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***For a Lasting Peace,  
For a People's Democracy !***

**Bucharest. Organ of the Information Bureau of  
the Communist and Workers' Parties**



**Supplement with the Report of the Women's  
International Commission for the Investigation  
of Atrocities Committed by U.S.A. and Syngman  
Rhee Troops in Korea, and the documents of  
the Fifth Session of the Executive Committee of  
Women's International Democratic Federation.  
No. 31 (143), Friday, August 3, 1951.**

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**SUPPLEMENT TO JOURNAL “FOR A  
LASTING PEACE, FOR A PEOPLE’S  
DEMOCRACY”, NO. 31 (145) AUGUST 3,  
1951.**

**REPORT OF THE WOMEN’S INTERNATIONAL  
COMMISSION FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF  
ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY U.S.A. AND  
SYNGMAN RHEE TROOPS IN KOREA**

Having received the invitation of the Women’s International Democratic Federation, we have been delegated by different women’s organisations—some of them members of WIDF and some not—to join an International Women’s Commission to investigate the atrocities committed by American and Syngman Rhee troops in Korea. We represent seventeen countries in Europe, America, Asia and Africa.

The Members of the Commission are: Nora K. Rodd (Canada), Chairman; Liu Ching-yang (China), Vice-Chairman; Ida Bachmann (Denmark), Vice-Chairman; Miluse Svatosova (Czechoslovakia), Secretary; Trees Soenito-Heyligers (Netherlands), Assistant Secretary; Monica Felton (Great Britain); Maria Oysyannikova (U.S.S.R.); Bai Lang (China); Li Keng (China); Gilette Ziegler (France); Elisabetta Gallo (Italy); Eva Priester (Austria); Hilde Cahn (German Democratic Republic); Lilly Waechter (Western Germany); Dr. Germaine Hannevard (Belgium); Li-thi-Que (Viet-Nam); Candelaria Rodriguez, LL. D. (Cuba); Leonor Aguiar Vazquez, LL. D.

(Argentina); Fatma Ben Sliman (Tunisia) ; Abassia Fodil (Algeria); Kate Fleron Jacobsen (Denmark), Observer.

We, women of different countries, of different nationalities, of different religious beliefs and different political views, some of us members of different political parties and others with no party affiliations, had a common task before us: to tell conscientiously and truthfully to the women who have delegated us to this Commission and to all the common and peace-loving people of the world the facts as we have seen them. All the facts given below, the figures and other data mentioned in this document, have been recorded personally by the Members of the Commission. These facts are all in accordance with the evidence Members saw with own eyes and with statements given to them by eyewitnesses and officials in Korea.

The report itself was completed and signed in the time of May 16 to May 27, 1951 on Korean territory, somewhere near Pyöngyang.

## CHAPTER I

The Commission visited Sinyju, a town on the Korean-Chinese border. This city has been almost completely destroyed. All the buildings which remain are badly shattered. The town has been bombed many times, but most of the damage was done in raids on the night of 8th of November 1950 and on November 10th and 11th. On the day on which the Commission visited Sinyju there were three alerts.

According to official statements by representatives of the Sinyju City People's Committee, Sinyju in July 1950 had 126,000 inhabitants living and working in 14,000 buildings. The Commission was informed that the town had no industries that contributed in any way to war production. It had only light industries: the processing of soya, tofa a product of soya), the manufacture of shoes, matches, salt and chopsticks.

On November 8th, 1950 the town was bombed by 100 aeroplanes attached to the so-called UNO forces in Korea. On this occasion 2,100 state and municipal buildings were destroyed. More than 5,000 inhabitants were killed, of whom approximately 4,000 were women and children. Of 17 primary schools, 16 were destroyed, and 12 of the town's 19 secondary schools were destroyed by incendiaries. Of 17 churches of different denominations only two were left. Two municipal hospitals were destroyed by incendiary bombs, although each of them was marked on the roof with a large Red Cross in accordance with the provisions of international convention. Members of the Commission saw the remains of these crosses on what was left of the roofs. In one hospital 26 patients were burned to death by flames from incendiary bombs.

The Commission was told that when the large Protestant church received a direct hit 250 people were killed. Among other episodes the Commission was told of 30 mothers and children who were killed while trying to seek shelter after the bombing of a municipal canteen. In the densely populated market district, 2,500 people were killed and wounded. The total number of wounded in Sinyju was 3 155. Members of the Commission examined remains of bombs which were being dug out from the debris and noted the following marking: Amm. Lot RN 14-29, Shell MJ For M2 a MFL1 Lot-GL-2-116 1944 MJBCA2 ACT 464.

The overwhelming majority of the inhabitants live in dugouts made of earth supported with salvaged timber. Some of these dugouts have roofs made of tiles and timber, salvaged from destroyed buildings. Others are living in cellars that remained after the bombardment and still others in thatched tents within the framework of destroyed buildings and in huts made of unmortared brick and rubble.

