'' apparently suspecting disguised North Korean soldiers were among them.

Ex-GI Delos Flint said he and other soldiers were caught in the U.S. air attack and piled into the culvert with the refugees. Then ``somebody — maybe our guys — was shooting in at us,'' he recalled. The soldiers managed to slip out.

Retired Col. Robert M. Carroll, then a first lieutenant, remembers 7th Cavalry riflemen opening fire on the refugees from nearby positions.

``This is right after we get orders that nobody comes through, civilian, military, nobody,'' said Carroll, of Lansdowne, Va.

Two days earlier, 1st Cavalry Division headquarters had issued an order: ``No refugees to cross the front line. Fire everyone trying to cross lines. Use discretion in case of women and children.'' A neighboring U.S. Army division, in its order, said civilians ``are to be considered enemy.''

Experts in the law of war told the AP that such orders, to shoot civilians, are plainly illegal.

Carroll said he got the rifle companies to cease fire. ``I wasn't convinced this was enemy,'' he said.

He then shepherded a boy to safety under a double-arched concrete railroad bridge nearby, where shaken and wounded Koreans were gathering. He saw no threat.

``There weren't any North Koreans in there the first day. ... It was mainly women and kids and old men,'' recalled Carroll, who said he then left the area and knows nothing about what followed.

The Americans directed the refugees into the 80-foot-long bridge underpasses and after dark opened fire on them from nearby machine-gun positions, the Koreans said.

Veterans said the heavy-weapons company commander, Capt. Melbourne C. Chandler, after speaking with superior officers by radio, had ordered machine-gunners to set up near the tunnel mouths and open fire.

``Chandler said, `... Let's get rid of all of them','' said Eugene Hesselman of Fort Mitchell, Ky. '' ... We didn't know if they were North or South Koreans. ... We were there only a couple of days and we didn't know them from a load of coal.''

Chandler and other key officers are dead. The colonel who commanded the battalion, Herbert B. Heyer, 88, of Sandy Springs, Ga., told the AP he knew nothing about the shootings and ``I know I didn't give such an order.'' Veterans said the colonel apparently was leaving operations to subordinates at the time.

The Korean claimants said those near the tunnel entrances died first.

``People pulled dead bodies around them for protection,'' said survivor Chung Koo-ho, 61.

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``Mothers wrapped their children with blankets and hugged them with their backs toward the entrances. ... My mother died on the second day of shooting."

Some ex-soldiers said gunfire was coming out of the underpasses, but others don't remember any. None of the ex-GIs interviewed supported one veteran's statement that he and others afterward discovered ``at least seven" dead North Korean soldiers in the underpasses, in uniform under peasant white.

Some GIs didn't fire, veterans said. ``It was civilians just trying to hide," said Flint, of Clio, Mich.

All 24 South Korean survivors interviewed individually by the AP said they remembered no North Koreans or gunfire directed at the Americans. One suggested the Americans were seeing their own comrades' gunfire ricocheting through from the tunnels' opposite ends.

Relevant U.S. Army documents say nothing about North Korean soldiers killed under a bridge or anything else about No Gun Ri.

The precise death toll will never be known. The survivors believe 300 were killed at the bridge and 100 in the air attack. Ex-GIs close to the bridge generally put the dead there at about 200. ``A lot" also were killed in the strafing, they say.

One battalion lieutenant located by the AP said he was in the area but knew nothing about the killing of civilians. ``I have honestly never, ever heard of this from either my soldiers or superiors or my friends," said John C. Lippincott of Stone Mountain, Ga. He said he could have missed it because ``we were extremely spread out."

In authoritarian, U.S.-allied South Korea, the survivors were long discouraged from speaking out. In 1997, in a liberalized political atmosphere, they filed a claim with South Korea's Government Compensation Committee. But the committee rejected it in April 1998, saying a five-year statute of limitations had expired long ago.

The AP reconstructed U.S. troop movements from map coordinates in declassified U.S. war records, narrowed the possibilities among Army units, then spent months tracing veterans — some 130 interviews by telephone and in person — to pinpoint the companies involved.

The U.S. government's civil liability may be limited. It is largely protected by U.S. law against foreign lawsuits related to ``combatant activities," although the claimants say the killings were not directly combat-related.

War crimes prosecution appears even less likely. The U.S. military code condemns indiscriminate killing of civilians, even if a few enemy soldiers are among a large number of noncombatants killed, legal experts note. But prosecution so many years later is a practical impossibility, they say.

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EDITOR'S NOTE — AP Investigative Researcher Randy Herschaft contributed to this report.

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노근리 양민학살사건 대책위원회 정은용 위원장(왼쪽에서 두번째) 등 사건 관계자들이 8일 미국 국방부 등을 방문, 노근리 사건을 증언하기 위해 김포공항을 통해 출국하고 있다. ●박영군기자 bongsu@kdaily.com

대한매일 11/9

"美 진상규명·배상때만 화해 가능"

노근리 사건 피해자등 7명 어제 訪美
12일 美국방부서 '기관총 난사' 증언

'노근리 사건' 피해자와 한국기독교교회협의회(KNCC) 대표 등 7명은 미국 기독교교회협의회(NCC) 초청으로 11일간의 미국 방문을 위해 8일 출국했다.

방문자는 정은용(鄭殷溶·77) 노근리사건대책위원장을 비롯, 양해숙(梁海淑·61·여) 금초자(琴初子·61·여) 정구학(鄭求學·56) 정구도(鄭救燾·45)씨 등 피해자들과 김동완(金東完) KNCC총무 노정선(盧晶宣) KNCC 통일위원회 부위원장 등 모두 7명이다.

이들은 10일 미국 NCC 창립 50주년 행사가 열리는 더 오하이오주 클리블랜드에서 당시 수색소대 상사였던 로버트 그레이 등 양민학살에 참여했던 미군 3명을 만난다.

12일에는 미국방부, 14일에는 워싱턴 한인교회 등에서 1950년 7월26일 저녁 노근리에서 있었던 기관총 난사 사건을 증언할 예정이다.

정 위원장은 "노근리 사건의 본질적인 화해는 미 정부가 사건을 투명하게 조사하고 공식적으로 사과할 때만 가능하다"면서 한미 양국 정부가 철저한 진상규명과 배상에 적극 나설 것을 촉구했다.

경향신문 11/9



'노근리'피해자들 訪美출국 서울/연합 11/9 경향

미국 기독교교회협의회(NCC) 초청을 받은 노근리 미군 양민학살 대책위원회 정은용(鄭殷溶·왼쪽에서 두번째) 위원장 등 생존자와 유가족 5명이 8일 오후 김포공항을 통해 출국하고 있다.

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미국찾온 노근리 피해자 미국을 방문중인 노근리 학살사건의 생존자 양해숙씨가 10일 클리블랜드에서 열린 예배에서 양초에 불을 붙이고 있다. 이날 예배에는 노근리 학살현장 생존자 4명과 당시의 가해 미군 3명이 참석했다. 클리블랜드/AP 연합

한겨레 신문 11/12.→

'노근리' 화해·용서의 기도

피해자·가해 참전용사 美교회 합동 추모예배

| 클리블랜드 연합 | 미군 양민학살 사건의 피해자들과 가해 미군들이 반세기 가까이 쌓여온 앙금을 씻어내기 위한 노력을 시작하는 상징적인 첫 만남을 가졌다.

한국전 당시 미군에 의한 대표적인 양민학살 사건으로 지목돼 온 노근리 사건의 생존자와 유가족들은 10일 정오(현지시간) 미국 오하이오주 클리블랜드 올드스톤 장로교회에서 당시 총격을 가했던 미군 참전용사들과 '노근리사건 인정 및 희생자 추모 합동예배'를 가졌다.

미 기독교교회협의회(NCC) 초청으로 이뤄진 이날 합동예배에는 '노근리 미군양민학살 대책위원회' 정은용(鄭殷溶·77) 위원장 등 생존자와 유가족 5명이 참석했으며 미군측에서는 총격을 시인한 에드워드 데일리(68·당시 상병) 등 3명이 참가했다.

정위원장은 피해자 및 유족대표로 발표한 성명을 통해 "노근리 양민 학살사건이 앞으로 투명하게 조사되고 잘 수습됨으로써 피해자와 가해자간에 진정한 화해가 이뤄지기를 바란다"고 밝혔다.

양측은 또 조앤 캠벨 NCC 총무와 이승만 목사의 인도로 제단 앞에서 촛불을 밝히는 의식을 통해 피해자와 가해자간의 진정한 화해와 용서를 기원했다.

노근리 사건 생존자와 유가족들은 12일 워싱턴에서 미 국방부 관계자 2명과 면담한 뒤 내셔널 프레스클럽에서 기자회견을 가질 예정이다.



에드워드 데일리(앞줄 오른쪽끝에서 두번째 검은양복 입은 사람)등 노근리 사건의 가해자들과 한국측 생존자, 유가족들이 10일 낮 오하이오주 클리블랜드 올드스톤 장로교회에 함께 모여 노근리 희생자들을 위한 추모 합동예배를 드리고 있다. ●클리블랜드(미오하이오주) 연합

11/12→ 대한매일

"학살 은폐기도 없었다" 美육참총장 회견

| 워싱턴 연합 | 에릭 신세키 미국 육군참모총장은 10일 한국전 초기 노근리에서 미군이 다수의 민간 난민을 살해한 데 대한 증거를 제거하려는 시도는 결코 없었다고 말했다.

신세키 참모총장은 국방부 출입 기자들과 가진 회견에서 당초 육군이 처음 진상검토에 나섰을 때 조사를 계속해야 할 신뢰할 만한 증거들이 없었다고 밝혔다.

신세키 참모총장은 "사건에 가담한 군인들이 이를 시인함으로써 미 육군이 그동안 소문으로만 나돌던 사건을 추적할 수 있는 능력을 갖게 됐다"면서 "육군은 사실을 은폐하거나 무시하려는 시도가 없었다"고 말했다.

육군은 앞서 노근리 사건을 조사하면서 역사적 기록들을 뒤진 결과 노근리 생존자와 유가족들의 주장을 뒷받침할 증거를 발견하지 못했다고 밝혔다. 11/

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← 국민일보 11/13

노근리주민 美 '참전용사비' 헌화 미국을 방문중인 노근리 양민학살 사건의 생존자 대책위원회의 정은용 위원장(76·왼쪽)과 정구학씨(56)가 11일 워싱턴에 있는 한국전쟁 참전용사비에 헌화하고 있다. 이들은 다른 노근리 생존자들과 함께 미국을 방문, 10일 미군 병사들과 오하이오주의 한 장로교회에서 합동예배를 가진뒤 이날 오후 이곳을 찾아 한국전쟁중 숨진 미군용사들의 넋을 기렸다. 11/13 (토) 국민. 워싱턴=AP뉘



정은용(오른쪽에서 두번째)씨 부자등 '노근리 사건' 관계자들이 12일 미국 국방부를 방문, 관리들과 면담을 마친뒤 건물 밖으로 걸어나오고 있다. <워싱턴=AP뉘>

"50년동안 고통속에 살아왔다" 11/13 조선

'노근리' 생존자 美서 회견

"진상 밝히는것만이 진정한 화합의 길"

【워싱턴=진철수특파원】미국을 방문중인 노근리 학살사건 생존자 5명은 12일 오후(이하 현지시간) 워싱턴에서 미국 국내언론과 각국 특파원들을 상대로 기자회견을 갖고 사건 당시의 참상과 고통을 생생하게 증언했다.

생존자들은 내셔널 프레스 클럽에서 약 1시간반 동안 진행된 회견에서 한국전당시 입은 신체적·정신적 피해 때문에 "지난 약 50년동안 슬픔과 고통 그리고 한을 씹으면서 살아왔다"고 밝혔다. 이들은 특히 피란민들이 "미군을 믿고 그들이 유도한 대로 따르다가 참변을 당했다"며 "미군이 왜 죄없는 사람들을 몰살하려 했는지 그 의도를 알고싶다"고 말했다.

'노근리 미군 양민학살 사건' 대책위원회의 정은용(鄭殷溶·76) 위원장은 "미군이 터널 양쪽에서 기관총을 쏘았기 때문에 기동성있는 청·장년은 도망갈 수 있었으나 힘없는 나머지 사람들은 터널 안에 남아있다가 변을 당했다"고 말했다.

금초자(琴初子·여·61)씨는 기자들에게 복부의 총상 흔적을 직접 보여주면서 "이 상흔으로 처녀시절부터 결혼 후까지 평생동안 가슴이 아팠다"고 말하고 "맵시있게 보이기 위해 튀어나온 배를 험겊으로 싸매고 다녔다"며 눈시울까지 붉혔다. 또 양해숙(梁海淑·여·61)씨는 폭탄이 떨어지면서 왼쪽 눈알이 빠져나온 상황과 부녀자및 어린이들이 피바다 속에서 죽어간 과정을 상기된 표정으로 설명하고 "사건후 지금까지 50년간 한을 지니고 살았으며 미군을 보면 외면해왔다"고 덧붙였다.

앞서 이들 생존자 일행은 이날 오전 미국 국방부를 방문, 국방부의 찰스 크레이긴 인사·전투태세 담당 수석 부차관과 육군부의 패트릭 헨리 인력·예비군 담당 차관보 등을 면담하고 사건의 진상을 철저하고 신속하게 조사해 줄 것을 호소했다. 미국측은 면담 직후 성명을 발표, "미국 정부가 사건 진상을 신속히 밝힐 것을 다짐한다"면서 "그렇게 하는 것만이 한·미 양국 국민들이 한국전쟁에서 함께 당한 희생을 기리는 길"이라고 말했다.

↑ 조선일보 11/13

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11/15 조선일보



◇美 국방부 찾은 '노근리 대책위'

미국 워싱턴을 방문중인 노근리 미군 양민학살 대책 위원회 정은용(오른쪽 두번째) 위원장이 12일 미 국방부 관리들에게 당시의 참상을 설명한 뒤 청사를 걸어나오고 있다. ▶기사 29면 /워싱턴=AP聯合



미국 워싱턴을 방문 중인 노근리 양민학살 생존자들(앞줄)이 12일 국방부 관리들을 만나 진상조사를 요구한 뒤 청사를 나서고 있다. [워싱턴 AP=연합]

중앙일보 11/15

노근리 생존자 美 국방부 방문

신속한 진상규명 촉구

[워싱턴=김종수 특파원]미국을 방문 중인 노근리 학살사건 생존자 4명은 지난 12일(현지시간) 미 국방부를 방문, 사건의 진상을 신속하게 밝혀줄 것을 요청했다.

찰스 크레이긴 미 국방부차관과 육군부의 패트릭 헨리 차관보·마이클 애커먼 감찰관은 "적극적으로 진상을 파악해 공표하겠다"고 다짐했다. 미 국방부 관계자는 노근리 조사단이 다음달부터 당시 사건에 관계된 참전 미군을 상대로 면담조사를 개시할 것이라고 밝혔다.

생존자들은 이어 워싱턴 내셔널 프레스 클럽에서 미국 내 언론과 외국특파원을 상대로 기자회견을 갖고 사건 당시 상황을 증언했다. '노근리 양민학살사건' 대책위원장 정은용(鄭殷溶·76)씨는 "그동안 네번이나 미 국방부에 해명과 보상을 요구했으나 반응이 없다가 이번에 면담이 이뤄지고 진상규명을 약속하게 돼 다행"이라면서 "신속하고 투명한 조사만이 희생자들의 한을 풀 수 있는 길"이라고 강조했다.

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워싱턴 AP연합

노근리 생존자 美서 증언

미국을 방문한 노근리 학살사건 생존자 금조자씨(왼쪽)가 12일 워싱턴 내셔널프레스클럽에서 가진 기자회견을 통해 노근리 참상을 증언하고 있다. 연세대 노정선교수가 노근리 참상을 그린 어린이의 그림을 안은 채 통역하고 있다.

동아일보 11/15

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▶11월 10일 미국 NCC 50주년 기념행사에서 노근리 생존자와 참전군인 3명이 만나 증언하는 장면.



▶ 미국교회협 50주년 행사에 참석한 참전군인 에드워드 데일리, 참전군인들과 KNCC 김동완 총무.

민주화운동기념사업회
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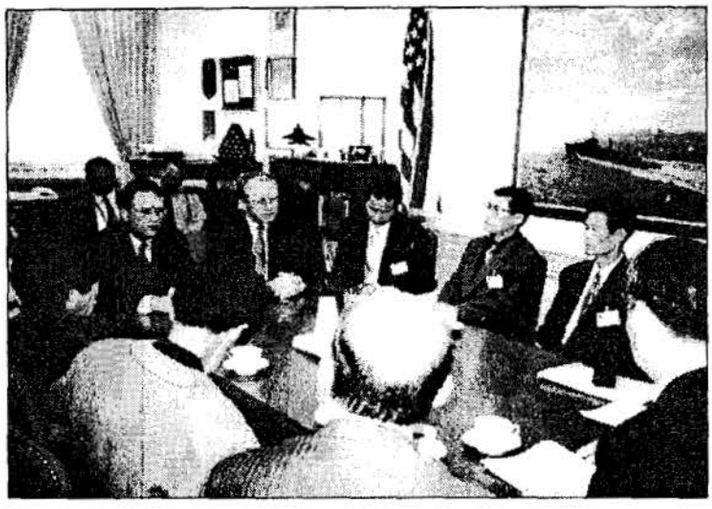
방문단 일행이 11월 12일 미국무성을 공식방문하여 Charles L. Cragin(국무성 차관보), Patrick T. Henry(육군성 인력국 부비서관), Michael Ackerman(육군성 수사국, 육군 중장) 등 담당자와 노근리 사건에 대해 의견을 나누고 있다. ▼







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노근리 생존자와 KNCC 대표,
미국방문과 노근리 양민학살과 관련한 미국언론 보도(11월8-16일)

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1. Monday, Nov. 8, 1999

No Gun Ri Survivors Arrive in U.S.
Monday, Nov. 8, 1999
The Associated PressBy Sang-Hun Choe / Associated Press Writer

CLEVELAND ?? With "agony and tears," survivors of No Gun Ri, site of an alleged mass killing of refugees by American troops a half-century ago, arrived in the United States on Monday to meet and pray with a handful of aging ex-soldiers who were there.

Three South Korean survivors, still bearing disfiguring wounds, will meet with three of the U.S. Army veterans who have acknowledged their unit was involved in the civilians' deaths in the first weeks of the Korean War.

The "recognition and remembrance ceremony" in Cleveland is sponsored by the U.S. National Council of Churches and the Korean National Council of Churches as part of the U.S. organization's 50th anniversary annual meeting.

The Koreans and veterans will join in a public worship service in Cleveland's Old Stone Presbyterian Church on Wednesday.

"We hope the meeting will be an arena for reconciliation," Chung Eun-yong, a spokesman for the Korean group, said at a news conference in Seoul before their departure. Chung lost two children in the shootings, and his wife was badly wounded.

On Sept. 29, The Associated Press reported that a dozen U.S. Army veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said their unit killed a large number of refugees at the South Korean hamlet of No Gun Ri in July 1950. The villagers say about 400 were killed, including 100 in a preceding attack by U.S. warplanes.

Veterans say they believed enemy infiltrators ? North Korean soldiers ? were disguised among the refugees. Some said they were fired on from the civilian throng. The Koreans dispute this.

In a second report Oct. 13, citing veterans, Korean witnesses and U.S. military documents, the AP said hundreds of other South Korean refugees were killed by U.S. forces in other incidents in the Korean War's first weeks.

The church councils, representing Christian denominations in the two countries, had supported the Korean villagers' efforts to win reparations from Washington. Those efforts were rebuffed, but the U.S. and South Korean governments have now launched investigations of No Gun Ri as a result of the AP report.

"These people travel to the United States with their agony and tears," said the Korean council's secretary-general, the Rev. Kim Dong-wan, who accompanied them on the visit.

Yang Hae-sook, 61, who lost an eye in the attack, said she wants the veterans to explain why they opened fire.

"I will ask them why they had to kill us innocent, unarmed refugees. Most of us were old men, women and children. Many years have passed, but I still have to know and the souls of the dead would want to know," she said.

From Cleveland, the South Koreans, who have renewed their demand for a U.S. apology and compensation, will fly to Washington on Thursday to meet with Pentagon officials.

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2. Tuesday, Nov. 9, 1999

1) No Gun Ri Survivors To Visit U.S.

Tuesday, Nov. 9, 1999

■ The Associated PressBy Robert Burns / AP Military Writer

WASHINGTON ?? Three South Korean survivors of No Gun Ri, the site of an alleged mass killing of civilian refugees by American troops in 1950, will meet with Army officials at the Pentagon on Friday.

Pentagon spokesman P.J. Crowley said Tuesday the survivors will see Lt. Gen. Michael Ackerman, the Army's inspector general who is heading an investigation.

"We look forward to meeting with them," Crowley said. "These are important contacts that could be important to us as we proceed with the investigation. So that could lead to, you know, follow-up interviews that either we will do or the Korean side will do."

On Sept. 29, The Associated Press reported that a dozen U.S. Army veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said their unit killed a large number of refugees at the South Korean hamlet of No Gun Ri in July 1950, in the early weeks of the Korean War. The villagers say about 400 were killed, including 100 in a preceding attack by U.S. warplanes.

Veterans said they believed enemy infiltrators ? North Korean soldiers ? were disguised among the refugees. Some said they were fired on from the civilian throng. The Koreans dispute this.

In a second report Oct. 13, citing veterans, Korean witnesses and U.S. military documents, the AP said hundreds of other South Korean refugees were killed by U.S. forces in other incidents in the war's first weeks.

The Army has said it investigated the allegations of civilian deaths and found no supporting evidence. After the AP published its stories the service promised a new investigation. Crowley said historical documents are being researched but no Army veterans have yet been interviewed.

The three South Korean survivors of No Gun Ri arrived in Cleveland on Tuesday. On Wednesday they were meeting with three of the U.S. Army veterans who have acknowledged their unit was involved in the civilians' deaths.

"We hope the meeting will be an arena for reconciliation," Chung Eun-yong, a spokesman for the Korean group, said at a news conference in Seoul before leaving. Chung lost two children in the shootings, and his wife was badly wounded.

The Koreans and veterans will join in a public worship service in Cleveland's Old Stone Presbyterian Church on Wednesday.

2) No Gun Ri survivors to meet U.S. ex-soldiers

November 9, 1999, Tuesday Metro

■ Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

DATELINE: Seoul, South Korea

BODY:

With "agony and tears," survivors of No Gun Ri, site of an alleged mass killing of refugees by American troops a half-century ago, flew to the United States on Monday to meet and pray with a handful of aging ex-soldiers who were there.

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Three South Korean survivors, still bearing disfiguring wounds, will meet with three of the U.S. Army veterans who have acknowledged their unit was involved in the civilians' deaths in the first weeks of the Korean War.
The Koreans and veterans will join in a public worship service in a Cleveland church on Wednesday.

3) Survivors of 1950 episode on 'reconciliation' mission to U.S.

November 9, 1999, Tuesday, PM cycle
SECTION: Domestic News
Associated Press By SANG-HUN CHOE, Associated Press Writer
DATELINE: CLEVELAND

BODY:

Three South Korean survivors of No Gun Ri, the site of an alleged mass killing of refugees by American troops a half-century ago, have arrived in the United States for a prayer ceremony with three of the ex-soldiers who were there.
The three survivors, still bearing disfiguring wounds, arrived Monday.
On Wednesday, they will meet with three of the U.S. Army veterans who have acknowledged their unit was involved in the civilians' deaths in the first weeks of the Korean War.
"We hope the meeting will be an arena for reconciliation," Chung Eun-yong, a spokesman for the Korean group, said at a news conference in Seoul before their departure. Chung lost two children in the shootings, and his wife was badly wounded.
The Koreans and veterans will join in a public worship service in Cleveland's
Old Stone Presbyterian Church on Wednesday.
The "recognition and remembrance ceremony" in Cleveland is sponsored by the U.S.
National Council of Churches and the Korean National Council of Churches as part of the U.S. organization's 50th anniversary annual meeting. On Sept. 29, The Associated Press reported that a dozen U.S. Army veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said their unit killed a large number of refugees at the South Korean hamlet of No Gun Ri in July 1950. The villagers say about 400 were killed, including 100 in a preceding attack by U.S. warplanes.
Veterans say they believed enemy infiltrators - North Korean soldiers - were disguised among the refugees. Some said they were fired on from the civilian throng. The Koreans dispute this.
In a second report Oct. 13, citing veterans, Korean witnesses and U.S. military documents, the AP said hundreds of other South Korean refugees were killed by U.S. forces in other incidents in the Korean War's first weeks. The church councils, representing Christian denominations in the two countries, had supported the Korean villagers' efforts to win reparations from Washington.
Those efforts were rebuffed, but the U.S. and South Korean governments have now launched investigations of No Gun Ri as a result of the AP report.
"These people travel to the United States with their agony and tears," said the
Korean council's secretary-general, the Rev. Kim Dong-wan, who accompanied them on the visit.
Yang Hae-sook, 61, who lost an eye in the attack, said she wants the veterans to explain why they opened fire.
"I will ask them why they had to kill us innocent, unarmed refugees. Most of us were old men, women and children. Many years have passed, but I still have to know and the souls of the dead would want to know," she said.

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3. Wednesday Nov. 10, 1999

1) Korean War Veteran presents Medal of Honor to Statehouse

November 10, 1999, Wednesday, PM cycle SECTION: State and Regional
Associated Press, By ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS, Associated Press Writer
DATELINE: COLUMBUS, Ohio

BODY:

The lessons Ronald Rosser learned during the fiercest days of fighting during the Korean War won't be familiar to many Ohio schoolchildren.

That's why the retired U.S. Army sergeant is donating his Medal of Honor - the country's highest distinction for military valor - to the Statehouse in a Veterans Day ceremony today.

"I didn't want it in a drawer or hanging out on a wall. It's been a treasure to me - I wanted to leave it primarily to the children of Ohio, primarily as an education tool," Rosser said in a phone interview from his southern Ohio home Wednesday.

"I want them to learn about what was done to preserve this nation," said Rosser, one of only 22 surviving Korean War veterans who are Medal of Honor recipients.

Rosser, now 70, was a 22-year-old corporal on January 12, 1952, when members of Company L. of the 38th Infantry Regiment launched an assault on Chinese troops hunkered down on a small mountain known as Hill 472.

Rosser was a forward observer with the company's lead platoon when it came under heavy fire. In three separate charges made individually over several hours, Rosser killed at least 13 Chinese soldiers, according to his Medal of Honor citation.

As his platoon withdrew, "though himself wounded, (Rosser) made several trips across open terrain still under enemy fire to help remove other men injured more seriously than himself," the citation said.

Rosser, who before Korea served in the U.S. Army 82nd airborne division, re-enlisted after his brother Richard died in combat in Korea on Feb. 10, 1951.

"I volunteered to take his place," he said.

Rosser is making his medal presentation the same week that a religious ceremony in Cleveland brought together three South Korean survivors and three U.S. Army veterans of No Gun Ri - a hamlet where witnesses say American troops killed hundreds of refugees early in the Korean War.

The meeting was sponsored by the U.S. National Council of Churches and its South Korean counterpart.

Rosser doesn't dispute the events described in Associated Press reports about No Gun Ri and other killings by U.S. soldiers of South Korean civilians during the war.

But he believes people - including veterans - have forgotten the context of the time. Fear that North Korean infiltrators were penetrating enemy lines by hiding in groups of refugees was a constant worry.

"I don't understand the controversy," Rosser said. Civilians "got caught in a wartime situation with the enemy using them."

2) Army Chief Backs No Gun Ri Finding

Wednesday, Nov. 10, 1999; 5:42 p.m. EST

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■ The Associated Press, By Robert Burns AP Military Writer

WASHINGTON ?? The Army's top soldier said Wednesday there was never an attempt to ignore evidence that American soldiers killed large numbers of civilian refugees early in the Korean War.

"When the Army checked, there was no credible evidence that they could pursue," Gen. Eric Shinseki, the Army chief of staff, said in an interview with defense reporters.

"The change here recently," Shinseki said, was an Associated Press report Sept. 29 that U.S. Army veterans, corroborating Korean villagers' accounts, said their unit killed refugees at the village of No Gun Ri in July 1950. The villagers say about 400 were killed, including 100 in a preceding attack by U.S. warplanes.

The AP researched declassified military records and searched out veterans of the units that were at No Gun Ri.

"The soldiers involved said, 'Yes, we were involved in this incident,' which has changed the Army's ability now to pursue what had been rumor or, you know, innuendo earlier," the four-star general said. "Had these details been known earlier, the Army would have moved to investigate earlier, so I don't think there's any coverup or ignoring the facts."

The Army, in a prior investigation of the allegations, did not interview soldiers from the units involved. The Army said it searched historical records and found nothing to support the claims of No Gun Ri survivors and victims' families who repeatedly sought compensation from Washington and their own government.

Even when the AP told the Pentagon of its findings this year, officials said they had already investigated enough to satisfy themselves that there was no evidence to support the allegations.

After publication of the AP story, the Army said it would reopen the matter and work with the South Korean government to find the truth.

On Friday, five South Korean survivors of No Gun Ri will visit the Pentagon and meet with Army officials.

3) Ex-GIs, Survivors of No Gun Ri Meet International news

November 10, 1999; Wednesday 19:15 Eastern Time

■ Associated Press, SANG-HUN CHOE

DATELINE: CLEVELAND

BODY:

Four South Koreans and three U.S. Army veterans sat down together in a church Wednesday, sharing painful memories and praying to heal the wounds from No Gun Ri, site of an alleged mass civilian killing by American troops a half-century ago.

The featured speakers at the ''recognition and remembrance'' included Chung Eun-Yong, 77, a man who lost two children at the South Korean hamlet where witnesses say U.S. soldiers killed hundreds of refugees early in the Korean War.

''We believe God will forgive the veterans and the U.S. government when they repent the sins committed and apologize officially for their wrongdoing,'' he said.

Robert C. Gray, a former 7th U.S. Cavalry Regiment sergeant speaking on behalf of the veterans, offered no immediate apology.

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South Koreans must understand the ''mentality'' of young American soldiers in those first chaotic days of the Korean War, when veterans say American soldiers were attacked by North Korean troops dressed in white peasant garb and mixed with refugees, he said.

''We want them to understand what we had gone through in the first days of the war,'' Gray, 74, said during a news conference with the Koreans after the church service.

''You couldn't tell the difference between a friend and a foe because of the way they were dressed. The mentality was to stay alive,'' he said.

The service at Cleveland's Old Stone Presbyterian Church was sponsored by the U.S. National Council of Churches and its South Korean counterpart as part of what the church groups called a ''long process of healing and reconciliation between our two countries and our peoples.''

The Associated Press reported in September that U.S. Army veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said their unit killed a large number of civilian refugees at No Gun Ri in July 1950. The villagers say about 400 were killed, including 100 in a preceding attack by U.S. warplanes.

Veterans said they feared North Korean soldiers were disguised among the refugees. Some ex-GIs said they were fired on from the refugee throng, which the Korean survivors dispute.

In the glow of the church's Tiffany windows, the congregation of American and Korean church officials prayed for ''new possibilities of reconciliation of the people of the United States and the Korean people.''

Since the AP report, both the U.S. and South Korean governments have launched investigations of No Gun Ri.

''I have lived so many years smothering tears. I wish the U.S. and South Korean government will cooperate and leave no stone unturned in bringing out the truth,'' said Yang Hae-sook, 61, who lost her left eyeball at No Gun Ri. Another veteran participating in Wednesday's event, Edward L. Daily, 68, of Clarksville, Tenn., said he would fully cooperate with the investigation.

''I am very sympathetic with the survivors and what they have endured,'' said

Daily, who shook hands with Chung.

Two of the four South Koreans are Buddhist. Chung attends a Presbyterian church in South Korea. The fourth is Roman Catholic.

Chung said he was happy to meet the U.S. veterans. ''We can't get everything resolved in one single sitting. But we hope to see more of the GIs who were at No Gun Ri. If we meet and talk, it will help tell the truth,'' he said. The church organization, representing 35 Protestant and Orthodox denominations, had taken up the Koreans' cause in 1998, but was told the Pentagon had found no evidence to support the allegations.

The South Koreans will fly to Washington on Thursday to meet with Pentagon officials.

4) Survivors of alleged SKorea massacre meet in U.S.

November 10, 1999; Wednesday 19:16

Reuters

CLEVELAND (Reuters) - South Koreans who say they survived a massacre of hundreds of civilians by U.S. troops during the Korean War met Wednesday for the first time with U.S. veterans who say they were among the forces involved in the alleged atrocity.

The National Council of Churches (NCC), celebrating the 50th anniversary of its founding in Cleveland, provided the venue by holding a "Service of Recognition and Remembrance" at the city's

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historic Old Stone Church.

The NCC said it had been approached by a veteran seeking help in bringing the sides together.

One of the Koreans, Chung Eun Yong, said through an interpreter that the U.S. government and the South Korean government had ignored survivors' accounts of the massacre that allegedly took place July 26-29, 1950, early in the 1950-53 conflict.

Chung lost his son and daughter at No Gun Ri and his wife was wounded seriously, the NCC said.

He said that when the United States apologizes fully, the victims will forgive them.

"This will be a historic lesson ... that massacres like No Gun Ri cannot happen again," Chung said.

CALL FOR FULL INVESTIGATION

Both sides called for the United States to conduct a full investigation of the allegations, which came to light recently in a report by the Associated Press.

Defense Secretary William Cohen has ordered the Army to investigate the allegations and has named an independent panel of seven experts on Korea to advise him on the investigation. South Korea also is investigating the allegations.

The U.S. Army had conducted a review of documents in the case earlier this year and said it did not discover any evidence of a massacre by U.S. soldiers during the conflict, which pitted Communist against non-Communist forces.

The new Army review was ordered after an AP report quoted villagers and U.S. veterans as saying that hundreds, including women and children, were killed by the U.S. military.

Speaking for himself, retired Major Robert "Snuffy" Gray, 75, said: "We very badly need to understand what happened ... . We need to put things behind us."

He also said: "There will be no apology from any of us (veterans)." Gray noted that No Gun Ri occurred at the start of the war and that many of the soldiers under his command were young and inexperienced.

"One boy said he was a flutist in the high school band ... and I handed him a rifle," he said.

He also said the Americans were understaffed.

"Every company cook had a rifle," he said.

Another veteran, retired First Lt. Edward Daily, said: "You will never know the truth about No Gun Ri."

Daily, 68, told reporters of being put on alert by his superiors and being warned that some of the civilians who were fleeing could be North Koreans in disguise.

He said there was no time to screen civilians trying to escape the advancing North Koreans.

Daily said he recalled the civilians being herded into a tunnel under a bridge. When shots rang out from the area of the tunnel, U.S. soldiers started firing.

"There was massive rifle fire that lasted about 20 minutes then it went quiet. Then it started again and lasted about another 10 minutes. Some of our men went down ... and we did find a couple of North Korean soldiers in brown uniforms under their (civilian) clothes," he said.

5) Army Chief Backs No Gun Ri Finding

November 10, 1999; Wednesday 17:42 Eastern Time

The Associated Press, ROBERT BURNS

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SECTION: Washington - general news
DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

The Army's top soldier said Wednesday there was never an attempt to ignore evidence that American soldiers killed large numbers of civilian refugees early in the Korean War.