Some Members of the Commission visited one of these huts, which was inhabited by the family of Kwon Mun Su. The family consisted of mother, father and three small children. The hut was divided into two sections, one for living and sleeping and the other for cooking; the living quarters measured 3 by 2 metres, the cooking space was 1½ metres by 3 metres. The members of the family were considered lucky by their neighbours, both because of the amount of space they had and because they owned a blanket.

Evidence received indicated that the three biggest raids consisted chiefly of many incendiary bombs; and the Commission Members could not at first understand why the damage had been so extensive. Enquiries both

from municipal officials and from members of the public whom we met in casual conversation showed the reason. Every- body who was interviewed stated that when the first wave of incendiary bombs had been dropped those who went out into the street to attempt to put out the fires were systematically machine-gunned by low-flying aircraft. The almost wholesale burning of the town was caused by the systematic machine-gunning of the civilians who were attempting to put out the fires.

A woman of the town, Chang Yun Cha, stated that her father and her husband were killed by machine-gun fire from low-flying aircraft when they attempted to fetch water in order to extinguish the fire in their house, which was set aflame by incendiary bombs. Another woman, Kim In Tan, said that she had lost her three grandchildren and her daughter in the raid of November 8th. The children were killed by machine-gun fire from low-flying planes while running from their burning homes. The daughter was shot after having dragged her youngest child from the fire. Kim Hon Yun states that his wife was killed by machine-gun fire while running out of her house set on fire by incendiary bombs.

In the course of the journey from Sinyju to Phyöngyang the Commission observed that the towns and villages through which they passed were all completely or almost completely destroyed. The towns were Namshi, Chengchu, Anju, Sukchen and Sunan. Most of the villages were likewise almost completely ruined.

**The above was signed by all Members of the Commission.**

**May 18th, 1951.**



## CHAPTER II

The Commission visited Phyöngyang, the temporary capital of the Korean People's Democratic Republic.

Before the war, Phyöngyang had a population of 400,000. There were very many large modern buildings built of brick and reinforced concrete. There were also many blocks of modern flats which, as can be seen from the remains, were fully equipped with modern methods of heating and sanitation.

The town had also a large number of factories. The main industries were the manufacture of textiles, shoes, various food products, tobacco, wine, beer and fertilizers.

Among its chief buildings Phyöngyang possessed an Opera House, nine theatres, 20 cinemas, a modern university, which had been built and equipped after 1945; 73 primary schools, 20 secondary schools, six institutes of higher education and four technical colleges. There were also 20 evening schools for adults and a large Polytechnical Institute, which was almost completed when the war broke out.

The town is now a total ruin. Most of the older parts are razed to the ground, and here and there only walls of the destroyed houses are standing out against a mass of ash and rubble. Some of the modern buildings still stand in skeleton form, roofless and without internal walls; others have no more than a few fragmentary walls to indicate where the buildings once stood. In addition to the buildings listed above, many churches were destroyed, and all of the city hospitals.

Members of the Commission examined ruins of the city's largest primary school. On one of the external walls was chalked the inscription "Reserved for 77th

Field Artillery.” Eighty per cent of the city was, according to evidence given to the Commission, destroyed as the Americans left the city (it is important to note that the Americans evacuated without fighting and destroyed the city systematically and according to plan). The destruction is now virtually 100 per cent. But in spite of this, bombing still continues. On the occasion when the Commission spent a whole day in the city there were five alerts, and in the course of the same day three time-bombs, which had been dropped about a week earlier, exploded at intervals of 10 minutes within a short distance of the place where Members were talking to representatives of local organisations.

Members were able to learn something about the methods by which the city has been destroyed. They were told that the town had been raided by the Americans ever since the beginning of the war. One of the worst of these raids took place on January 3, 1951. On this occasion the town was bombed by 80 American B-29's. They came in a series of waves, at intervals of 15 or 20 minutes, starting on the evening of the 3rd and continuing till noon of the following day. The attack began with incendiaries. Next came a series of bombs which were described as being like balloons filled with petrol. Then followed a wave of high-explosives and after that came another series of incendiaries interspersed with time-bombs. The fires caused by the incendiaries and the explosions caused by the time-bombs prevented the inhabitants from doing any rescue work and countless people who were buried alive ultimately died of suffocation. Many of the bodies have still not been disinterred.

Amongst the buildings destroyed on January 3rd and 4th were most of the hospitals of the city. These

hospitals had flat roofs and each was marked with a large Red Cross which was estimated to be visible from a height of 6,000 to 8,000 metres. Every one of these hospitals received at least one direct hit. Members of the Commission saw the remains of the Regional Hospital and examined three large craters, two of them measuring approximately four metres in depth and one of seven metres in depth. The city's Central Hospital] was said to have been destroyed by dive-bombers which came down to a height of 30 metres.

As has already been stated not all buildings of the city were destroyed by bombing. In fact, many of them were blown up by explosive charges, or set on fire when the American troops retreated. Among the buildings destroyed in this way were the Kim Ir Sen University; the boys' secondary schools; the Opera House; municipal institutions; most of the food factories and all government institutions. The Commission was also informed that when the U.S. troops left the city, they set fire systematically to all of the city's tramcars, and also blew up several bridges and the water system.