''When the Army checked, there was no credible evidence that they could pursue,'' Gen. Eric Shinseki, the Army chief of staff, said in an interview with defense reporters.

''The change here recently,'' Shinseki said, was an Associated Press report Sept. 29 that U.S. Army veterans, corroborating Korean villagers' accounts, said their unit killed refugees at the village of No Gun Ri in July 1950. The villagers say about 400 were killed, including 100 in a preceding attack by U.S. warplanes.

The AP researched declassified military records and searched out veterans of the units that were at No Gun Ri.

''The soldiers involved said, 'Yes, we were involved in this incident,' which has changed the Army's ability now to pursue what had been rumor or, you know, innuendo earlier,'' the four-star general said. ''Had these details been known earlier, the Army would have moved to investigate earlier, so I don't think there's any coverup or ignoring the facts.''

The Army, in a prior investigation of the allegations, did not interview soldiers from the units involved. The Army said it searched historical records and found nothing to support the claims of No Gun Ri survivors and victims' families who repeatedly sought compensation from Washington and their own government.

Even when the AP told the Pentagon of its findings this year, officials said they had already investigated enough to satisfy themselves that there was no evidence to support the allegations.

After publication of the AP story, the Army said it would reopen the matter and work with the South Korean government to find the truth. On Friday, five South Korean survivors of No Gun Ri will visit the Pentagon and meet with Army officials.

6) Ex-GIs, Survivors of No Gun Ri Meet

November 10, 1999; Wednesday 03:40 Eastern Time
SECTION: International news
The Associated Press, CHARLES J. HANLEY
DATELINE: CLEVELAND

BODY:

A handful of Koreans and Americans have gathered here after a half-century of separate nightmares to pray and remember what happened when their paths first crossed at a place called No Gun Ri. Three South Korean survivors and three U.S. Army veterans of No Gun Ri a hamlet where witnesses say American troops killed hundreds of refugees early in the Korean War planned a ''recognition and remembrance'' service today at the Old Stone Presbyterian Church.

The meeting was sponsored by the U.S. National Council of Churches and its South Korean counterpart as part of what the church groups called a ''long process of healing and reconciliation between our two countries and our peoples.''

But tension and uncertainties clearly troubled the participants before the unusual session.

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''We have pent-up frustrations and anger,'' said Kum Cho-ja, a 61-year-old woman who suffered a severe stomach wound in the 1950 shootings. ''They are human beings and we are human beings. Why did they kill us innocent people?''

''My heart goes out to these people. Nobody wants to see anybody die,'' said Robert C. Gray of Bayonet Point, Fla., a U.S. 7th Cavalry Regiment sergeant at the time.

Gray said he wasn't looking for reconciliation, but ''an understanding'' of why such things happened.

''You had a bunch of young people new to combat who just wanted to stay alive,'' he said of his old comrades.

The Associated Press reported in September that U.S. Army veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said their unit killed a large number of civilian refugees at No Gun Ri in July 1950. The villagers say about 400 were killed, including 100 in a preceding attack by U.S. warplanes. Two weeks later in a report citing veterans, Korean witnesses and U.S. military documents, the AP reported that hundreds of other South Korean refugees were killed by U.S. forces in other incidents in the Korean War's first weeks, many when two bridges were blown up as civilians streamed across.

Veterans said they feared North Korean soldiers were disguised among the refugees. Some ex-GIs said they were fired on from the refugee throng. The Korean survivors dispute that.

One of the veterans who came to Cleveland, Edward L. Daily of Clarksville, Tenn., has said the screams of women and children at No Gun Ri still echo in his mind. Both ex-soldiers and Korean survivors have told the AP they remain haunted by flashbacks.

The church councils scheduled a private meeting of the veterans and Koreans after today's church service in a further effort to break down barriers.

The No Gun Ri events were taking place against the background of the U.S. church council's 50th anniversary and annual meeting.

The church organization, representing 35 Protestant and Orthodox denominations, had taken up the Koreans' cause in 1998, but was told the Pentagon had found no evidence to support the allegations.

The U.S. and South Korean governments have since launched investigations of No Gun Ri.

7) Ex-GIs and survivors of No Gun Ri meet in Cleveland to pray, remember

november 10, 1999, Wednesday, AM cycle

The Associated Press SECTION: State and Regional

BYLINE: By SANG-HUN CHOE, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: CLEVELAND

BODY:

Four South Koreans and three U.S. Army veterans sat down together in a Cleveland church Wednesday, sharing painful memories and praying to heal the wounds from No Gun Ri, site of an alleged mass civilian killing by American troops 50 years ago.

The featured speakers at the "recognition and remembrance" included Chung Eun-Yong, 77, a man who lost two children at the South Korean hamlet where witnesses say U.S. soldiers killed hundreds of refugees early in the Korean War.

"We believe God will forgive the veterans and the U.S. government when they repent the sins committed and apologize officially for their wrongdoing," he said.

Robert Gray, a former U.S. 7th Cavalry Regiment sergeant speaking on behalf of the veterans, offered no immediate apology for the unit's actions in 1950. "Unfortunately, the people who seem to suffer the

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most in a war zone are the civilians," said Gray, of Bayonet Point, Fla. "We very badly need an understanding to see if we can put things behind us and see if we can live as we should live, side by side."

The meeting at Old Stone Presbyterian Church was sponsored by the U.S. National Council of Churches and its South Korean counterpart as part of what the church groups called a "long process of healing and reconciliation between our two countries and our peoples."

As the South Korean survivors headed for the service, hopes of reconciliation mixed with uneasiness.

"I feel so good about coming and having this opportunity to speak before American people. It's really something that we could finally speak and some Americans would listen," said Yang Hae-sook, 61, who lost her left eye at No Gun Ri.

In the glow of the church's Tiffany windows, the congregation of American and Korean church officials prayed for "new possibilities of reconciliation of the people of the United States and the Korean people."

But tension and uncertainties clearly troubled the participants.

"We have pent-up frustrations and anger," said Kum Cho-ja, a 61-year-old woman who suffered a severe stomach wound. "They are human beings and we are human beings. Why did they kill us innocent people?"

The Associated Press reported in September that U.S. Army veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said their unit killed a large number of civilian refugees at No Gun Ri in July 1950. The villagers say about 400 were killed, including 100 in a preceding attack by U.S. warplanes.

Veterans said they feared North Korean soldiers were disguised among the refugees. Some ex-GIs said they were fired on from the refugee throng, which the Korean survivors dispute.

The church organization, representing 35 Protestant and Orthodox denominations, had taken up the Koreans' cause in 1998 but was told the Pentagon had found no evidence to support the allegations.

The U.S. and South Korean governments have since started investigations of No Gun Ri.

The South Koreans will fly to Washington on Thursday to meet with Pentagon officials.

8) SCARRED BY A MASSACRE IN KOREA, SEEKING FORGIVENESS IN CLEVELAND

November 10, 1999 Wednesday, FINAL / ALL

■ The Plain Dealer / SECTION: NATIONAL; Pg. 1A

BYLINE: By DAVID BRIGGS; PLAIN DEALER RELIGION REPORTER

BODY:

The temperature rose above 100 in the tiny South Korean hamlet of No Gun Ri, and the summer humidity was unbearable even for a young man from the southern United States. No one - neither refugee nor soldier - had slept the night before this late July morning in 1950.

Huddled inside a makeshift tunnel under a bridge with hundreds of civilian refugees were Chung Eun Yong's wife, Park Sun Yong, and 5-year-old son, Chung Ku Pil. Their 2-year-old daughter, Chung Ku He, had been shot in the neck and killed by guns fired by U.S. soldiers surrounding the tunnel.

Chung's wife grabbed her son under an arm and ran from the tunnel. A soldier who spotted her fired, ripping away the bottom half of her son's body and leaving her intestines exposed with a shot to the abdomen. She was left for dead.

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"Death was waiting on her, and she prayed the Lord's Prayer," her husband recalled.

Just a short distance away on the eastern side of the bridge was 19-year-old Cpl. Edward Daily from Covington, Ky. He had been on "full alert" for days, and when what appeared to the American side as rifle shots came out of the tunnel, "all hell broke loose" and soldiers began firing into the passage. He was ordered to shoot any refugee coming out of the tunnel - "and that's what I did."

"I could hear the women crying and screaming, and the children screaming." He prayed the prayer of a 19-year-old seeing his first combat: "God, just get me through this mess. Get me out of here, and I'll be your servant for life." Forty-nine years later, as the report of the massacre at No Gun Ri has begun to come to light, Daily and Chung will meet across from one another in a service of reconciliation at Old Stone Church in downtown Cleveland. They have come together - part of the 50th anniversary celebration of the National Council of Churches - to come to terms before God with the events in the village a half-century ago.

"Our differences can be settled under the presence of God and Jesus Christ," Daily said. "Anyone who is trying to hide the truth will have to deal with that later on."

The U.S. and South Korean governments have launched investigations of the No Gun Ri incident following an Associated Press report. The AP said that a dozen U.S. Army veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said their unit killed a large number of refugees at the South Korean hamlet in July 1950. The villagers say 400 were killed, including 100 in a preceding attack by U.S. warplanes.

Veterans said they believed North Korean soldiers were disguised among the refugees. Some said the U.S. soldiers were fired on. The Koreans dispute this.

Joining Chung at the Old Stone prayer service from the South Korean side are survivors Yang Hae Sook, who lost her left eye in the shooting; Keum Cho Ja, who received a stomach injury; and Chung Ku Hak, who lost a nose. His mother and sister were killed.

The Korean War veterans who will be beside them in prayer are Daily, now of Clarksville, Tenn.; Robert "Snuffy" Gray, of Bayonet Point, Fla., who was a master sergeant at the time of the attack; and Donald Down of Elyria, also a sergeant when the shooting occurred at No Gun Ri. In separate interviews yesterday at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, Chung and Daily shared their personal stories. "You'll never know the truth at No Gun Ri," Daily said, but they agreed on details such as the shooting of refugees from the air and the pouring of weapons fire into the tunnel where refugees huddled. On the American side, there was concern that enemy soldiers were among the refugees and an automatic rifle was found inside the tunnel, Daily said. The soldiers themselves hadn't slept in three days, and the scene was one of chaos

and confusion, he said. But in Daily's view, that does not excuse the killings.

"The way I look at it is this thing has come out as a reality, and this No Gun Ri thing is a tragedy no one wants to hear," said Daily, 68, still a stocky, forceful presence who resembles actor James Caan. "Both sides have suffered" and the truth needs to be heard. Daily would be baptized during the war less than a year later after escaping as a prisoner of war from North Korean forces during an artillery barrage.

But the days at No Gun Ri and the screams of the dying stay with him.

"They never leave you. They're in your dreams," he said. "As you get older, you hear a sound, a baby crying or a loud sound, and that can trigger a traumatic event."

Even today, he is amazed any of the refugees made it out alive.

"I never thought there would be any survivors," he said.

Chung, an intense 76-year-old man who has written a book on No Gun Ri, was a former police officer and already in hiding when his family was herded toward the hamlet. But he recites the events of those days 49 years ago with the conviction born of great suffering, his expression growing ever more somber as he tells the survivors' stories. His wife would live. A U.S. Army medic would wrap their son in a cloth and bury him, and then take his wife to a hospital. Twenty-five years later, he would become a Christian, embracing the faith that he said gave his wife the will to live through No Gun Ri.

"Now I understand maybe it was the same suffering experience I had, the suffering of Jesus Christ," he said.

One man baptized in the battlefield a year later. Another man waits a quarter century before he sees in the suffering of losing children the suffering of Christ on the cross. One a soldier, the other a victim.

Today, at Old Stone Church, they will try to make peace before God. Forgiveness will not come easy.

"Basically, repentance is necessary and confession of sin," Chung said. "The individual apology can be the first step."

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4. Thursday, Nov. 11, 1999

1) WRESTLING WITH MORAL RESPONSIBILITY ; U.S. VETS, KOREAN SURVIVORS DISCUSS NO GUN RI TRAGEDY

November 11, 1999 Thursday, FINAL / ALL

The Plain Dealer / SECTION: NATIONAL; Pg. 1A

BYLINE: By DAVID BRIGGS and JANET H. CHO; PLAIN DEALER REPORTERS

BODY:

Lighting candles from a single flame, American veterans and Korean survivors of an alleged massacre of civilian refugees vowed before God and one another yesterday to tell the world what happened in the hamlet of No Gun Ri half a century ago.

On opposite sides of the front pews of Cleveland's stately Old Stone Church, and later over ham sandwiches and Cokes in a private meeting, the survivors and veterans began the process of coming to terms with the alleged mass killings by American troops in July 1950.

"Where is a better place ... than within the sanctuary of God and Jesus Christ?"

Edward Daily of Clarksville, Tenn., a machine-gunner at No Gun Ri on the day of the shootings, said after the service. "I feel good inside."

What they agreed on was that the carnage occurred. What they could not agree on yesterday, the beginning of this process of reconciliation, was who was morally responsible.

While a South Korean who lost two children at No Gun Ri called on the veterans and U.S. government to repent and apologize, the soldiers said the men of their regiment were only following orders at a time when enemy soldiers disguised themselves as refugees. They offered no apologies

"That's my job, keep people alive, and I did it," said Robert "Snuffy" Gray of Bayonet Point, Fla. "I apologize for nothing I did, nothing. They expect it from me, they're barking up the moon."

The U.S. and South Korean governments have launched investigations following an Associated Press report that a dozen U.S. Army veterans corroborated the accounts of Korean villagers that soldiers killed a large number of refugees at the hamlet shortly after the start of the Korean War. The villagers say 400 were killed, including 100 in a preceding attack by U.S. warplanes. Some veterans said the U.S. soldiers were fired on. The Koreans dispute this. More than 200 people, including many local Korean-Americans, packed the Victorian Romanesque downtown church yesterday for the Service of Reconciliation and Remembrance. The gathering was sponsored by the National Council of Churches in the United States - which is celebrating its 50th anniversary in Cleveland this week - and its counterpart in Korea.

"I wanted to participate. I just came here because I'm a Korean-American, and I want to be a part of this," said Don Pak, a Cleveland auto repair owner. "This is a tragedy that comes with all the wars. I have a deep thanksgiving to the American people (for investigating the incident). They could just ignore it."

In the front pew on the left side were Daily, Gray and Donald Down, a former sergeant from Elyria. On the right side were some of the survivors: Yang Hae Sook, who lost her left eye in the shooting; Keum Cho Ja, who received an abdominal injury; Chung Ku Hak, who lost his nose; and Chung Eun Yong, who lost his 5-year-old son and 2-year-old daughter.

They would light a candle together as a symbol that "light will overcome the darkness in this land and indeed throughout the world." They listened with stoic countenances as the congregation sang "In Christ There Is No East or West," but the pain they have endured over nearly half a century was etched into their faces.

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The pain of Daily, who as a 68-year-old man still hears in the cries of a child or a sudden loud noise the screaming of dying women and children at No Gun Ri. The pain of Keum, whose right hip still bears a bowling ball-sized lump of purplish scar tissue from a shot fired as she tried to flee the tunnel where hundreds of other frightened refugees huddled. She was only 12 at the time, and has had no feeling in her right hip since.

"The only way I can forget is if I die," she said, wiping tears from her eyes. In a moving testimony during the worship service, Chung said: "We believe God will forgive the veterans and the U.S. government."

When they repent their sins and "apologize for their wrongdoing, then the victims will forgive them," he said. But the soldiers said the veterans aren't the ones who should be apologizing. "An apology has to come from the American government or the Pentagon," Daily said. "The veteran was serving his country in the line of duty."

What they could come to a consensus on was the need to find the truth. "They may not agree on in all factual happenings as to who did what and when, but at least there was some agreement that they would come together and talk about it," said the Rev. Syngman Rhee, of Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Va. "The question is where do we go with it? What do we do with it?"

For many people, yesterday's historic first meeting was a healthy start.

"I think it's a good first step toward the peace," said Jung Hwa Lee, president of the Korean American Association of Greater Cleveland. "I still appreciate America's help to fight the war, but this is a sad story."

The Rev. Joan Brown Campbell, NCC general secretary, said it would be unrealistic for one meeting to bridge nearly 50 years of suffering and silence.

She called the service "a beginning of the search, not a final reconciliation."

2) MISFORTUNES OF WAR

November 11, 1999 Thursday, FINAL / ALL

The Plain Dealer / SECTION: EDITORIALS & FORUM; Pg. 12B

BODY:

American troops bore the brunt of the United Nations "police action" that saved South Korea from communism in the early 1950s.

Of 5.7 million Americans who served in that conflict, 33,667 died in battle. And, as we do on every Veterans Day, we remember them among all of American men and women - living and dead - who have fought in the cause of freedom. Many Koreans, too, undoubtedly feel that they owe a debt of gratitude to those GIs, as well as to Republic of Korea forces who fell in defense of their homeland.

It is only natural and right to want to pay tribute to those who give their lives for others, and, indeed, to honor all who responded to their country's call to serve.

But this year, Americans are being asked to look beyond the suffering and losses experienced by their own - and to contemplate the probability that U.S. soldiers deliberately inflicted death and injury on Korean civilians.

As a democracy, we should not flinch from doing so, though we might wish to start from a position of disbelief. At the very least, it is not at all clear that the complete truth can ever be established about what happened at a place called No Gun Ri in July 1950. The events there took place in the first weeks of war as North Korean troops poured over the border and civilians fled southward.

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Former GIs have revealed that they remember being ordered to fire on Korean refugees. Some also say they heard shots coming from a tunnel where civilians were huddled. Others - and surviving refugees - say no shots were fired at the Americans. It seems generally accepted, however, that U.S. troops had reason to fear the North was attempting to infiltrate soldiers disguised as refugees.

What no one disputes is that there was carnage among the refugees. As many as 300 may have been killed. The memory haunts Edward Daily - a 19-year-old corporal at the time - who told Plain Dealer reporter David Briggs that after it appeared that shots came out of the tunnel, he was ordered to shoot anyone who emerged. "And that's what I did."

Daily and other ex-GIs from No Gun Ri joined some of the surviving refugees yesterday at what was described as a service of reconciliation at the Old Stone Church. They were brought together as part of the 50th-anniversary celebration of the National Council of Churches.

U.S. and South Korean investigations into the alleged massacre are under way.

Their conclusions may not be palatable, especially to Americans who have reason to be proud of how bravely their soldiers have responded to aggression during a turbulent century. But not to pursue the truth wherever it leads would be a betrayal of all who went to war, especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

3) RECONCILING BEGINS AT OLD STONE CHURCH

November 11, 1999 Thursday, FINAL / ALL

The Plain Dealer / SECTION: METRO; Pg. 1B

BYLINE: By JOE DIRCK

BODY:

The survivors, five of them, filed in slowly and took their seats in two front pews in the Old Stone Church. Their faces, two of which still bear the scars of No Gun Ri, were impassive and unreadable.

The veterans, three of them plus two wives, entered from the rear of the church and made their way haltingly down the aisle, dozens of camera lenses swinging toward them and hundreds of eyes following their slow progress. The little party was directed into the same two pews. No words, only a few fleeting, awkward glances, were exchanged between the Koreans and Americans.

Until September, when the Associated Press brought it to worldwide attention, few Americans had ever heard of No Gun Ri, a small village south of Seoul where hundreds of South Korean noncombatants were massacred by U.S. troops during the chaotic opening days of the Korean War.

AP pinned the story down by interviewing dozens of veterans and survivors, lifting the official lid that both governments had placed on the incident for nearly a half century.

The veterans, many of whom have reported receiving threats and various forms of harassment since talking to AP, said they were told that North Korean infiltrators were hiding among the civilians huddled beneath a bridge. The soldiers said they were ordered to open fire indiscriminately on the cowering refugees. As many as 400 Koreans were killed by the troops on the ground and by strafing American warplanes.

The National Council of Churches, celebrating its 50th anniversary this week in Cleveland, brought the two groups together for a reconciliation service aimed at acknowledging the tragedy and beginning the long-delayed healing process. Even before the AP disclosures, the U.S. council, as well as its Korean counterpart, had been pushing for an investigation of the No Gun Ri affair. One is now under way by

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the U.S. government, with a final report due in June.

Chung Eun Yong, whose son and daughter were killed and whose wife was seriously wounded at No Gun Ri, said through an interpreter that the victims' efforts to seek justice had long been thwarted by the South Korean government, which "did not like what we were doing" and discouraged the search for truth.

"We believe that God will forgive the veterans and the U.S. government when they repent the sins committed," he said.

Speaking on behalf of the veterans, who included former Sgt. Donald Downs of Elyria, was retired Maj. Robert "Snuffy" Gray, a master sergeant when his Seventh Cavalry unit was thrown into combat less than 48 hours after arriving in Korea. He had "vague memories of something transpiring" at No Gun Ri amid the terrifying craziness of those early days, and in talking with other veterans, was able to fill in the blanks.

"No one enjoys war; there's no good thing about war," Gray said. He called upon the victims to "see if we can put things behind us and live as human beings should live, side by side."

At the climax of the service yesterday, Gray was joined by Yang Hae Sook, who lost two brothers and her grandmother, as well as her left eye, at No Gun Ri, for a candle-lighting ceremony. As she prepared to light her candle, the Korean woman bowed, politely and respectfully, toward Gray. The old soldier seemed to appreciate the gesture.

There were other signs of forgiveness. Chung Hu Kak, whose mother and sister were killed and whose face was disfigured by American gunfire, stood and turned to the congregation when he was introduced, bowing from the waist. Sitting a few feet away was Edward Daily, a Seventh Cavalry veteran who gave AP one of the most vivid accounts of the massacre after years of suffering from a tortured conscience. As Chung started to sit back down, Daily impulsively extended his hand. The Korean grasped it without hesitation and shook it warmly.

Blessed are the peacemakers.

4) '50 Attack in Korea Remembered

November 11, 1999, Thursday, Late Edition - Final

The New York Times / SECTION: Section A; Page 14; Column 4; National Desk

BYLINE: By GUSTAV NIEBUHR

DATELINE: CLEVELAND, Nov. 10

BODY:

In a solemn encounter, three United States Army veterans and four South Korean civilians who stood at opposite ends of a chaotic incident half a century ago met here today to pray in a service of remembrance of that event, which the Koreans described as a massacre by American forces.

The service, held at a downtown church under the auspices of the National Council of Churches, was the first meeting on American soil between former soldiers and Korean survivors of the incident in July 1950, the first month of the Korean War, in which as many as 400 civilians were reportedly killed when they were strafed by military planes and later machine-gunned by soldiers at a railway bridge near the village of No Gun Ri. Although survivors and their families have demanded recognition of the events at No Gun Ri for many years, the incident there was not widely publicized in the United States until six weeks ago, when The Associated Press published an account quoting

survivors and former soldiers of the Seventh United States Cavalry who said many civilians had been killed there.

The service, at the Old Stone Presbyterian Church, showed that the wounds of violence inflicted 49 years ago remained vivid in the minds of those who were there and deeply painful, too. The survivors who came here said they wanted an apology.

The three soldiers, who emphasized that they spoke only for themselves, said they wanted to acknowledge the survivors' ordeal but asked for understanding of the circumstances of the incident: their units newly arrived from Japan, undermanned and fearful after having been told by their commanders that North Korean fighters had disguised themselves as civilians.

Speaking through a translator, Chung Eun Yong, 76, who said his son and daughter were killed and his wife was wounded in the incident, said the shooting took place over about 60 hours, on July 26-29, 1950. "We believe God will forgive the veterans and the U.S. Government when they repent their sins committed," he said.

Shortly after Mr. Chung spoke, one of the veterans present, Maj. Robert (Snuffy) Gray, 75, who is retired, rose to speak for the three men. "No one enjoys war at all," Major Gray said. "Unfortunately, the people who seem to suffer the most in a war zone are the civilians, the people who should be protected."

"We very badly need an understanding," said Major Gray, a master sergeant with the Seventh Cavalry's Second Battalion, stationed some distance to the west of the railroad bridge. "We need a joining of ways, to see if we can put things behind us, to see if human beings can live side by side."

In interviews, the veterans said they felt sympathy for the Koreans, but said they would not apologize for what they regarded as a terrible incident of war, during which they as soldiers were facing attacks from North Korean troops, suffered breakdowns in communications equipment and were always under their commanders' orders. "It was a very confusing, chaotic mess," said Edward Daily, 68, who was a corporal in 1950 and reached the rank of first lieutenant. Referring to the incident, he added, "It's a very tragic thing."

Lieutenant Daily said he saw civilians taking refuge under two long, high arches that formed part of the railway bridge on July 26, 1950. Shortly before dusk that day, he said, he heard three or four shots and saw "a muzzle flash" from the area where the civilians were gathered. At that point, he said, American soldiers received an order to fire on the Koreans.

He said the shooting lasted about 20 minutes, stopped, then resumed again for 10 more. Later that evening, he said, he was ordered to take up a position about a mile and a half away from the bridge. (In its account, the Associated Press reported that the veterans it interviewed disagreed about whether shots had been fired from among the Koreans.)

Lieutenant Daily said he had traveled to South Korea last week and met for several hours with five people who had survived the incident at the bridge.

One of those present at the service today was Andrew Young, former American representative to the United Nations, who will be installed on Thursday as the new president of the National Council of Churches, an organization that represents 35 Protestant and Eastern Orthodox denominations and is celebrating its 50th anniversary in meetings here this week. Afterward, Mr. Young, who is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, said, "There is always, in any conflict, a lot of unresolved guilt and anguish."

"Without trying to cast blame, I think the church's mission is to promote healing," he said.

Today's service originated in a request Lieutenant Daily made in a letter to the Rev. Joan B. Campbell, general-secretary of the National Council of Churches, for an event of remembrance.

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Officials of the council said their organization,
acting on a request from its counterpart among the churches of South Korea, had been trying to get the Government to look into the incident for months.
After the service, the veterans and the Koreans met privately for an hour. Later in the afternoon, they emerged together for a news conference in the Old Stone Church's office building. In that event, two of the Koreans, Yang Hae Sook, 60, and Keum Cho Ja, 60, described in detail their experiences at No Gun Ri. Both said they went to the railroad bridge after the groups they were with had come under attack from an airplane they described as an American bomber. Ms. Yang said she lost her left eye in an explosion and survived under the bridge, once the shooting began, by crawling under the bodies of the dead. Ms. Keum said she had tried to flee from the bridge after the shooting started, but suffered a stomach wound and was eventually taken to a hospital by an American medic. In a brief interview conducted through a translator afterward, Mr. Chung said he was satisfied with the meeting and discussions with the three veterans. Asked from whom the survivors wanted an apology for the incident, he replied,
"Ultimately, the U.S. Government."
The Pentagon had no statement on today's meeting, but did say that five survivors of the incident will meet with Pentagon officials on Friday morning in Washington.
As for the status of the investigation into the incident, an Army official said,
"Our goal is to be done by June of next year." More time might be necessary, however, because "the bottom line is we want to do this right," the official said.
The investigation includes four different phases: preparation, research and interviews, review and analysis, and finally the writing and release of the final report.
"We are in the first phase right now," the official said. "We are training the ones who will be doing the interviews."
Lt. Gen. Michael Ackerman, the Army inspector general, traveled to Korea on Oct. 28 and 29 to "meet with the Korean contingent that's doing a parallel review," the official said, adding, "He met with six survivors and went to the site."

5) Unhealed Wounds of Korean War

; Survivors of Incident Meet With U.S. Vets

November 11, 1999, Thursday, Final Edition
The Washington Post / SECTION: A SECTION; Pg. A03
BYLINE: William Claiborne, Washington Post Staff Writer
DATELINE: CLEVELAND, Nov. 10

BODY:

Still bearing disfiguring wounds, three survivors of an alleged massacre of Korean refugees by American troops at No Gun Ri, South Korea, a half-century ago had their first face-to-face encounter today with three aging ex-soldiers who have acknowledged their unit was involved in the incident.
Standing before the altar of the Old Stone Church in a symbolic "encounter" aimed at washing away decades of pain, anguish and guilt, the veterans were somber as the Rev. Joan B. Campbell, general secretary of the National Council of Churches, read a confession on their behalf.
"With heavy hearts, we as American Christians confess our complicity and indifference to the

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suffering of the Korean people across these many years," declared Campbell, who later said the veterans had approved the statement. "We know even our confession cannot address the lifetimes denied, the promise extinguished, the pain endured."

In turn, the Rev. Syngham Rhee, the council's president and himself a war refugee, declared on behalf of the survivors in equally conciliatory tones, "War is devastating. It is void and darkness [and] we recognize today our mutual suffering. We today confess our shared responsibility and rejoice in our common humanity."

With that, Robert "Snuffy" Gray, 75, a master sergeant with a reconnaissance platoon at the time of the No Gun Ri massacre, and Yang Hae Sook, 60, who lost an eye and watched as her grandmother and two brothers were killed in a barrage of rifle and machine gun fire, lit candles to celebrate their reconciliation. But after meeting in private for more than two hours, the veterans and survivors seemed less than reconciled. Gray erupted at a news conference where the survivors graphically described a slaughter of men, women and children. "I came to reach an understanding of what happened at No Gun Ri. May I ask what they came for?" he said. "My regiment was a proud regiment and they fought like hell, and they don't need anyone throwing rocks at them." For their part, the survivors made it clear that forgiveness was not yet forthcoming. They said in a statement that when the veterans of No Gun Ri and the U.S. government apologize, the "last step would be that the victims forgive them."

In the end, Campbell said the reconciliation was "a beginning," and that a dialogue had begun among people who have not talked for over 40 years.

The two sides were brought together at a 50th anniversary conference of the council, which last December brought the villagers' testimony of atrocities to the Pentagon and demanded reparations. In March, the Army command replied it had "found no information to substantiate the claim," but since then it has opened a new investigation.

It did so on the strength of details of the alleged mass killing disclosed on Sept. 29 by the Associated Press, which reported that a dozen U.S. Army veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, admitted their unit killed a large number of refugees huddled beneath a railroad bridge at No Gun Ri. The villagers say about 400 men, women and children were killed, including 100 in an earlier attack by U.S. warplanes.

Some of the veterans of the poorly equipped and ill-trained 7th Cavalry Regiment, part of the 1st Cavalry Division that had been rushed to Korea in the early and chaotic days of the war, said they were told by their commanders that disguised and armed North Korean soldiers had infiltrated among the refugees.

Some of the veterans said they were fired on from the civilian throng, although the Koreans dispute this.

Speaking to the victims at today's church service, Gray, who now lives in Bayonet Point, Fla., said that when details of the alleged massacre began to surface, he had only a "vague remembrance that something happened." But he said that after talking with other veterans, "we determined something did happen."

Earlier, in an interview, he said he was not at the tunnel at the time of the alleged mass killings. But he stressed that in the chaos of the American retreat in the war's early days, such breakdowns in command and control "were happening to all of us."

Another veteran, Edward Daily, 68, of Clarksville, Tenn., said he was a corporal manning a machine gun position at No Gun Ri when an order came down "that we had to shoot them all" because North Korean soldiers had infiltrated the area.

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He said he saw what he believed were three or four muzzle flashes inside the tunnel before firing erupted from the frightened U.S. soldiers. "No Gun Ri wasn't an isolated incident, either," Daily said.
"We have a great deal of sympathy for these people, a lot of anguish and pain," he added. "But a lot of American soldiers lost their lives in those days, too. In any war you are going to have civilian casualties."
In interviews, the Korean survivors denied that communist troops had infiltrated the refugees, or that shots had come from the tunnel.
"There were no enemies among us. Some people are not fair to us in this fact," said Chung Ku Hak, 55, who lost his nose and part of his face in the shooting.
"That is a lie."
TRAPPED UNDER THE TRESTLE (This graphic was not available) Yang Hae Sook, left, and Keum Cho Jo, survivors of a Korean War massacre reportedly carried out by U.S. troops, attend meeting in Cleveland intended to foster reconciliation.

6) No Gun Ri Survivors to Meet with Pentagon Officials, Hold NPC Event Nov. 12

November 11, 1999 12:14 Eastern Time
U.S. Newswire
SECTION: NATIONAL AND ASSIGNMENT DESKS, DAYBOOK EDITOR

BODY:
After meeting with three U.S. veterans in Cleveland, four Korean survivors of a high profile massacre that occurred during the Korean War are traveling on to Washington, D.C., Nov. 11-12 to meet with two Pentagon officials to press their case for a thorough investigation of the No Gun Ri tragedy.

"This meeting, the first step in a process of remembrance and healing, is exactly the kind of 'truth and reconciliation' work the church should be and is doing all over the world," said the Rev. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell, general secretary of the National Council of Churches (NCC), which sponsored the survivors' trip.

On Nov. 12 at 11 a.m., survivors with meet with two Pentagon officials, Patrick T. Henry, assistant secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and Charles L. Cragin, principal deputy assistant secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs.

The NCC was first asked by Edward Daily, one of the U.S. veterans, to facilitate a reconciliation meeting given its prior involvement in pressing the case of No Gun Ri survivors. The NCC, at the request of its South Korean counterpart, the National Council of Churches in Korea, last December (1998) had asked for the Pentagon's response to detailed testimony from Korean survivors and eyewitnesses to the massacre of 400 innocent civilians, mostly women, children and the elderly. In March, the U.S. Army replied that it had " found no information to substantiate the claim that U.S. Army soldiers perpetrated a massacre of South Korean civilians at Nokuen-ri."

However, since new documentation and testimony gathered by the Associated Press has been published, the U.S. Department of Defense has reopened its No Gun Ri investigation.

A list of the Korean survivors follows.

-- Ms. Yang, Hae Sook (birth date 5/30/39): Lost left eye. Her grandmother and two brothers

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were killed.

-- Ms. Keum, Cho Ja (birth date 8/15/39): Stomach injury.

-- Mr. Chung, Ku Hak (birth date 5/2/44): Lost his nose. His mother and sister were killed.

-- Mr. Chung, Eun Yong (birth date 4/18/23): His son and daughter were killed. His wife was wounded seriously.

-- Mr. Chung, Koo Do (birth date 9/22/55): Son of Eun Yong. Communicator.

7) Koreans seek contrition, ex-GIs want understanding on 1950 episode

November 11, 1999, Thursday, BC cycle

The Associated Press / SECTION: State and Regional

BYLINE: By CHARLES J. HANLEY, AP Special Correspondent

DATELINE: CLEVELAND

BODY:

At one end of the table, the Korean woman wiped a tear from her eye as she told how American soldiers shot her family and neighbors. She asked for a thorough investigation.

At the other end, graying GIs listened in silence, then asked for understanding.

In the stained-glass glow of an old steepled church, South Korean survivors and U.S. Army veterans who first crossed paths a half-century ago faced each other again, remembering the terror of No Gun Ri, where witnesses say U.S. troops killed hundreds of refugees early in the Korean War.

The U.S. National Council of Churches and its South Korean counterpart organized Wednesday's "recognition and remembrance" prayer service and a follow-up dialogue, inviting No Gun Ri survivors and three veterans who have acknowledged that their old regiment, the 7th Cavalry, was involved in the killings. The Associated Press reported in September that a dozen 7th Cavalry veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said the regiment's 2nd Battalion killed a large number of civilians at the South Korean hamlet in July 1950. Survivors say 400 were killed by American soldiers and in a preceding air attack. The South Koreans invited to Cleveland, as part of the U.S. church council's 50th anniversary meeting, included three maimed in the attack and a fourth, retired policeman Chung Eun-yong, 77, whose two small children were killed and who is the survivors' spokesman.