Just outside the city, Members of the Commission saw the ruins of the famous temple of Buddha, Yen Myen Sa, which stands at the top of a hill overlooking a wide sweep of the river. This temple, which has been an object of veneration to the Korean people for twenty centuries, was also destroyed by bombing; and, judging by the situation of the temple, which is in open parkland, it is difficult to believe that the bombers could have been aiming at any other objective. According to the testimony of eyewitnesses, the temple was intact when the American troops retreated from Phyöngyang in December 1950. On January 3rd, 1951, however, American aircraft dropped on the temple a

large number of high-explosive and incendiary bombs and containers filled with an incendiary agent.

Members also visited the city's celebrated museum, which, though it escaped destruction, had been robbed of its treasures, including two famous statues of Buddha, both of which are more than two thousand years old. Mr. Ri Ye Seng, the eminent archaeologist, showed Members a long list of the articles pillaged. He showed them also that all the Americans left in the museum were the hand-coloured copies of priceless frescoes which had been discovered in recent years in 30 ancient tombs in North Korea. In six of these tombs the Americans tortured Korean women, and blew up the tombs when they retreated.

The Commission was repeatedly told of instances of the machine-gunning of civilians from the air (They themselves saw low-flying American aircraft spraying machine-gun fire into open fields where peasants were at work. This occurred several hundred kilometres from the front, and a long way from any town or military objective.).

Walking through the debris of Phyöngyang, Members found many used shells from aircraft machine guns lying among the wreckage of buildings. They also found evidence of the use of new destructive weapons by the Americans. One of these is a bomb which, when it reaches the ground or comes into contact with a building, opens without exploding. In opening, it throws out a mass of some substance which sticks to brick, wood or any other materials with which it happens to come into contact and which later bursts into flames.

Reference has already been made to the use of petrol containers. Members of the Commission inspected the remains of one such missile. It was about

3 metres long, 1 metre broad, tapering down to 50 cm. at its narrowest point. The marks on the missile examined were only partly legible.

The legible markings were: PA RA contract HOAF 33/5077-40—Oa N 4 888. The Members were informed that, apart from the use of bombs of this type in Phyöngyang and other cities, the same weapon had been used by the Americans last year during the harvest season to destroy the ripened crops lying in the fields, and that immense damage was done to food supplies in this way.

The time-bombs also seem to be of a new type, and the detonators in them cannot be found and removed. Members of the Commission also found a bomb case marked “High Explosive. GB 5143.” This bomb was one of those used to destroy the shrine on Mo Ran Bon.

The surviving inhabitants of Phyöngyang live in primitively-contrived dugouts, or in shelters that they have managed to contrive for themselves in cellars or within the surviving walls of bombed buildings. Members of the Commission, which divided into four groups for the purpose, spent nearly four hours visiting different sections of the city, and none of them, in the course of this tour, saw a single house that still possessed four walls and a roof. They did, however, come across a number of families whose surviving members were living among the debris. For example, the family of Kang Bok Sen, consisting of five people in all, including one child aged 3 and one aged 8 months, were found living in a dugout beneath the destroyed headquarters of the Democratic Women’s Federation of Phyöngyang. This dugout measures approximately one metre by two, and the members of the family have to creep down a narrow shaft three metres deep in order to reach this shelter,

which is their only living space. The earth walls are too low to enable an adult to stand upright. The Members saw enough to conclude that this shelter was typical rather than exceptional, and it would be possible to quote many more instances of families living in similar conditions.

Kang Bok Sen's daughter living in this dugout told the Commission that the Americans made the Opera and the remains of the adjoining house into an army brothel. To this brothel they took by force women and young girls they caught in the streets. As she feared a similar fate, she did not leave her dugout for 40 days. The husband of her friend, Ri San Sen, was beaten up by the Americans because he hid his wife from them. An inhabitant of Phyöngyang, Kwon Son Don, a 66-year-old worker from another part of the town, confirmed the statement that the Opera House was used as a brothel.

Many other residents of Phyöngyang recounted atrocities perpetrated by Americans.

Kim Sun Ok, 37, mother of four children, stated that after her husband and children were killed in the raid of July 3, 1950, she was evacuated to the village of Song San Ri. There she saw 37 people killed by the Americans, among them the secretary of the local women's organisation. The Americans led her naked through the streets and later killed her by pushing a red-hot iron bar into her vagina. Her small son was buried alive.

**The above was signed by all Members of  
the Commission.**

**May 21st, 1951.**

### CHAPTER III

Members of the delegation visited the province of Whang Hai and the towns of Anak and Sinchen. Those who took part in this visit were Eva Priester (Austria), Li Keng (China), Candelaria Rodriguez (Cuba), Nora K. Rodd (Canada), Maria Ovsyannikova (U.S.S.R.), Monica Felton (England).

Members of the Commission established that in the whole province of Whang Hai 120,000 had been killed by the occupying armies, in addition to those killed by aerial bombardment. In the town of Anak 19,092 people had been killed by the U.S.A., British and Syngman Rhee forces.