"We believe God will forgive the veterans and the U.S. government when they repent the sins committed and apologize officially for their wrongdoing," Chung said from the pulpit of Cleveland's Old Stone Presbyterian Church.

At a joint news conference, survivor Yang Hae-sook, 62, said what she had endured was a "tragic life" since her right eye was blown out at No Gun Ri. She and another female survivor, Kum Cho-ja, 61, who suffered a severe abdominal wound, said their infirmities ruined their later marriages.

Posing for pictures later with the Koreans, veteran Edward L. Daily, 68, of Clarksville, Tenn., said he was "very sympathetic with the survivors and what they've endured."

Veteran Robert C. Gray offered no immediate apology, and said he hoped that Koreans would "understand what we went through from the first day of combat."

Gray, 74, of Bayonet Point, Fla., said North Korean soldiers were disguising themselves in white peasant garb and passing through American lines in South Korean refugee columns.

"That's why these things occurred," he said. "The mentality was to stay alive." Some 7th Cavalry veterans say they were fired on from the refugee throng at No Gun Ri, a charge Korean survivors

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strongly deny there were infiltrators in their group.

"I'm not saying No Gun Ri didn't happen," said Gray, vice president of an association of 7th Cavalry Korean War veterans. "Very clearly it happened. You see the results sitting in front of you" - the victims.

But he said repeatedly that an "unbiased" investigation must uncover "exactly what happened and who did it."

8) Survivors of Incident Meet With U.S. Vets

Thursday, November 11, 1999 ; Page A03

The Washington Post Company, By William Claiborne, Washington Post Staff Writer

CLEVELAND, Nov. 10?Still bearing disfiguring wounds, three survivors of an alleged massacre of Korean refugees by American troops at No Gun Ri, South Korea, a half-century ago had their first face-to-face encounter today with three aging ex-soldiers who have acknowledged their unit was involved in the incident.

Standing before the altar of the Old Stone Church in a symbolic "encounter" aimed at washing away decades of pain, anguish and guilt, the veterans were somber as the Rev. Joan B. Campbell, general secretary of the National Council of Churches, read a confession on their behalf.

"With heavy hearts, we as American Christians confess our complicity and indifference to the suffering of the Korean people across these many years," declared Campbell, who later said the veterans had approved the statement. "We know even our confession cannot address the lifetimes denied, the promise extinguished, the pain endured."

In turn, the Rev. Syngham Rhee, the council's president and himself a war refugee, declared on behalf of the survivors in equally conciliatory tones, "War is devastating. It is void and darkness [and] we recognize today our mutual suffering. We today confess our shared responsibility and rejoice in our common humanity."

With that, Robert "Snuffy" Gray, 75, a master sergeant with a reconnaissance platoon at the time of the No Gun Ri massacre, and Yang Hae Sook, 60, who lost an eye and watched as her grandmother and two brothers were killed in a barrage of rifle and machine gun fire, lit candles to celebrate their reconciliation.

But after meeting in private for more than two hours, the veterans and survivors seemed less than reconciled. Gray erupted at a news conference where the survivors graphically described a slaughter of men, women and children.

"I came to reach an understanding of what happened at No Gun Ri. May I ask what they came for?" he said. "My regiment was a proud regiment and they fought like hell, and they don't need anyone throwing rocks at them."

For their part, the survivors made it clear that forgiveness was not yet forthcoming. They said in a statement that when the veterans of No Gun Ri and the U.S. government apologize, the "last step would be that the victims forgive them."

In the end, Campbell said the reconciliation was "a beginning," and that a dialogue had begun among people who have not talked for over 40 years.

The two sides were brought together at a 50th anniversary conference of the council, which last December brought the villagers' testimony of atrocities to the Pentagon and demanded reparations. In March, the Army command replied it had "found no information to substantiate the claim," but since then it has opened a new investigation.

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It did so on the strength of details of the alleged mass killing disclosed on Sept. 29 by the Associated Press, which reported that a dozen U.S. Army veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, admitted their unit killed a large number of refugees huddled beneath a railroad bridge at No Gun Ri. The villagers say about 400 men, women and children were killed, including 100 in an earlier attack by U.S. warplanes.

Some of the veterans of the poorly equipped and ill-trained 7th Cavalry Regiment, part of the 1st Cavalry Division that had been rushed to Korea in the early and chaotic days of the war, said they were told by their commanders that disguised and armed North Korean soldiers had infiltrated among the refugees. Some of the veterans said they were fired on from the civilian throng, although the Koreans dispute this.

Speaking to the victims at today's church service, Gray, who now lives in Bayonet Point, Fla., said that when details of the alleged massacre began to surface, he had only a "vague remembrance that something happened." But he said that after talking with other veterans, "we determined something did happen."

Earlier, in an interview, he said he was not at the tunnel at the time of the alleged mass killings. But he stressed that in the chaos of the American retreat in the war's early days, such breakdowns in command and control "were happening to all of us."

Another veteran, Edward Daily, 68, of Clarksville, Tenn., said he was a corporal manning a machine gun position at No Gun Ri when an order came down "that we had to shoot them all" because North Korean soldiers had infiltrated the area.

He said he saw what he believed were three or four muzzle flashes inside the tunnel before firing erupted from the frightened U.S. soldiers.

"No Gun Ri wasn't an isolated incident, either," Daily said.

"We have a great deal of sympathy for these people, a lot of anguish and pain," he added. "But a lot of American soldiers lost their lives in those days, too. In any war you are going to have civilian casualties."

In interviews, the Korean survivors denied that communist troops had infiltrated the refugees, or that shots had come from the tunnel.

"There were no enemies among us. Some people are not fair to us in this fact," said Chung Ku Hak, 55, who lost his nose and part of his face in the shooting. "That is a lie."

9) No Gun Ri Survivors Honor Soldiers

November 11, 1999; Thursday 20:39 Eastern Time
The Associated Press / SECTION: International news
BYLINE: SANG-HUN CHOE
DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

South Korean survivors of an alleged mass killing of civilians by U.S. troops laid long-stemmed red and yellow roses at the monument honoring the American soldiers who fought and died in the Korean War a half century ago. ''We wanted to pay our homage. There is no doubt that the American soldiers sacrificed greatly to defend our country from communism,'' said Chung Eun-yong, 77, visiting the Korean War Veterans Memorial.

Chung lost a 5-year-old son and a 2-year-old daughter at No Gun Ri, a South Korean hamlet where witnesses say U.S. planes strafed and American troops machine-gunned hundreds of civilian refugees

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in the early days of the Korean War.

Chung and three other survivors of the killings traveled to Washington to meet with Pentagon officials Friday and get an update on the progress of an Army investigation ordered by President Clinton.

As dusk settled over the monument, Chung and another No Gun Ri survivor, Chung Koo-hak, 57, silently walked past 19 stainless steel sculptures of bedraggled American soldiers all marching toward a cascading water fountain symbolizing tranquility and peace.

While a group of young American spectators was watching, the two Koreans stopped in front of the inscription honoring the servicemen who died to ''defend a country they never knew and a people they never met.'' They solemnly placed two roses.

Facing them were a yellow chrysanthemum wreath veterans placed for the 1st Cavalry Division's war dead. Witnesses say soldiers belonging to the 1st Cavalry's 7th Regiment were responsible for the No Gun Ri killings.

''We have no intention to discredit the sacrifice by American soldiers during the war, but the sacrifice should not impede our effort to tell the truth about what really happened at No Gun Ri,'' said Chung Koo-hak, who lost his mother and baby sister and half of his nose in the shootings.

The Associated Press reported in September that a dozen 7th Cavalry veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said the regiment's 2nd Battalion killed a large number of civilians at the South Korean hamlet in July 1950. Survivors say 400 were killed by American soldiers and in a preceding air attack.

The Koreans flew to Washington from Cleveland, where they prayed together with three U.S. veterans in a church Tuesday. During the ''recognition and remembrance service,'' South Korean survivors demanded an apology and repentance from the veterans.

The veterans pleaded for understanding, saying they had been attacked by North Korean soldiers disguised among refugees and they could not tell the difference between the enemy and innocent refugees.

Some 7th Cavalry veterans say they were fired upon from the throng of refugees at No Gun Ri. Korean survivors strongly deny there were infiltrators in their group.

10) Reunion With the Past

November 11, 1999; Thursday, C L E V E L A N D

■ ABC뉴스

Survivors of Korean War Massacre Meet with G.I.s

By Charles J. Hanley

The Associated Press

C L E V E L A N D, Nov. 11 ? At one end of the table, the Korean woman wiped a tear from her eye as she told how American soldiers shot her family and neighbors. She asked for a thorough investigation.

At the other end, graying GIs listened in silence, then asked for understanding.

In the stained-glass glow of an old steepled church, South Korean survivors and U.S. Army veterans who first crossed paths a half-century ago faced each other again, remembering the terror of No Gun Ri, where witnesses say U.S. troops killed hundreds of refugees early in the Korean War.

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The U.S. National Council of Churches and its South Korean counterpart organized Wednesday' s "recognition and remembrance" prayer service and a follow-up dialogue, inviting No Gun Ri survivors and three veterans who have acknowledged that their old regiment, the 7th Cavalry, was involved in the killings.

Survivors: Families Ruined by Tragedy

The Associated Press reported in September that a dozen 7th Cavalry veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said the regiment' s 2nd Battalion killed a large number of civilians at the South Korean hamlet in July 1950. Survivors say 400 were killed by American soldiers and in a preceding air attack.

The South Koreans invited to Cleveland, as part of the U.S. church council' s 50th anniversary meeting, included three maimed in the attack and a fourth, retired policeman Chung Eun-yong, 77, whose two small children were killed and who is the survivors' spokesman.

"We believe God will forgive the veterans and the U.S. government when they repent the sins committed and apologize officially for their wrongdoing," Chung said from the pulpit of Cleveland' s Old Stone Presbyterian Church.

At a joint news conference, survivor Yang Hae-sook, 62, said what she had endured was a "tragic life" since her right eye was blown out at No Gun Ri. She and another female survivor, Kum Cho-ja, 61, who suffered a severe abdominal wound, said their infirmities ruined their later marriages.

Mixed Feelings Among Veterans

Posing for pictures later with the Koreans, veteran Edward L. Daily, 68, of Clarksville, Tenn., said he was "very sympathetic with the survivors and what they' ve endured."

Veteran Robert C. Gray offered no immediate apology, and said he hoped that Koreans would "understand what we went through from the first day of combat."

Gray, 74, of Bayonet Point, Fla., said North Korean soldiers were disguising themselves in white peasant garb and passing through American lines in South Korean refugee columns.

"That' s why these things occurred," he said. "The mentality was to stay alive."

Some 7th Cavalry veterans say they were fired on from the refugee throng at No Gun Ri, a charge Korean survivors strongly deny there were infiltrators in their group.

"I' m not saying No Gun Ri didn' t happen," said Gray, vice president of an association of 7th Cavalry Korean War veterans. "Very clearly it happened. You see the results sitting in front of yo u" ? the victims.

But he said repeatedly that an "unbiased" investigation must uncover "exactly what happened and who did it."

From Cleveland, the Korean group was flying to Washington to meet with Pentagon officials Friday and be updated on the progress of an Army investigation President Clinton ordered after the AP report was published.

11) SURVIVORS OF A MASSACRE FROM THE KOREAN WAR MEET WITH US VETERANS TO

November 11, 1999, Thursday

■ National Public Radio (NPR)

SHOW: MORNING EDITION (11:00 AM on ET)

TRY TO MOVE TOWARD RECONCILIATION

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ANCHORS: BOB EDWARDS
REPORTERS: LYNN NEARY

BODY:
BOB EDWARDS, host:
Just weeks after the Defense Department said it would investigate charges that US soldiers participated in a massacre of civilians during the Korean War, three veterans of that war met with survivors of the tragedy. The meeting held yesterday in Cleveland was arranged by the National Council of Churches. It was intended to help the two sides move toward reconciliation. NPR's Lynn Neary reports.
LYNN NEARY reporting: Reconciliation is a messy process, requiring as it does the sifting through of painful memories and emotions. For some of the survivors of the incident at No Gun Ri, the memories of that hot summer in 1950 are etched in the flesh: a lost eye, a disfigured nose, a scarred abdomen. But for a soldier like Edward Daily, who was a teen-ager and a corporal in the 7th Calvary at the time of No Gun Ri, the memory is indelibly impressed in the brain.
Corporal EDWARD DAILY: It's a story that a lot of people didn't want to hear, and--but No Gun Ri did happen. And, of course, you have those memories, the women crying or the children crying, or screaming. They don't leave you.
NEARY: Daily is the only one of the three veterans who attended yesterday's event who says he took part in the killings at No Gun Ri. He remembers being given the order to shoot into a crowd of refugees huddled in two tunnels underneath a bridge. He felt he had no choice but to follow that order.
Corp. DAILY: When you're given an order in the Army, you are--you have to be obedient and you got to respect discipline, it's just that simple. There's no other way in a military. And we were given an order, and we complied to that order. And when you know that you're shooting possibly into civilians, you got to assume that there are North Koreans mixed in there. And that was the assumption at that time.
NEARY: Were you at all concerned, though, about the fact that you were shooting at civilians, that there were clearly civilians there? Corp. DAILY: Well, you're looking at 'em. You're looking at women and children in the group. You can't deny that.
NEARY: The other two veterans retired Major Robert Gray and retired Sergeant Donald Down(ph) said they didn't participate in any shooting of civilians at No Gun Ri. Gray was stationed some distance from the bridge at the time of the shooting, but he said he came to yesterday's event because he wanted the Koreans to understand what the US soldiers were experiencing at the time. 'In the early days of the war,' Gray said, 'US soldiers were ill-prepared, ill-equipped and outnumbered. North Korean troops often infiltrated groups of refugees, dressing in the simple white clothes of Korean peasants.' Major ROBERT GRAY (Retired): You're trying to push civilians out of the way. You get them out of the way. And they do, they go by you or go through you. Then all of a sudden, the only people that are going through you are people dressed in white and you're getting fired on from the rear. What are you supposed to think?

NEARY: If the US veterans were seeking understanding, the Korean survivors were demanding truth. Eun-yong Chung lost two children in the massacre. He said it was not possible that North Koreans were among the refugees. He remembers that just before the shooting the area was bombed by US planes. Mr. EUN-YONG CHUNG: (Through translator) Bombs exploding, so many of them. So many

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people killed right then. Survivors ran out, ran away. And then soldiers down the road returned back to that area and they shoot the people running away.

NEARY: In addition to truth, Eun-yong Chung said the Koreans want an apology, and he doesn't mince words in describing those who took part in the killings at No Gun Ri.
Mr. CHUNG: (Through translator) Definitely they're war criminals. Forgiveness matters absolutely on the part of the aggressors, American veterans. If they witness the true fact, telling the truth and apologize to us, then we are willing to forgive them.
NEARY: But veteran Robert Gray says he isn't seeking forgiveness from anyone and he has nothing to be ashamed of.
Maj. GRAY: Personally, I apologize for nothing I did in Korea, nothing.
Unidentified Man #1: I don't think any of us will apologize for what we did in Korea.
Maj. GRAY: No. My people did--my men fought well, they fought bravely and I'm proud of them.
(Soundbite of people singing)
NEARY: With a vast gulf still yawning between them, the veterans and the survivors faced each other at a service of recognition and remembrance in a church in downtown Cleveland. National Council of Churches' general secretary Joan Brown Campbell led the gathering in a prayer.
Ms. JOAN BROWN CAMPBELL (National Council of Churches): We thank you that we have witnessed here as a congregation in the Old Stone Presbyterian Church new possibilities of reconciliation between the peoples of the United States and the Korean people.
NEARY: But when the veterans and the survivors sat down later to talk, it was uncomfortable and confusing. After years of being ignored by their own government and the United States, the survivors wanted answers. They spread out a map of No Gun Ri and the US Army's positions in late July 1950. They questioned veteran Donald Down about his whereabouts at that time.
Unidentified Man #2: Did you ever actually been to No Gun Ri in terms of operations? Were you at...
Sergeant DONALD DOWN (Retired): No Gun Ri, I remember the bridge.
Unidentified Man #2: You saw the bridge.
Sgt. DOWN: I remember seeing the bridge.
(Soundbite of men speaking in foreign language)
Unidentified Man #2: There are many bridges in that area. So what area...
Sgt. DOWN: That's the only area I was in at that time, so it had to be that bridge.
Unidentified Man #2: So you were at No Gun Ri, or...
Sgt. DOWN: Yeah, I was heading there when we got attacked.
NEARY: The veterans seemed bewildered by the detailed questions and there were no apologies. In the end, if there was agreement about anything, it was that the government must find out once and for all what really happened at No Gun Ri. Retired Major Gray said such an investigation is important to both sides.
Maj. GRAY: The only thing I hope and the only reason I came is that we as people and as human beings could sit down and have a complete understanding of what transpired from the day that our units landed in Korea up to including the incident at No Gun Ri. We need a total, complete, impartial, honest investigation.
NEARY: As for reconciliation, Joan Brown Campbell says what happened yesterday is a start.
Ms. CAMPBELL: I think it would be way too early to say that reconciliation was accomplished. Reconciliation began today. And it began by people talking to each other, being honest with each other. And it began by all people agreeing that No Gun Ri did happen, and then laying down the hope

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that the truth of what exactly happened and how and when will be discovered.
NEARY: If the truth is unearthed after 50 years of denials, and the fading memories of veterans who would just as soon forget the war altogether, then perhaps apologies and forgiveness are possible. But for now, the simple act of facing the enemy may be the most that can be expected of people for whom a distant war is still a part of daily life. Lynn Neary, NPR News, Cleveland.

12) Veterans find Korean War is no longer a forgotten conflict

November 11, 1999, Thursday Final
■ Milwaukee Journal Sentinel / SECTION: News Pg. 1
BYLINE: TOM HEINEN

BODY:
Veterans of what was known as the Korean Conflict, before it finally was termed a war, are looking back this Veterans Day at another name they are leaving behind -- The Forgotten War.
A newly installed highway sign is drawing more tour buses and other visitors to the Wisconsin Korean War Veterans Memorial that opened barely two years ago in the Portage County village of Plover, said Dorothy "Dot" Schilling, president of the state memorial association and a member of the executive board of the national Korean War Veterans Association. In 1995, more than four decades after the war began, the United States honored the sacrifices those veterans made by dedicating a national memorial to them in Washington, D.C. And, despite the sting from recent reports of a civilian massacre by U.S. forces in the early days of the Korean War, veterans groups are starting to plan for the war's 50th anniversary next June.
"It's like somebody brought this up, somebody's pushing this right when it's going to be our 50-year celebration," said Schilling, 67, a Caledonia resident who served in the Women's Army Corps in the U.S. and Germany during the war.
"Our (national) president was a prisoner of war. If you see him, he is just the most warm, soft-spoken man. But after 39 months with the Chinese, there isn't anything you can do to him that he can't handle. They pulled out his fingernails and toenails. It's hard for us to imagine. They have a different way of looking at human life.
"I don't know what to tell you (about massacre reports). I'm not saying it didn't happen. I wasn't there. I couldn't say. We lost so many people. I would hate to think that people are starting to feel bad about us when we finally are starting to feel good about ourselves."
Larry Danielson, 69, state adjutant quartermaster of the Wisconsin Veterans of Foreign Wars, spent 17 months at the front lines in Korea with an Army intelligence reconnaissance unit. A patriotic man who worries that youths and adults don't treat the American flag with enough respect today, Danielson isn't passing judgment on other men for whatever decisions they may have made in the crucible of war.
"I personally did not see anything like that happen," Danielson said of the massacre reports. "But should it have been a decision that I might have had to make -- it's possible that those civilians, as we've seen before, did have grenades with them, (that) they were wired -- I probably would have taken the same action to protect the men around me.
"But that's a decision that you make at that time, and hopefully it's the right decision, and hopefully you don't have to make that decision."
The irony of the massacre reports is that Korean War veterans have struggled to call more attention to a war that was neither as popular as World War II, nor as controversial as Vietnam.

"It was just not a very popular war, and people didn't believe in the war," Schilling said. "A lot of the people I knew didn't even know the war was going on. It just wasn't that much on the news.

"Time and time again, (veterans) told me that when they came home, people would say, 'Gee, I haven't seen you in a long time. Where you been? Did you move?' And they told them that they were in Korea, and they said, 'OK.' It just didn't ring a bell."

Some veterans, however, live with daily reminders of the war.

Einar Ingman, 70, Wisconsin's only living Medal of Honor recipient from the Korean War, is blind in his left eye and has no hearing in what remains of his left ear. The Lincoln County man has a reconstructed cheekbone and poor short-term memory. He's missing a left eardrum and much of the ear, he can't move the facial muscles or eyelid on that side, and he still suffers from splitting headaches whenever he has to do anything in a hurry. Getting shot in the face at close range on a mountain and then single-handedly destroying two machine-gun nests to save a platoon of soldiers can do that to a man.

"We hit the enemy along the mountains on the east coast," recalled Ingman, who was an acting platoon sergeant. "And when I got to the top of the mountain, I had nine men left out of 37. And I knew there was a North Korean or a Chinese in a foxhole just over the hill.

"And so, what I did, I took a handful of grenades and hooked them on my belt. I took my rifle and went up as close as I possibly could, and I raised up slowly with my rifle. When he shot me in the head, I killed him. "After I killed him, I went after a machine gun nest and I knocked that one out.

Went after a second machine gun nest. Knocked that one out. And headed for the third one when I passed out. And that's really how I got the congressional Medal of Honor. I risked my life to save the guys that we had left.

"There weren't very many left, but at least we took the mountain. They said over 100 North Koreans and Chinese retreated. They must have thought that they couldn't stop me."

Ingman was placed in a basket attached to the outside of a helicopter and flown to a field hospital, where he spent seven days before being flown to Japan. Over the years, he's had 23 operations on his head.

Despite his wounds, he raised seven children with his wife, Mardelle, and worked 32 years at an Owens-Illinois paper mill in Tomahawk as a mail clerk and errand driver before retiring.

"My memory isn't good," Ingman said. "It runs off and on. Now I'm talking to you, but in five, ten minutes from now, I'll never know I talked to you until I start thinking a little bit, and then it gradually comes back. But it's something that I just can't do nothing about. They said it would never be any different."

Do people appreciate the sacrifices soldiers such as Ingman made? Many Americans today don't know what a Medal of Honor is, he said, but he was treated like a hero when he returned.

"I think South Korea appreciates what we did for them," Ingman added. "We saved their country. It would have been all a communist country if we hadn't gone in there. We did an outstanding job, and I think they realize that. I went back on the 25th anniversary of the Korean War, and we were very welcomed."

That's also how Danielson, from the state VFW, sees things.

"We were able to stop the communist invasion of South Korea," said Danielson, who still is pained in cold weather by the frostbitten toes he suffered in Korea. "What's going to happen now is another story. I think there's some serious actions going on in North Korea. We need to militarize our troops more."

Danielson, who figures he's luckier than many U.S. veterans of other wars this century, also carries

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the memory of friends who died on the front lines and behind enemy lines trying to intercept radio and land-line communications from the North Koreans and Chinese.

"I think, as I look back at the Washington Monument and the Korean Monument, the big words are that freedom is not free," Danielson added. "And I think that's true as we look back at the friends we lost over there.

"And as we come into Veterans Day, we are very concerned about caring for the families of those who did not come back, and the caring for the veterans who need hospitalization."

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5. Friday. Nov. 12, 1999

1) U.S. Repeats Pledge to Thoroughly Investigate No Gun Ri

November 12, 1999; Friday 8:36 pm Eastern Time
CNN
SHOW: CNN THE WORLD TODAY 20:00 pm ET
SECTION: News; International
BYLINE: Joie Chen, Bruce Morton

HIGHLIGHT:
U.S. defense officials repeated their pledge to find out what really happened at a place called No Gun Ri. The South Korean hamlet was the site of an alleged massacre of hundreds men, women, and children by U.S. troops a half-century ago. This week, four survivors told their stories.

BODY:

THIS IS A RUSH TRANSCRIPT. THIS COPY MAY NOT BE IN ITS FINAL FORM AND MAY BE UPDATED.
JOIE CHEN, CNN ANCHOR: U.S. defense officials, today, repeated their pledge to find out what really happened at a place called No Gun Ri. The South Korean hamlet was the site of an alleged massacre of hundreds men, women, and children by U.S. troops a half-century ago. This week, four survivors told their stories.

CNN's Bruce Morton reports.
(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)
CHARLIE CRAGIN, DEP. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE: I'm Charlie Cragin, and I work for Secretary of Defense Cohen.
BRUCE MORTON, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): The Koreans, survivors, they say, of a massacre of civilians by U.S. troops early in the Korean War at a place called No Gun Ri, came to the Pentagon to meet with Defense Department officials, the secular route. They have already been to church with some of the Americans veterans of that 1950 clash.
CHUNG EUN YOUNG, SURVIVOR (through translator): We believe that God will forgive the veterans and the U.S. government, when they repent their sins committed, as they fill their responsibilities on the massacre, and they would like to apologize officially for their wrongdoings. And then, the last step would be that the victims forgive them.
MORTON: They did not get an apology at the church, only an acknowledgment that in wars, bad things happen.
ROBERT GRAY, KOREAN WAR VETERAN: No one enjoys war at all. There is no good thing about war. It happens. Unfortunately, the people that seem to suffer the most in a war zone are the civilians, the people who should be protected.
MORTON: Both the United States and South Korea have rejected the survivors' demands for monetary compensation. The United States has reopened its once-closed investigation, following Associated Press reports quoting both veterans and survivors saying a massacre did happen. That was the message the survivors got at the Pentagon.
CRAGIN: We reiterated the pledge of the United States to continue to work closely with the Republic

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of Korean government, and assure the survivors that the Department of Defense will vigorously pursue and publish the facts of what happened at No Gun Ri.

CHO JA KEUM, SURVIVOR (through translator): I feel a little better after I come to Pentagon. And then, I hope the investigation done properly so that we can possibly resolve some of our feelings of suffering.

MORTON: Some memories have faded. Some have not.

EDWARD DAILY, KOREAN WAR VETERAN: You may be sitting in a chair outside enjoying the outdoors, and all of a sudden, there could be the sounds of women and children screaming and crying.

MORTON: Of the confirmed massacre of civilians by Americans troops at My Lai in Vietnam, an American vet wrote, "We all carry with us the potential to be the killer and the victim. It's a lesson wars teach." Bruce Morton, CNN, Washington.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

2) Korean survivors tell Pentagon stories of mass killing by U.S. troops

November 12, 1999, Friday, PM cycle

The Associated Press / SECTION: Washington Dateline

BYLINE: By SANG-HUN CHOE, Associated Press Writer

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

South Korean survivors of an alleged mass killing of civilian refugees by U.S. troops finally are getting a chance to tell their harrowing stories to Army investigators.

Keum Cho-ja, 61, says she'll talk about how the bullet injuries ruined her marriage. Chung Koo-hak, 57, will explain how his nose was torn apart by an American bullet. Yang Hae-sook, 61, wants to talk about her left eye blown out in a bombing and how women and children died in a pool of blood.

"I came here to tell the truth about No Gun Ri," Yang said. "I want to tell how American soldiers came to our village and took so many children and women and killed almost all of them."

They are among the few dozens South Koreans who survived the 1950 episode at No Gun Ri, a South Korean hamlet where witnesses say U.S. troops killed hundreds of civilian refugees in the early days of the Korean War.

Four South Koreans planned to meet Patrick T. Henry, an assistant secretary of the Army, and other Pentagon officials today in their first trip to the United States.

Pentagon officials will mainly listen to testimonies of the survivors, said Victor W.C. Hsu, a director at the U.S. National Council of Churches, which arranged the meeting. The Koreans also expected to get an update on the progress of an Army investigation ordered by President Clinton.

"The real tragedy about No Gun Ri was that we could not speak about it for 50 years," said Chung, who had half of his nose blown away by a bullet. He also lost his mother and baby sister at No Gun Ri. South Korea's past military governments, cherishing close ties with Washington, had forced the survivors into silence. The later, democratically elected governments in Seoul knew about but never investigated the case. Washington had dismissed the claim since 1994, citing lack of evidence. The Associated Press reported in September that a dozen 7th Cavalry veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said the regiment's 2nd Battalion killed a large number of civilians at No Gun Ri in July 1950.

Survivors say 400 were killed by American soldiers. After the report, both Washington and Seoul started an investigation. Earlier this week, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric Shinseki said there was

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never an attempt to ignore evidence that American soldiers killed large numbers of civilian refugees during the early stages of the Korean War. Instead, he said,

"When the Army checked, there was no credible evidence that they could pursue." The initial AP report on Sept. 29 shed new light on the episode, he said, with interviews of U.S. Army veterans and by uncovering declassified military records.

The Army, in its prior investigation of the allegations, did not interview American soldiers, but instead searched historical records.

The Korean survivors feared their campaign for an official recognition by Washington might be seen as an attempt to discredit the sacrifices by American soldiers who fought alongside the South Korean troops during the war.

In a symbolic gesture, they paid homage to the Korean War Veterans Memorial on Thursday.

At dusk settled over the monument, they silently walked past 19 sculptures depicting bedraggled U.S. infantry men slogging through the rugged Korean countryside. Then they bowed their heads in front of the inscription honoring the servicemen who died to "defend a country they never knew and a people they never met."

The Koreans flew to Washington from Cleveland, where they prayed together with three U.S. veterans in a church Tuesday.

The veterans pleaded for understanding. Some 7th Cavalry veterans say they were fired upon from the throng of refugees at No Gun Ri. Korean survivors strongly deny there were infiltrators in their group.

3) WASHINGTON BRIEFS; Korean survivors honor U.S. war dead

November 12, 1999 Friday, ORLEANS

■ The Times-Picayune / SECTION: NATIONAL; Pg. A03

BYLINE: From wire reports

BODY:

*** Korean survivors honor U.S. war dead ***

WASHINGTON - South Korean survivors of an alleged mass killing of civilians by U.S. troops laid long-stemmed red and yellow roses at the monument honoring the American soldiers who fought and died in the Korean War a half century ago. "We wanted to pay our homage. There is no doubt that the American soldiers sacrificed greatly to defend our country from communism," said Chung Eun-yong, 77, visiting the Korean War Veterans Memorial. Chung lost a 5-year-old son and a 2-year-old daughter at No Gun Ri, a South Korean hamlet where witnesses say U.S. planes strafed and American troops machine-gunned hundreds of civilian refugees in the early days of the Korean War. The Associated Press reported in September that a dozen 7th Cavalry veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said the regiment's 2nd Battalion killed a large number of civilians at the South Korean hamlet in July 1950. Survivors say 400 people were killed by American soldiers and in a preceding air attack.

4) U.S. Repeats Pledge to Thoroughly Investigate No Gun Ri

November 12, 1999

■ *CNN-NEWS* / World Today

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JOIE CHEN, CNN ANCHOR: U.S. defense officials, today, repeated their pledge to find out what really happened at a place called No Gun Ri. The South Korean hamlet was the site of an alleged massacre of hundreds men, women, and children by U.S. troops a half-century ago. This week, four survivors told their stories.

CNN's Bruce Morton reports.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)
CHARLIE CRAGIN, DEP. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE: I'm Charlie Cragin, and I work for Secretary of Defense Cohen.
BRUCE MORTON, CNN CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): The Koreans, survivors, they say, of a massacre of civilians by U.S. troops early in the Korean War at a place called No Gun Ri, came to the Pentagon to meet with Defense Department officials, the secular route. They have already been to church with some of the Americans veterans of that 1950 clash.
CHUNG EUN YOUNG, SURVIVOR (through translator): We believe that God will forgive the veterans and the U.S. government, when they repent their sins committed, as they fill their responsibilities on the massacre, and they would like to apologize officially for their wrongdoings. And then, the last step would be that the victims forgive them.
MORTON: They did not get an apology at the church, only an acknowledgment that in wars, bad things happen.
ROBERT GRAY, KOREAN WAR VETERAN: No one enjoys war at all. There is no good thing about war. It happens. Unfortunately, the people that seem to suffer the most in a war zone are the civilians, the people who should be protected.
MORTON: Both the United States and South Korea have rejected the survivors' demands for monetary compensation. The United States has reopened its once-closed investigation, following Associated Press reports quoting both veterans and survivors saying a massacre did happen. That was the message the survivors got at the Pentagon.
CRAGIN: We reiterated the pledge of the United States to continue to work closely with the Republic of Korean government, and assure the survivors that the Department of Defense will vigorously pursue and publish the facts of what happened at No Gun Ri.
CHO JA KEUM, SURVIVOR (through translator): I feel a little better after I come to Pentagon. And then, I hope the investigation done properly so that we can possibly resolve some of our feelings of suffering.
MORTON: Some memories have faded. Some have not.
EDWARD DAILY, KOREAN WAR VETERAN: You may be sitting in a chair outside enjoying the outdoors, and all of a sudden, there could be the sounds of women and children screaming and crying.
MORTON: Of the confirmed massacre of civilians by Americans troops at My Lai in Vietnam, an American vet wrote, "We all carry with us the potential to be the killer and the victim. It's a lesson wars teach."
Bruce Morton, CNN, Washington.
(END VIDEOTAPE)

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6. Saturday, Nov. 13, 1999

1) UNITED STATES ARMY INVESTIGATES CHARGES MADE BY SOUTH KOREANS AND RETIRED AMERICAN SOLDIERS ABOUT ALLEGED MASSACRE DURING KOREAN WAR

November 13, 1999, Saturday
NPR
ANCHORS: SCOTT SIMON
REPORTERS: STEVE INSKEEP

BODY:

SCOTT SIMON, host: This is NPR's WEEKEND EDITION. I'm Scott Simon.
Coming up, the fix is on in boxing.
But first, Pentagon officials will soon begin formally interviewing participants in an alleged massacre during the Korean War. The Army is investigating charges made by South Koreans and by some retired American soldiers. Earlier this year, the soldiers told The Associated Press that they killed civilians during a panicked retreat in 1950. The US government had previously said there was no evidence of that massacre. Yesterday, four survivors of the incident told their stories at the Pentagon. NPR's Steve Inskeep reports.
STEVE INSKEEP reporting: Yang Hae-sook shook hands with an American general on the Pentagon steps yesterday. She walked inside with the soldier toward a room where officials met four survivors. Yang Hae-sook is 60 years old. Sitting at a conference table, she told her hosts she was a refugee in 1950 when US soldiers fired into a crowd. She says they shot her in the face. Participants in the meeting say that as she told the story, she took off her glasses. Then she removed her glass eye.
She held it in her palm for the Americans to see.
Ms. YANG HAE-SOOK: (Foreign language spoken)
INSKEEP: Speaking through an interpreter after the meeting, she said, 'I've suffered 50 years with these eyes.'
Unidentified Interpreter: On my town, when we approached the US soldier, we never faced them, we turned around.
Ms. HAE-SOOK: (Foreign language spoken)
INSKEEP: Now she's facing American soldiers and talking to them. Earlier this year, Pentagon historians reviewed official documents from the time of the alleged massacre and said they found no evidence. Now officials say they're looking again. And yesterday, the Koreans brought them evidence, their own scars. Military officials spoke to Chung Koo-hak. He was six years old in 1950. He says soldiers herded the refugees along a railroad track. Then American planes strafed them. The refugees hid under a railroad bridge where Chung Koo-hak says a bullet shattered his nose.
Mr. CHUNG KOO-HAK: (Through Translator): I wish that we can clear out our pains in our hearts. I've been living with this face for the last 50 years.
INSKEEP: This is the second time the Koreans have met with American investigators. US officials say they'll take months to gather all the facts before reaching conclusions. Deputy Under Secretary of Defense Charles Cragin spoke to reporters after yesterday's meeting.
Under Secretary CHARLES CRAGIN (Defense Department): The United States will continue its effort to determine expeditiously the facts of what happened at No Gun Ri as a tribute to the shared

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sacrifices of the Korean and American people during the Korean War.