In the town of Anak the Members of the Commission visited a building that before the war had been a storehouse attached to a peasant bank, and that had been turned into a prison by the U.S. forces. It was divided into five cells each about 4 metres long by 3 metres wide. Witnesses stated that these cells had been so crowded that it was impossible for prisoners to sit down.

A peasant woman, Han Nak Son, of 194 Sun San Ri Street, informed Members that her husband, Kim Bon Quan, and her husband's brother, Kim Bon Kyon, were arrested on November 10th, 1950, and taken to this prison. The arrests were made by two American soldiers accompanied by four soldiers of the Syngman Rhee forces. The woman herself ran away and managed to hide. She stated that both her husband and brother-in-law and other prisoners were all either peasants or workers, and none of them was either an official of any kind or a member of the Party of Labour. Many children, some of them as young as two years old, were taken to

this prison with their mothers. The prisoners were confined for fifteen days without food, and were beaten with iron bars. Members were informed that these beatings were carried out by Syngman Rhee troops with a U.S.A. officer in command. On November 25th, 1950, the prisoners, including women and children, were taken to the hills and buried alive in trenches.

Another witness, an elderly man named Kim San Yen, living at 172 Se San Ri Street, said that his whole family of 12 persons had been arrested, including his wife, his son, his son's wife and their child of two. At first he himself was not able to discover what had happened to them. Later he learned that they had been taken to the hills and killed. After the liberation of the town he went in search of their bodies, and found the remains of his son and his son's wife, bound together with ropes. Neither body had any wounds and Kim San Yen therefore concluded that they had been buried alive. He stated that his son, who worked in a state shop, had been arrested because he was-a-shock worker. He himself was arrested on October 18th, but released on October 29th. He told the Members of the Commission that he himself had always been a religious man, and that he had expected that the Americans, who were a Christian people, would behave well. He could not imagine that the Americans, as Christians, would be able to commit such atrocities. The Members of the Commission then visited another prison. Here, too, they were told that there was no room for the prisoners either to sit or to lie down. Members were shown an instrument used for beating the prisoners, which they identified as a standard U.S.A. army baseball bat (this was taken for evidence). Marks of blood could be clearly



seen on the wooden floor of the corridor outside the cells.

A woman, Shoy Um Bok, of 187 San Nai Ri Street, stated that her husband and son had been confined in this prison and later killed. Her son's wife was beaten so severely that she is still confined to bed. A boy of 9, Pak Chan Oi, stated that his father, Pak Pyan Su, aged 46, had also been killed. When asked who killed his father, he replied: "The Americans." The boy and his mother were also arrested and confined in this prison. They were told that they would be killed too, but were liberated by the Korean People's Army. The mother told Members that she had been tortured by having red-hot knitting needles pushed into her fingernails. Members of the Commission observed the marks of disfigurement. The witness stated that when she was led to be tortured she saw people being thrown alive into a pit in the yard outside.

The Members of the Commission inspected this pit, which was an unused well: It was surrounded by a concrete wall about 60 cm. high and about 1 metre in diameter. It appeared to be about 7 or 8 metres deep, and in the strong morning light human remains could clearly be seen at the bottom. Members noticed nearest to the surface the body of a child dressed in a dark coat with shining buttons.

Members were then taken to a site about 2 km. from the town where, on a hillside situated in open country, many of the town's people had been buried. Some in small groups and others in large mass graves. These graves had been opened to enable Members to inspect the remains. One grave was for children, and those corpses that were identifiable had been removed at the time of the liberation for private burial. The bodies that

remained were too mutilated for identification. Apart from these remains, the Members could see children's shoes, tufts of women's hair, books and small personal possessions, and also the ropes with which people had been bound together. Another large grave was filled with adult bodies.

A witness, Huan Sin Ya, stated that her mother had been buried alive but had managed to dig herself out. She was subsequently recaptured and buried again. In the same grave 450 people are buried. There are twenty such graves on this hillside, and Members were told that bodies of people killed by the Americans had been discovered on twelve such hillsides.

Members next saw a large number of women from the district. A girl of eleven, called Kim Sen Ai, who came from the village of On Gun Ri, 32 km. from Anak, stated that she was in the fourth class at school when the Americans came to her village and she was put into prison with her parents. After twelve days her father was crucified and thrown into a river. The child's mother was a member of the Party of Labour, and the child told Members that for this her mother had had her head and her breasts cut off. The same child's sister was buried alive. The child herself is now in a school for orphans, and on learning from her teacher that the Commission was visiting the district asked to be allowed to give evidence. Another girl Shin Soon Dza who was also eleven years old and who was at the same school as Kim Sen Ai, stated that she and her mother and sister were evacuated from their home when the Americans approached, but were seized and captured. When they refused to answer questions they were beaten and her mother and sister were shot. The child herself escaped, but was recaptured, put in prison and beaten by the

Americans. Members saw the deep scars that were still left on her head.

Ok Bun Dzen, a girl of 16 from the village of Won On Ri, said that her father and mother were arrested, released and rearrested. Their heads were cut off and thrown into the river. This act was witnessed by the whole of the village, including herself. Afterwards, she was arrested and put into a prison where there was standing room only. When the child of a woman nearby started to cry it was bayoneted by the Americans.