INSKEEP: Cragin's words about shared sacrifices emphasize the awkward situation. The two nations are allies. Analysts say that helps explain why both governments have taken so long to investigate. Now some people advising the effort believe the US might not be able to stop just with finding facts. Some Koreans say they'd accept an apology. While staying in Washington this week, some of the survivors visited a monument. They visited the Korean War Memorial. At the center of that memorial, a platoon of ghostly gray Americans slogs through a field. The soldiers hold radios and rifles. They hunch under ponchos against the rain. Chung Koo-hak stood beside those statues on what Americans celebrate as Veterans Day.

Mr. KOO-HAK: (Through Translator) This may be my last time coming to the United States, so I wanted to pay a visit to that war memorial.

INSKEEP: Chung Koo-hak says he draws a distinction. He believes American commanders gave an order to kill civilians, and he considers those commanders criminals. Yet, he feels differently about the private soldiers who defended his country.

Mr. KOO-HAK: (Through Translator) I pay a visit to that war memorial to comfort the spirits of those dead people. I think they didn't do any criminal thing in the sense that they intended to in the Korean War. I believe they are good people there.

INSKEEP: Chung Koo-hak recalls that memorial as he sits in a dimly lit room. Shadows fall across his maimed face. He rests a moment near the end of an exhausting day, and he thinks again about his walk beside the gray soldiers. Finally, he says, 'I'm not proud I went there.' He says, 'If people in my town knew I visited that memorial, I'm not sure they'd understand.' Steve Inskeep,

2) No Gun Ri Survivors Share Stories

November 13, 1999; Saturday 12:28 Eastern Time

The Associated Press / SECTION: International news

BYLINE: SANG-HUN CHOE

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

Chung Koo-hak never could take his three children to school. He was too ashamed of a face disfigured by a bullet fired during an alleged 1950 mass killing of Korean civilian refugees by U.S. troops. Still, the 57-year-old Chung said he had not cried once an adult until Saturday,

when he sobbed in a hotel room far from home, tears streaming down his mangled cheeks.

He was emotionally drained after publicly revealing his harrowing story during a visit to the United States with other No Gun Ri survivors.

''It was so difficult to face all those cameras and have to explain what I had gone through in my torturous life,'' he told a reporter.

Chung, then 8, was the last survivor pulled out of piles of bodies at No Gun Ri, site of the killing in which witnesses say U.S. troops mowed down hundreds of civilian refugees cowering under a railroad bridge early in the Korean War.

For Chung and three other survivors, traveling to the United States was a daunting prospect. But they said recounting their experiences to Pentagon officials for the first time on Friday was the reward.

''I feel so good after talking,'' said Yang Hae-sook, 61, who had her left eye blown out in the U.S.

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bombing. She also lost her grandmother and two brothers at No Gun Ri. The incident ravaged the lives of the survivors. Yang and another survivor, Keum Cho-ja, 61, said their marriages were never happy because of their infirmities. With half of his nose and upper lip blown away, Chung said he always avoided speaking in public gatherings for fear people might jeer at his face. Chung also lost his mother and baby sister at No Gun Ri. The Associated Press reported in September that a dozen 7th U.S. Cavalry veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said the regiment's 2nd Battalion killed a large number of civilians at No Gun Ri. Survivors say 400 were killed by American soldiers.

Until then, the survivors' accounts had been dismissed by both Washington and Seoul officials, who cited lack of evidence. After the AP report, however, both the U.S. and South Korean governments launched investigations. Senior Pentagon officials have told the South Koreans that the Army vigorously will pursue the investigation ordered by President Clinton as ''a tribute to the shared sacrifices of the Korean and American people during the Korean War.''

The four survivors were visiting the United States for the first time on a 10-day trip sponsored by the U.S. National Council of Churches and its South Korean counterpart.

Two people traveling with the group visited the Korean War Veterans Memorial, and on Friday, the survivors met with Pentagon officials to get an update on the progress of the Army investigation.

The trip was both energizing and draining. The nervous survivors said they could hardly sleep. They sustained themselves on herb pills they brought from home to help them through the hectic schedule.

''Standing in front of so many cameras and having to show my wounds to make the people believe, I felt like a monkey in the zoo,'' said Keum, 61, who still bears a bowling ball-sized bluish scar where a bullet ripped through her right waist.

''Sometimes I wish I were not on this trip. Why should I come here after 50 years? ... Nothing is going to repair my life. Nobody is going to restore my face,'' Chung wrote in his small note pad, which he kept in his breast pocket to show to his family once he gets back home.

Chung's group leaves for Los Angles on Monday at the invitation of Korean community leaders.

His best moment came when he met with veteran Edward L. Daily of Clarksville, Tenn., in Cleveland on Wednesday. They prayed together for reconciliation during a church service.

Daily, then a 7th Cavalry machine gunner, said he fired at the people at No Gun Ri mostly children and women under orders from officers who feared North Korean troops were mixed with the refugees. But Daily, 68, said that on summer nights, he still hears ''the little kids screaming,'' and apologized to the victims. Daily and Chung had a tearful encounter in early November when the American veteran traveled to South Korea on a trip paid for by a U.S. television network.

''We are like good friends now. I thanked him for telling me the truth,'' Chung said of Daily. ''What better thing can a man do?''

3) Korean Atrocity Survivors at Pentagon

November 13, 1999, Saturday, Late Edition - Final

■ The New York Times / SECTION: Section A; Page 5; Column 1; Foreign Desk

BYLINE: By The New York Times

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, Nov. 12

BODY:

Survivors of a killing of South Korean civilians by United States troops in 1950 told their stories

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to military officials today and received assurances that a thorough review would be conducted "as a tribute to the shared sacrifices of the Korean and American people during the Korean War."
A few dozen South Koreans survived the attack at No Gun Ri, a small village in South Korea where, witnesses have said, American soldiers killed hundreds of civilian refugees in the early stages of the Korean War. Some soldiers have since acknowledged their involvement.
Four survivors of the attack came to the Pentagon today, meeting with Charles L. Cragin, deputy undersecretary of defense; Patrick T. Henry, assistant secretary of the Army; and Lt. Gen. Michael Ackerman, inspector general of the Army. Army and Defense Department officials, in a statement after the meeting, reiterated a pledge to continue to work closely with the South Korean government to "vigorously pursue and publish the facts" of what happened at No Gun Ri in July 1950.

4) Pentagon Officials Meet Koreans Massacre Probe

Saturday, November 13, 1999
■ Reuters / By Charles Aldinger

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Four South Koreans who say they survived a massacre of hundreds of civilians by U.S. troops during the Korean War visited the Pentagon on Friday and were assured that the incident was being "vigorously" investigated.

The Koreans from the village of No Gun Ri had an hour-long meeting with U.S. Principal Deputy Undersecretary of Defense Charles Cragin and other senior Pentagon and Army officials, the Defense Department said in a brief statement.

Lieutenant General Michael Ackerman, the Army's inspector general and head of an Army probe into the alleged massacre, also attended the meeting.

The defense officials "reiterated the U.S. pledge to continue to work closely with the South Korean government and assured the survivors that the Department of Defense will vigorously pursue and publish the facts of what happened at No Gun Ri," the statement said.

The South Koreans told the Pentagon officials and reporters about their experiences during the incident, which allegedly took place July 26-29, 1950, early in the 1950-53 Korean War.

A thorough Army review was ordered by Defense Secretary William Cohen after an Associated Press report quoted villagers and U.S. veterans as saying hundreds, including women and children, were killed by the U.S. military.

"There were no North Korean tanks around" when the incident occurred and no excuse for firing at unarmed civilians, Chung Eun Yong, one of the Koreans, told reporters after Friday's meeting.

"I sent letters four times to the U.S. government for an apology" but received none, he said.

Chung lost his son and daughter at No Gun Ri and his wife was wounded seriously, according to the National Council of Churches, which is sponsoring the visit to the United States.

Also recounting the incident, Yang Hae Sook said that at one point "I saw a blast in front of me ... then my eyeball came out from my eye"

Cohen ordered the Army to investigate the allegations and has named an independent panel of seven experts on Korea to advise him on the investigation. South Korea also is investigating the allegations.

The U.S. Army had conducted a review of documents in the case earlier this year and said it did not discover any evidence of a massacre by U.S. soldiers during the conflict, which pitted Communist against non-Communist forces.

At a meeting between the survivors and a small number of veterans in Cleveland, Ohio, on Monday,

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retired First Lt. Edward Daily, 68, told reporters of being put on alert by his superiors and being warned that some civilians who were fleeing a North Korean military advance could be North Korean troops in disguise.

He said there was no time to screen civilians trying to escape.

Daily said he recalled the civilians being herded into a tunnel under a bridge. When shots rang out from the spot, U.S. soldiers started firing.

"There was massive rifle fire that lasted about 20 minutes then it went quiet. Then it started again and lasted about another 10 minutes. Some of our men went down ... and we did find a couple of North Korean soldiers in brown uniforms under their (civilian) clothes," he said.

5) No Gun Ri during the Korean War

November 13, 1999

■ CNN

From staff and wire reports

WASHINGTON (CNN) -- Pentagon officials are vowing to "vigorously" investigate a massacre of hundreds of civilians at No Gun Ri during the Korean War -- and publish their findings about any role U.S. troops played.

The officials, including Principal Deputy Undersecretary of Defense Charles Cragin, met Friday with four South Koreans who say that they are survivors of the massacre.

"We repeated the pledge of the United States to continue to work closely with the Republic of Korea government, and assured the survivors that the Department of Defense will vigorously pursue the facts of what happened at No Gun Ri," Cragin said.

The South Koreans met for an hour with Cragin and other senior Pentagon and Army officials, the Defense Department said in a statement.

Lt.Gen. Michael Ackerman, the Army's inspector general and head of an Army probe into the alleged massacre, also attended the meeting.

The South Koreans discussed their experiences during the incident, which allegedly took place at No Gun Ri July 26-29, 1950, early in the 1950-53 Korean War.

"There were no North Korean tanks around" when the incident occurred and no excuse for firing at unarmed civilians, Chung Eun Yong said after the talks.

Koreans who said they survived the alleged massacre at No Gun Ri met with Pentagon officials to discuss their ordeal; they were assured that the allegations are being 'vigorously' investigated

Apology is sought

The meeting was the survivors' latest effort in obtaining official recognition that the incident occurred, and an apology for the bloodshed. They previously attended a church service with U.S. veterans.

"We believe that God will forgive the veterans and the U.S. government when they repent their sins committed, as they fill their responsibilities on the massacre, and they ... apologize officially for their wrongdoings," Chung said during that service.

They did not receive an apology, just an acknowledgment that bad things happen during war. Their claims for compensation have also been rejected in the past by the U.S. and South Korean

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governments.

"No one enjoys war at all. There is no good thing about war. It happens. Unfortunately, the people that seem to suffer the most in a war zone are the civilians, the people who should be protected," Korean War veteran Robert Gray said.

"I sent letters four times to the U.S. government for an apology" but received none, Chung said.

He lost his son and daughter at No Gun Ri and his wife was seriously wounded, according to the National Council of Churches, which is sponsoring the Koreans' visit to the United States.

U.S. Defense Secretary William Cohen ordered a thorough Army review of the alleged massacre after The Associated Press quoted villagers and U.S. veterans as saying hundreds of civilians, including women and children, were killed by U.S. forces.

The U.S. Army had conducted a review of documents in the case earlier this year and said it did not discover any evidence of a massacre by U.S. soldiers during the conflict, which pitted communist against non-communist forces.

Veterans, villagers meet in Cleveland

During a meeting between the alleged survivors and a small number of veterans in Cleveland on Monday, retired First Lt. Edward Daily, 68, told reporters of being put on alert by his superiors and being warned that some civilians who were fleeing a North Korean military advance could be North Korean troops in disguise.

There was no time to screen civilians trying to escape, he said, adding he recalled the civilians being herded into a tunnel under a bridge. When shots rang out from the spot, he said, U.S. soldiers started firing.

"There was massive rifle fire that lasted about 20 minutes, then it went quiet. Then it started again and lasted about another 10 minutes. Some of our men went down ... and we did find a couple of North Korean soldiers in brown uniforms under their (civilian) clothes," he said.

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7. Tuesday, Nov. 14, 1999

Rising from No Gun Ri

November 14, 1999,
in the Akron Beacon Journal.

Victims and soldiers search for peace in the nightmare of war
If time heals wounds, 50 years should have purchased a lot of solace. Except, perhaps, when the first wounds were never properly bandaged, when indifference prevailed and there was no comforting presence to acknowledge the suffering born of war.

So it is on both sides of the bridge at No Gun Ri, the South Korean village where in 1950, many veterans and survivors agree, Americans rained death on hundreds of refugees in the opening weeks of the Korean War. Just where the truth lives amid the memories is the subject of a U.S.-Korean investigation, to be completed in June.

But how does healing begin when survivors were routinely ignored or silenced by both governments, and when veterans, while plagued by guilt at their actions, stand firm in their belief that sometimes, doing one's duty is a recipe for tragedy?

Some healing took place on Wednesday in Cleveland, where, for the first time since 1950, victim and soldier came face to face. Officials of the National Council of Churches, celebrating the organization's 50th anniversary, used the occasion to offer spiritual solace to the soldiers and overdue acknowledgment to the survivors for their losses and suffering.

The moment was appropriately solemn, with prayers rising for an end to this particular misery and, more broadly, for an end to the hatreds that give rise to war.

Still, deep wounds heal slowly. Old soldiers, no matter how green or ill-prepared they may have been at the start of the Korean War, today cling to the notion that they followed orders, not that they slaughtered innocents.

And those innocents, still wearing the physical and emotional scars from the hell under that bridge, cling to the notion they are due an apology.

And so the wound continues to seep, yet caressed by the first breath of a healing breeze that, in time, might lead to an acceptance, if not understanding, of the horrors of the past.

8. Tuesday, Nov. 16, 1999

Korean-Americans Remember No Gun Ri

Tuesday, Nov. 16, 1999; 6:25 a.m. EST
The Associated Press / By Tom Verdin Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES ?? Nam Tai Cho listened intently as four survivors of the incident at No Gun Ri recounted the terror of American soldiers opening fire on civilians huddled beneath a railroad bridge at the outset of the Korean War.

The memories are painful and the scars lasting for the two men and two women, who met with a handful of community members Monday evening at the office of the Korean-American Federation of

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Los Angeles.

The U.S. Army is investigating reports by U.S. servicemen, told to The Associated Press, that soldiers killed a large number of South Korean civilians in the town in 1950.

Chung Eun-yong, 77, whose two young sons were killed in the attack, explained that most of the victims were women and children.

Kum Cho-ja, 60, gestured to her side and described the feeling of a bullet that exploded through her abdomen, leaving her scarred for life.

As painful as their stories were, Cho said he was divided about their visit to America, torn between a desire to know the truth of what happened on that July day in 1950 and his loyalties to the country he now calls home.

America and South Korea have a long history of good relations, he said, and he doesn't want to see them jeopardized by the investigation into what happened in the South Korean village, where survivors say U.S. soldiers killed some 400 civilians. About a dozen U.S. soldiers corroborated the villagers' accounts to the AP.

"I am very sad (about the alleged massacre), but all of the responsibility is on North Korea," said Cho, president of the Korean Veterans Association in Los Angeles. "American South Koreans don't want to damage the relationship. It is important ? our friendship."

It is a concern the survivors have heard since arriving in America last week, said Chung Goo-do, a university instructor who has researched the incident and is accompanying the group on its trip, arranged by the U.S. National Council of Churches.

The survivors, who also include a woman who lost her left eye and a 57-year-old man whose nose and right cheek were disfigured by gunfire, met last week with veterans in Cleveland and military officials in Washington. The Army has promised a thorough investigation.

They arrived Monday in Los Angeles, home to the largest population of Koreans outside Asia. There are an estimated 650,000 Koreans in Southern California.

The survivors said their message to Korean-Americans is not that they are trying to punish the American military. If the military concludes their story is accurate, they said they will seek an apology and, perhaps, compensation.

"They prefer to have a good relationship and appreciate what the U.S. soldiers and government have done to South Korea," said Dr. Young Seok Suh, who acted as interpreter for the survivors. "But they think what happened at No Gun Ri and American democracy are two different things. ... In this instance, innocent people were killed by the Army, so they want to find the facts."

9. Wednesday, Nov. 17, 1999

Veteran Gives Medal to Statehouse

Wednesday, Nov. 17, 1999

■ The Associated Press / By Andrew Welsh-Huggins, Associated Press Writer

COLUMBUS, Ohio ?? Almost 50 years have passed since Ronald Rosser received the Congressional Medal of Honor ? the country's highest distinction for military valor ? for his actions during a day of deadly fighting in the Korean War.

Over the years, Rosser came to a decision that led to his donation of the medal to the Statehouse in a Veterans Day ceremony Nov. 11.

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"I realized this medal really doesn't belong to me anymore," he said. "I was merely holding it for the next generation."

Rosser told about 70 veterans and family members that he couldn't stand the thought that the medal might end up in a drawer or hanging on someone's wall.