A woman Sim Tong Bin, who came from the village of Wu Se Ri, 8 km. from Anak, stated that the Americans had killed her husband, her father-in-law, mother-in-law and sister-in-law. All of them were shot and when they appeared to be still alive after the shooting, with the exception of the father-in-law, they were bayoneted. The father-in-law was buried alive.

Ok Ye Pon, a woman of 49, who lived at 40 Yo Nam Ri Street, Anak, stated that her son of twenty-five was arrested by the Americans and beaten with iron bars, and although his head was badly crushed he remained alive and was buried alive. This woman's daughter-in-law was put into a sack and beaten. The mother-in-law succeeded in finding and rescuing her daughter-in-law but the woman is still in bed and unable to move.

A young woman, Tsen Hwa Uk, who came from the village of Che Do Ri, 20 km. from Anak, stated that she had been arrested by Americans and, along with 19 other peasants, led away to be shot. She herself was shot in the shoulder and, with the others, thrown into the river. She and another woman, Li Hi Dzin, 40 years old, succeeded in freeing each other's bonds and swam together a distance of about six kilometres. Li Hi Dzin died of her wounds, but Tsen Hwa Uk managed to reach

a cave where she hid for three and a half months till the arrival of the Korean People's Army. She showed Members of the Commission three bullet marks on her left shoulder. She also stated that in her village more than one hundred people had been killed.

In the course of their journey, the cars of the Commission were stopped on a number of occasions by the inhabitants of the villages through which they passed, and the people recounted many instances of the sufferings they had endured at the hands of the U.S. forces. On the way to Sinchen, Members of the Commission were stopped by peasants whose legs were covered with mud and who were carrying heavy implements. They said that in their district the river was rising and that bodies which had been thrown in months earlier were now coming to the surface. They themselves had been spending the night in trying to rescue the bodies of their fellow countrymen.

The Members spent some time in the town of Sinchen. In this city, 23,259 people had been killed. Members were shown a building which had originally been a school and which had been used by the U.S. army as its regional headquarters. Outside this building were two natural caves. Members were told that 30 women and children had been imprisoned in the first, and then shot. In the second cave 104 people had been confined. Petrol had been thrown over them and then ignited. Not all of them were burned to death. Those who were not reached by the flames were asphyxiated by the fumes. The Members noticed that there were bloodstains on the walls of the first cave, and that the interior of the second cave still showed marks of burning. At the front of the building referred to above, a dugout had been constructed. Members of the

Commission were told that this dugout was used for questioning and torturing local people. Here, too, bloodstains were clearly visible on the walls.

Members next visited a building which was only partly finished when the U.S. forces occupied the town, but which had been used by them as their local administrative and police centre. At the back of this building was what appeared to be a natural cave, which had been enlarged by the Koreans to make an air raid shelter. Members were told that 479 people who had been imprisoned in the main building were put into one section of this cave before the Americans evacuated the town, and after having petrol poured over them, were burned to death. In another and larger section of the cave, more than one thousand people had been killed by machine-gunning. A witness, Han Yan Guan of 248 Ko Hom Ri Street, stated that he was a mill worker who escaped from the town and joined the partisans when the U.S. forces arrived. On his return after the liberation, he helped to dig out the bodies from the smaller section of this cave. He stated that the bodies were undressed and burned, but that none of them showed marks of shooting. Members of the Commission saw in the cave fragments of human scalps as well as bloodstains and marks of burning on the walls.

Outside the cave, Members of the Commission met a number of local inhabitants whose relatives had been killed. One woman, Chai Chun Ok, aged 65, of 247 Ko Hom Ri Street, brought an instrument like a gigantic pair of tongs which she said had been used for squeezing the prisoners' feet and for similar tortures. She also said that seven of her eight sons and daughters were among those shot in the larger cave. She said:

“The Americans are wild beasts. They came into our town and killed everyone here.”

Another woman, Pak Yo Suk, of 197 San Dong Ri Street, said that her husband, her son and six grandsons were killed in the first cave, Her son was a peasant. She said: “We thought that Americans were Christians, gentlemen. We did not think that they would kill people with such brutality.”

A boy of 13, Pen Sung Su, of 292 San Dong Ri Street, said that of his family of 13 persons there were only himself and his mother left. The rest of the family were beaten and then burnt to death in the cave.

A woman, Pak Su, who had lost all her family, said: “Americans believe in Christ, so how can they kill people?” She added that before the Americans came she had been a Christian and went to church regularly, but she could no longer believe in anything.

In both the first and the second visits described above, the Members of the Commission noticed everywhere the strong odour of decaying human flesh.

Members were then taken to a hillside just outside the town. Here they were shown a flat-roofed storehouse built of brick and covered with cement, about 15 metres by 9 metres. The windows were high up and heavily barred. Here, they were told, 300 women and children were imprisoned by the Americans. The women were burned alive there. The children were starved to death. A witness, Yan Yen Dek, aged 28, of 117 Song Wha Ri Street, said that she had had five children who were now all dead. Her husband had also been killed. She herself had been imprisoned in this storehouse with her child of two. The child was trampled on by the Americans until its intestines fell out. She herself was taken from the storehouse by two

American soldiers and was raped by both of them. They then tortured her. With great difficulty she managed to escape.

A woman, San Ai Su, aged 36, said that her whole family of 15 members had been killed by the Americans. Her three children had frozen to death in this storehouse.

A girl of 19, Lin Nan Ya, stated that the Americans shot her parents and her two brothers.

Son Suk Ma, aged 21, stated she was the only survivor from a family of ten. Her husband, her baby, her parents and brothers had all been killed by the Americans. She herself was in prison in Haiju where all her clothes had been taken away and she had been left naked. Her child who was with her died of starvation.

Another woman, Pak Mi Dza, aged 35, of 2 San Dzen Ri Street, said that of her family of 22 only she was left. She asked: "What are you going to do to help us get our revenge? I cannot live without revenge."

On a hillside about 60 metres above the storehouse described above, Members saw two graves, which were opened for their inspection. One held the remains of 70 children, and the other of about 200 women. All the bodies were badly charred. Further on was a small prison that, Members were told, had been used only for children. This prison was destroyed. Local inhabitants stated that since the liberation the area of the storehouse and of the adjoining graves had been bombed frequently, and they believed that this was because the Americans were trying to destroy the evidence of the crimes that had been committed. In visiting the graves, Members of the Commission had to step around several large bomb craters.

Song Chun Ok, aged 42, of 8 San Dzen Ri Street, said that all her family had been killed. Her young children had been killed with axes and knives. She said: "I will go to the front and do anything until the whole of Korea is free of Americans." She added: "It was not only the American soldiers who did these things. It was English soldiers too."

Later, a group of 50 women, some from villages as far as 40 km. from Sinchen, came to meet the Members of the Commission. Each of these women was anxious to describe her own personal experiences, but lack of time made it impossible to give a hearing to more than a comparatively small number.

Kim Yen, a woman of 64 from the village of Kim Dze Ri, said that her daughter Pen Dong Nan, aged 34, was arrested for being an active peasant. An American officer told the daughter that it would be wasteful to use a bullet on her. The daughter was then bound hand and foot and a bayonet was stuck through the two-year-old child which she carried on her back and then into her own body. When she shouted "Long live Kim Ir Sen and the Republic," her tongue was cut out and she was buried alive. Kim Yen said that she learned the details of her daughter's end from a Syngman Rhee soldier who boasted to her that he himself had performed these brutalities under the orders of an American officer. In addition, Kim Yen said that her son-in-law, his mother and brothers and her own two grandchildren, aged 15 and 17, were also murdered.

Yu Tong Dze, a woman of 41 from the village of Kwon Chou, told Members of the Commission that 35,000 innocent people had been killed in her district. In her village 175 were killed. Among them were 18 members of her own family, including her husband and



her youngest child who was five months old. She herself was arrested but later released. She said that in her village there were both English and American soldiers and both behaved like beasts. She said that she saw with her own eyes how American and English troops threw innocent people in the river. Asked how she knew the nationality of the men, she said that she knew the difference between British and American uniforms. She asked: "Do they have no pity in England? Do they believe in killing little children?" She stated that when the American troops retreated they said to the inhabitants of her village: "Come south with us, for we shall throw the atom bomb on North Korea and everything will be destroyed." Then, when the people left their village to go south, they were machine-gunned from the air.

Ni Yu Nye, from San Gen Ri, said that her daughter and son-in-law had been killed. Her daughter was a teacher. The witness said that neither was shot, but that both were beaten to death with sticks.

Pak On In, aged 22, from the village of Sa Ok Ri, said her husband was arrested along with his three brothers who were peasants. They were all killed. She herself saw with her own eyes an eighteen-year-old girl, called Kim Yen Sun being violated and then killed. She said that this was done by American and British soldiers. She said that some people had hot irons put into their nostrils and were led through the streets by the Americans and British. She knew a man, a peasant, to whom this was done. His name was Lee San Sun. She herself succeeded in running away and hiding on a hill. Later she found the body of her husband. His head had been beaten open and he had been burned.

Li Di Ye, aged 30, of 3 Chek So Ri Street, said that her husband was a gardener. She said that when the American soldiers came to arrest him, they told her that they would exterminate all North Koreans. She said that in her street there were 100 families, and out of these 90 had been killed by the Americans. She herself was arrested with her two children, but in the course of being transferred from one prison to another she managed to escape. She tried to go to Phyöngyang, was caught again, and the Americans ordered her to be shot, but a Syngman Rhee soldier allowed her to escape. She stated that she saw North Korean prisoners of war put into a field, petrol poured over them, and they were burned alive.

Kim Suk Sen from the village of Say San Ri said that her children were taken and killed because she herself was an active member of the women's organisation. Her husband was also killed. Her daughter, Kim Chun Dza, aged 20, who was studying nursing, had nails put into her ear; a drum was then fastened on to her back and she was forced through the streets naked. The daughter was then put into prison, U.S. soldiers tried to violate her, she resisted and was bayoneted. The mother found her body, which was mutilated and cut in two.