"I wanted it to be someplace where it could do some good, where it could teach children what this country's worth," said Rosser, one of only 22 surviving Korean War veterans who received the Medal of Honor. He is also one of just three surviving medal recipients in Ohio from all military branches.

Rosser was a 22-year-old corporal on Jan. 12, 1952, when members of Company L of the 38th Infantry Regiment attacked Chinese troops hunkered down on a small mountain known as Hill 472.

Temperatures were 20 below zero, and the company labored through a foot of crusty snow, he said.

Rosser was a forward observer with the company's lead platoon when it came under heavy fire. In three charges over several hours, Rosser killed at least 13 Chinese soldiers, according to his Medal of Honor citation.

As his platoon withdrew, "though himself wounded, (Rosser) made several trips across open terrain still under enemy fire to help remove other men injured more seriously than himself," the citation said.

Rosser, now 70, grew up one of 17 brothers and sisters near Crooksville in southeastern Ohio. Before Korea he served in the U.S. Army 82nd airborne division. But he re-enlisted after his brother Richard died in combat in Korea on Feb. 10, 1951.

"I wrote down, 'Korea, combat,' " he said.

Rosser donated the medal the same week that a religious ceremony in Cleveland brought together three South Korean survivors and three U.S. Army veterans of No Gun Ri ? a hamlet where witnesses say American troops killed hundreds of refugees early in the Korean War.

The meeting was sponsored by the U.S. National Council of Churches and its South Korean counterpart.

Rosser doesn't dispute the events described in Associated Press reports about No Gun Ri and other killings by U.S. soldiers of South Korean civilians. (The U.S. Army is now investigating those reports.)

But Rosser believes people ? including veterans ? have forgotten the context of the war. Fear that North Korean infiltrators were penetrating enemy lines by hiding in groups of refugees was a constant worry.

"Sometimes innocent civilians get caught in a thing like that," he said. "There isn't a damn thing you can do about it."

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OHIO'S LARGEST NEWSPAPER 35¢ NEWSSTANDS & MACHINES **SPORTS FINAL** CLEVELAND, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

'I could hear the women crying and screaming, and the children screaming . . . I never thought there would be any survivors.'

–EDWARD DAILY, AN AMERICAN SOLDIER AT THE MASSACRE AT NO GUN RI



MIKE LEVY / PLAIN DEALER PHOTOGRAPHER

A group of South Koreans attending the 50th anniversary meeting of the National Council of Churches is to meet with U.S. soldiers involved in the massacre of civilian refugees during the Korean War. At the far left is Chung Ku Hak, who lost his nose during the shooting at No Gun Ri. Third from left is Chung Eun Yong, whose son and daughter were killed.

Scarred by a massacre in Korea, seeking forgiveness in Cleveland

By DAVID BRIGGS
PLAIN DEALER RELIGION REPORTER

The temperature rose above 100 in the tiny South Korean hamlet of No Gun Ri, and the summer humidity was unbearable even for a young man from the southern United States. No one — neither refugee nor soldier — had slept the night before this late July morning in 1950.

Huddled inside a makeshift tunnel under a bridge with hundreds of civilian refugees were Chung Eun Yong's wife, Park Sun Yong, and 5-year-old son, Chung Ku Pil. Their 2-year-old daughter, Chung Ku He, had been shot in the neck and killed by guns fired by U.S. soldiers surrounding the tunnel.

Chung's wife grabbed her son under an arm and ran from the tunnel.

A soldier who spotted her fired, ripping away the bottom half of her son's body and leaving her intestines exposed with a shot to the abdomen. She was left for dead.



MIKE LEVY / PLAIN DEALER PHOTOGRAPHER

Edward Daily, a corporal when the shooting occurred at No Gun Ri, said the basic golden rule of his faith is to seek the truth.

"Death was waiting on her, and she prayed the Lord's Prayer," her husband recalled.

Just a short distance away on the eastern side of the bridge was 19-year-old Cpl. Edward Daily from Covington, Ky. He had been on "full alert" for days, and when what appeared to the American side as rifle shots came out of the tunnel, "all hell broke loose" and soldiers began firing into the passage. He was ordered to shoot any refugee coming out of the tunnel — "and that's what I did."

"I could hear the women crying and screaming, and the children screaming." He prayed the prayer of a 19-year-old seeing his first combat: "God, just get me through this mess. Get me out of here, and I'll be your servant for life."

Forty-nine years later, as the report of the massacre at No Gun Ri has begun to come to light, Daily and Chung will meet across from one another in a service of reconciliation at Old Stone Church in downtown Cleveland. They have come together — part of the 50th anniversary celebration of the National Council of Churches — to come to terms before God with the events in the village a half-century ago.

SEE KOREA/4-A

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Victims of No Gun Ri meet soldiers

KOREA FROM 1-A

"Our differences can be settled under the presence of God and Jesus Christ," Daily said. "Anyone who is trying to hide the truth will have to deal with that later on."

The U.S. and South Korean governments have launched investigations of the No Gun Ri incident following an Associated Press report. The AP said that a dozen U.S. Army veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said their unit killed a large number of refugees at the South Korean hamlet in July 1950. The villagers say 400 were killed, including 100 in a preceding attack by U.S. warplanes.

Veterans said they believed North Korean soldiers were disguised among the refugees. Some said the U.S. soldiers were fired on. The Koreans dispute this.

Joining Chung at the Old Stone prayer service from the South Korean side are survivors Yang Hae Sook, who lost her left eye in the shooting; Keum Cho Ja, who received a stomach injury; and Chung Ku Hak, who lost a nose. His mother and sister were killed.

The Korean War veterans who will be beside them in prayer are Daily, now of Clarksville, Tenn.; Robert "Snuffy" Gray, of Bayonet Point, Fla., who was a master sergeant at the time of the attack; and Donald Down of Elyria, also a sergeant when the shooting occurred at No Gun Ri.

In separate interviews yesterday at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, Chung and Daily shared their personal stories. "You'll never know the truth at No Gun Ri," Daily said, but they agreed on details such as the shooting of refugees from the air and the pouring of weapons fire into the tunnel where refugees huddled.

On the American side, there was concern that enemy soldiers were among the refugees and an automatic rifle was found inside the tunnel, Daily said. The soldiers themselves hadn't slept in three days, and the scene was one of chaos and confusion, he said.

But in Daily's view, that does not excuse the killings.

"The way I look at it is this thing has come out as a reality, and this No Gun Ri thing is a tragedy no one wants to hear," said Daily, 68, still a stocky, forceful presence who resembles actor James Caan. "Both sides have suffered" and the truth needs to be heard.

Daily would be baptized during the war less than a year later after escaping as a prisoner of war from North Korean forces during an artillery barrage.

But the days at No Gun Ri and the screams of the dying stay with him.

"They never leave you. They're in your dreams," he said. "As you get older, you hear a sound, a baby crying or a loud sound, and that can trigger a traumatic event."

Even today, he is amazed any of the refugees made it out alive.

"I never thought there would be any survivors," he said.

Chung, an intense 76-year-old man who has written a book on No Gun Ri, was a former police officer and already in hiding when his family was herded toward the hamlet. But he recites the events of those days 49 years ago with the conviction born of great suffering, his expression growing ever more somber as he tells the survivors' stories.

His wife would live. A U.S. Army medic would wrap their son in a cloth and bury him, and then take his wife to a hospital.

Twenty-five years later, he would become a Christian, embracing the faith that he said gave his wife the will to live through No Gun Ri.

"Now I understand maybe it was the same suffering experience I had, the suffering of Jesus Christ," he said.

One man baptized in the battlefield a year later. Another man waits a quarter century before he sees in the suffering of losing children the suffering of Christ on the cross. One a soldier, the other a victim.

Today, at Old Stone Church, they will try to make peace before God. Forgiveness will not come easy.



MIKE LEVY / PLAIN DEALER PHOTOGRAPHER

Chung Eun Yong lost his son and daughter at No Gun Ri.

"Basically, repentance is necessary and confession of sin," Chung said. "The individual apology can be the first step."

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THE NATION 10-11-99

Survivors of 1950 massacre on U.S. 'reconciliation' trip

Three South Koreans from the incident travel with 'agony and tears'

By Sang-Hun Choe
The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Three South Korean survivors of No Gun Ri, the site of an alleged mass killing of refugees by American troops a half-century ago, have arrived in the USA for a prayer ceremony with three of the ex-soldiers who were there.

The three survivors, still bearing disfiguring wounds, arrived Monday.

Today, they will meet with three of the Army veterans who have acknowledged their unit was involved in the civilians' deaths in the first weeks of the Korean War.

"We hope the meeting will be an arena for reconciliation," Chung Eun Yong, a spokesman for the Korean group, said in Seoul before their departure. Chung lost two children in the shootings, and his wife was badly wounded.

The Koreans and veterans will join in a public worship service in Cleveland's Old Stone Presbyterian Church today.

The "recognition and remembrance ceremony" in Cleveland is sponsored by the U.S. National Council of Churches and the Korean National Council of Churches as part of the U.S. organization's 50th anniversary annual meeting.

On Sept. 29, The Associated Press reported that a dozen U.S. Army veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, said their unit killed a large number of refugees in the South Korean hamlet of No Gun Ri in July 1950. The villagers say about 400 were killed, including 100 in a preceding attack by U.S. warplanes.

Veterans say they believed enemy infiltrators — North Korean soldiers — were disguised among the refugees. Some said they were fired on from the civilian throng. The Koreans dispute this.

In a second report, on Oct. 13, the AP said hundreds of South Korean refugees were killed by U.S. forces in other incidents in the Korean War's first weeks. The report cited veterans, Korean witnesses and U.S. military documents.

The church councils, representing Christian denominations in the two countries, had supported the Korean villagers' efforts to win reparations from Washington.

Those efforts were rebuffed, but the U.S. and South Korean governments have launched investigations of No Gun Ri. Defense Secretary William Cohen has promised the United States' full cooperation.

"These people travel to the United States with their agony and tears," said the Korean council's secretary-general, the Rev. Kim Dong Wan, who accompanied them on the visit.



By Jamie-Andrea Yanak, AP



Reuters

Beyond the past: Above, Chung Eun Yong, center, a spokesman for a group of Korean survivors of No Gun Ri, is greeted in Cleveland by the Rev. Syngman Rhee, right, and David Kang. Chung lost his two of his children in the 1950 incident. At left, U.S. veteran Edward Dailey, left, hugs an unidentified South Korean. Dailey, a machine gunner during the Korean War, wanted to meet with some of the survivors. The group, which wants a U.S. apology and reparations, will go to Washington on Thursday.

Yang Hae Sook, 61, who lost an eye in the attack, said she wants the veterans to explain why they opened fire.

"I will ask them why they had to kill us innocent, unarmed refugees. Most of us were old men, women and children. Many years have passed, but I still have to know, and the souls of the dead would want to know," she said.

From Cleveland, the South Koreans, who want an apology from the United States and compensation, will fly to Washington on Thursday to meet with Pentagon officials.

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"War is devastating. . . . We recognize today our mutual suffering."
—the Rev. Syngham Rhee, *president, National Council of Churches*

Unhealed Wounds of Korean War

Survivors of Incident Meet With U.S. Vets

By WILLIAM CLAIBORNE
Washington Post Staff Writer

CLEVELAND, Nov. 10—Still bearing disfiguring wounds, three survivors of an alleged massacre of Korean refugees by American troops at No Gun Ri, South Korea, a half-century ago had their first face-to-face encounter today with three aging ex-soldiers who have acknowledged their unit was involved in the incident.

Standing before the altar of the Old Stone Church in a symbolic "encounter" aimed at washing away decades of pain, anguish and guilt, the veterans were somber as the Rev. Joan B. Campbell, general secretary of the National Council of Churches, read a confession on their behalf.

"With heavy hearts, we as American Christians confess our complicity and indifference to the suffering of the Korean people across these many years," declared Campbell, who later said the veterans had approved the statement. "We know even our confession cannot address the lifetimes denied, the promise extinguished, the pain endured."

In turn, the Rev. Syngham Rhee, the council's president and himself a war refugee, declared on behalf of the survivors in equally conciliatory tones, "War is devastating. It is void and darkness [and] we recognize today our mutual suffering. We today confess our shared responsibility and rejoice in our common humanity."

With that, Robert "Snuffy" Gray, 75, a master sergeant with a reconnaissance platoon at the time of the No Gun Ri massacre, and Yang Hae Sook, 60, who lost an eye and watched as her grandmother and two brothers were killed in a barrage of rifle and machine gun fire, lit candles to celebrate their reconciliation.

But after meeting in private for more than two hours, the veterans and survivors seemed less than reconciled. Gray erupted at a news conference where the survivors graphically described a slaughter of men, women and children.

"I came to reach an understanding of [illegible] happened at No Gun Ri. May I ask what they came for?" he said. "My regiment was a proud regiment and they fought like hell, and they don't need anyone throwing rocks at them."

For their part, the survivors made it clear that forgiveness was not yet forthcoming. They said in a statement that when the veterans of No Gun Ri and the U.S. government apologize, the "last step would be that the victims forgive them."

See KOREA, *A23, Col. 4*



BY AMY SANCETTA—ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yang Hae Sook, left, and Keum Cho Jo, survivors of a Korean War massacre reportedly carried out by U.S. troops, attend meeting in Cleveland intended to foster reconciliation.

Trapped Under the Trestle

U.S. soldiers reportedly gunned down hundreds of Korean refugees trapped beneath a railroad trestle in No Gun Ri in July 1950, during the early days of the Korean War.



FILE PHOTO/AHN YOUNG-JOON—ASSOCIATED PRESS
BY BRAD WYE—THE WASHINGTON POST

민주화운동기념사업회
Korea Democracy Foundation

er said the youth fired toward a group of trees and a shot ricocheted and hit Greene. Jurors will reconvene Friday.

11-11-99 USATODAY

Prayer service for No Gun Ri

Four South Koreans and three U.S. Army veterans sat down together in a Cleveland church to share painful memories and prayers to heal the wounds from No Gun Ri, site of an alleged mass civilian killing by American troops a half-century ago.



By Amy Sancetta, AP

In Cleveland: From left, Chung Koo Do, Army veteran Edward Daily and Chung's father, Chung Eun Yong.

The featured speakers at the "recognition and remembrance" included Chung Eun Yong, 77, a man who lost two children at the South Korean hamlet where witnesses say U.S. soldiers killed hundreds of refugees early in the Korean War.

"We believe God will forgive the veterans and the U.S. government when they repent the sins committed and apologize officially for their wrongdoing," he said at the service at the Old Stone Presbyterian Church. Robert Gray, a former 7th U.S. Cavalry Regiment sergeant speaking on behalf of the veterans, offered no immediate apology. South Koreans must understand the "mentality" of young U.S. soldiers in those first chaotic days of the war, when some thought they were being attacked by North Korean troops that mixed with refugees, he said. The South Koreans will fly to Washington today to meet with the Defense Department, which is investigating.

Written by John Bacon with staff and wire reports

To DA 11-11-99

Korean War Tragedy Spurs Meeting

KOREA, *From A3*

In the end, Campbell said the reconciliation was "a beginning," and that a dialogue had begun among people who have not talked for over 40 years.

The two sides were brought together at a 50th anniversary conference of the council, which last December brought the villagers' testimony of atrocities to the Pentagon and demanded reparations. In March, the Army command replied it had "found no information to substantiate the claim," but since then it has opened a new investigation.

It did so on the strength of details of the alleged mass killing disclosed on Sept. 29 by the Associated Press, which reported that a dozen U.S. Army veterans, corroborating the accounts of Korean villagers, admitted their unit killed a large number of refugees huddled beneath a railroad bridge at No Gun Ri. The villagers say about 400 men, women and children were killed, including 100 in an earlier attack by U.S. warplanes.

Some of the veterans of the poorly equipped and ill-trained 7th Cavalry Regiment, part of the 1st Cavalry Division that had been rushed to Korea in the early and chaotic days of the war, said they were told by their commanders that disguised and armed North Korean soldiers had infiltrated among the refugees. Some of the veterans said they were fired on from the civilian throng, although the Koreans dispute this.

Speaking to the victims at today's church service, Gray, who now lives in Bayonet Point, Fla., said that when details of the alleged massacre began to surface, he had only a "vague remembrance that something happened." But he said that after talking with other veterans, "we determined something did happen."

Earlier, in an interview, he said he was not at the tunnel at the time of the alleged mass killings. But he stressed that in the chaos of the American retreat in the war's early days, such breakdowns in command and control "were happening to all of us."

Another veteran, Edward Daily, 68, of Clarksville, Tenn., said he was a corporal manning a machine gun position at No Gun Ri when an order came down "that we had to shoot them all" because North Korean soldiers had infiltrated the area.

He said he saw what he believed were three or four muzzle flashes inside the tunnel before firing erupted from the frightened U.S. soldiers.

"No Gun Ri wasn't an isolated incident, either," Daily said.

"We have a great deal of sympathy for these people, a lot of anguish and pain," he added. "But a lot of American soldiers lost their lives in those days, too. In any war you are going to have civilian casualties."

In interviews, the Korean survivors denied that communist troops had infiltrated the refugees, or that shots had come from the tunnel.

"There were no enemies among us. Some people are not fair to us in this fact," said Chung Ku Hak, 55, who lost his nose and part of his face in the shooting. "That is a lie."

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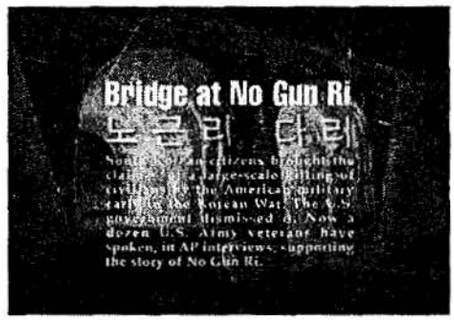

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