Kim Suk Sen stated that when the U.S. forces came to the town they organised a brothel. They caught young girls and women and took them forcibly. The witness stated that the pretty girls were taken for the American and British officers and soldiers and the others for the Syngman Rhee troops. She stated that she knew that three girls who had been in this brothel were still alive. The others were killed. In her village there had been 140 houses, and a total of 240 people had been killed.

Hwan Ik Su, aged 14, from the village of San Chen Ri, said that seven of her family of eleven were killed by U.S., British and Canadian soldiers. She herself was arrested because her father, who was a miner, was an active worker. She was taken to prison with her mother and her two brothers. She herself was beaten and showed the marks on her legs to Members of the Commission. The family were taken to a shed on which petrol was poured, but before the shed could be set on fire they were freed by partisans. Among the partisans she met a man who had been with her father, but who had himself managed to escape. This man told her that her father had been bayoneted in five places and that his head had been crushed. The American invaders led her brother through the streets with a rope around his neck and then buried him alive. with five other members of the family.

During their travels in the province of Whang Hai, the Members of the Commission saw destroyed cities and burned-down villages everywhere.

**The above was signed by all Members of the Commission who visited the province of Whang Hai.**

**May 26, 1951**

## CHAPTER IV

Members of the Commission: Gillette Ziegler (France), Fatma Ben Sliman (Tunisia), Abassia Fodil (Algeria), Li-thi-Que (Viet-Nam), Ida Bachmann (Denmark) Kate Fleron Jacobsen (Denmark, Observer), visited Nampho and Kangse in Southern Phyöngyang Province.

The city of Nampho had 60,000 inhabitants before the bombings. Now about 50 per cent are left.

We were informed by the head of the People's Committee of Southern Phyöngyang Province, Sok Chan Nam, that there had been no war industries, the main industries being glass, textiles, porcelain, foodstuffs and chemical fertilizers. Although Nampho is a seaport on the Yellow Sea, it has no great importance as a harbour, either for the purposes of trade or warfare, because the water is very shallow.

The city had consisted of 20,000 buildings, now practically destroyed. There had been one technical college, one agricultural college and a theatre, now all destroyed. The 13 hospitals of the city had all been marked with the Red Cross but they had nevertheless been so badly destroyed by incendiary bombs that only one of them can be repaired. Of 26 schools only two are left for use, and only one of the many churches, a small one, has escaped destruction.

The American occupation of Nampho lasted from October 22 to December 5, 1950. During that time, many buildings were burned, and all foodstuffs were destroyed. The Americans maltreated the population, 1,511 persons were brutally killed, more than half of them women and children.

Nampho has been bombed continually, but the most terrible bombing took place on May 6, 1951. We drove round the city, stopping in many places. Wherever we looked we saw that almost all houses were completely destroyed, craters in the ground, heaps of rubbish and some chimneys being all that indicated the former existence of homes. In every place we stopped people gathered around us, telling us the story of their recent tragedy, the losses of their nearest relatives and their homes, and showing us their wounds caused by torture inflicted by the Americans.

One section of the city, Young Dong Ri, had been turned into a graveyard. Every family had lost three or four, even up to ten members. Of this section, located partly on a hillside, no wall remained standing; of the trees only shining charcoal stumps remained.

In this same section, 16 patients had been killed when the hospital had been struck by incendiary bombs on May 6th. In another section of the city, we visited an emergency hospital for the treatment of serious burns, which had been constructed deep under the surface of the earth. It consisted of a low naked passage of about one and a half metres in width, cut into the rock, making room for 17 beds.

Standing at the edge of a bomb crater, a man, Li Tong Wha, 42, said: "There was my home. I lost six members of my family—my wife, my two children and three other relatives—in the May 6 bombing. We Koreans will defend our country, and we hope the International Women's Organisation will defend the cause of Korea." Another man, Kim Su Yong, lost all ten members of his family. He said: "All Koreans are like one man. I cannot express my feelings, but I hope the world will understand." Others cried for revenge.

The large area of Nampho was bombed on April 21, 1951, in the middle of the day. Forty-eight persons were killed and much foodstuff destroyed. Now the market was almost empty.

The fertiliser factory, one of the largest of North Korea, was bombed by Americans for six hours (9 p.m. to 3 a.m.) on August 31, 1950. Of the 900 workers, 300 were killed and the huge buildings were heavily damaged, many of them beyond repair.

In the afternoon we met several eyewitnesses, among whom were the following: two children, Kim Sun Ok, girl, 13, and Kim Kwon Ho, boy, both from the orphanage. When the Americans came to Nampho they tried to force the children to be christened. Those who refused were deprived of food and tortured. Before their departure, the Americans spread propaganda that the Chinese volunteers would kill the children, and Americans would throw atomic bombs on North Korea.

Guon Tal Son, 44, who did not belong to any political party, was the owner of a grain mill, employing ten workers. When the Americans came they confiscated the entire stock of grain, and on their departure they destroyed everything. Misled by the propaganda of the Americans, Guon Tai Son followed the American troops. Along with some compatriots he set out for Haiju, near the 38th parallel, where many refugees gathered. The Americans machine-gunned the crowds, and thousands of people were killed, he said.

Ho Young Yuk, 46, a Protestant clergyman, told us that there had been 4,500 Christians in Nampho. These also had let themselves be misled by the American propaganda. The congregation of the Church on Yang Ri, for instance, was among 1,500 persons who prepared to leave Nampho by boat on December 5th. The Americans

opened fire on them from the sea and attacked them with machine guns from the air. The Christians, thinking it was a mistake, began to sing hymns—but the Americans continued shooting and killed 275 persons.

Kim Kwon Tai, 48, a member of the Peasants' Union, was arrested on account of this membership. The Americans had beaten his legs and hands, and as a result of this torture his fingers were crippled and he would never be able to walk properly again. His wife and daughter were also beaten by the Americans. His wife's nose had been broken when she was beaten with an iron rod.

In the town of Kangse a considerable part of the buildings, including a big boys' school, has been destroyed. In the country district of Sinchen, 1,551 persons were murdered by the Americans during their occupation from October 20 to December 7th. Of these 1,384 were killed by shooting (932 males, 452 females, among them were 454 children under eight); 57 were killed by hanging (42 men, 15 women); 50 were buried alive (30 men, 20 women); 35 were beaten to death with clubs (25 men, 10 women); 35 were burned to death (32 men, 3 women), and so on. This information was given us by the head of the People's Committee, Li Yung Suk, in the presence of about 40 of the survivors, men and women.

Based on the accounts of the many witnesses we heard, we can state that the Americans arrested people for the following "crimes": for being patriots, for having relatives in the People's Army, for belonging to the Peasants' Union or other democratic organisations, such as the Consumers' Co-operative, or for having relatives who belonged to these. (A man who had worked in the co-operative store showed numerous scars on both legs

which had been burnt by the Americans with red-hot iron rods).

The Americans took to the mountains those of their 1,561 victims who had not died as a result of torture, shooting some and burying the others alive. The mass graves were found shortly after the retreat of the Americans, pointed out by local peasants who had been forced by the Americans to dig the graves before the killing took place.

The mass graves were found in the following places: Tainchang Mo, Muyon Ri, Wha San Bong, Chang Tai Kwan, Chong So Myen, Lika Myen, and Tong Kul Myen.

From the mountain Tainchang Mo we could see many of the mass graves on the surrounding mountains and hills. Accompanied by the head of the People's Committee and a large gathering of mothers, wives, fathers and children of the victims, we stood by the mass graves on this mountain. Some of the bodies had been identified by relatives and removed to a mountain on the opposite side of the valley, where they were buried in mounds, which we also saw.

When the mass graves were opened in December 1950, it was possible to settle the method by which each one had been murdered. In our presence some of the unidentified bodies were uncovered. Now, after five and a half months, the exact nature of the wounds could not be determined. We saw the hands of the corpses tied on their backs, the skulls of some had been crushed, and we found American cartridges, bloody rags, hair, ropes, shoes and pieces of clothing. By the straight black hair and the characteristic clothes on the corpses it was easily recognised by us that the victims were Korean peasants.



On this mountain alone were eight mass graves, one of which was 80 metres long, another was 70 metres long, deep enough for two layers of bodies. Other graves were shorter but much deeper (about 5 metres).

Apart stood a small mound, where the Koreans had buried the dead bodies of 20 children found in the mass graves with their mothers.

One of the women who had accompanied us to the mountain, Tang Buk Tong, 44, told us that she had found her brother's body sitting in the grave with his head between his knees and his hands tied behind his back. She added that what she had seen when the graves had been opened was so dreadful that she could hardly look upon it—corpses with open eyes, mothers killed with their babies on their backs, etc.

Another of the several eyewitnesses who spoke up, a man named Kim Ki Sun, 58, told us that his son, his daughter-in-law and their son had been buried alive by the Americans while he was in hiding. He had traced the place and had himself dug up the dead bodies, hands tied behind their backs.

We asked the people whether the torture and murder had been committed by Americans only or if there had been Syngman Rhee troops among them. The answer was: "In this district there were only Americans. They did it."

During the day we heard many alerts, due to the fact that we were near the coast where the American planes constantly prevent the fisherman from going out, in this way trying to deprive the Korean people of food. Only by night a few boats can venture out.

During the American occupation of this district, 15,860 sacks of grain were destroyed by the Americans

by fire, and the Americans took away 23,453 sacks when they left.

All the cattle, pigs, chickens and ducks and even horses were slaughtered and eaten by the Americans. In the autumn of 1950 when the grain was ready to be harvested, the Americans destroyed 4,300 hectares\*) of rice fields and 2,100 hectares of other grain fields by incendiary bombs.

N.B. In Nampho it was not possible for the inhabitants, who told us their stories, to give us their addresses, since streets and houses were wiped out. But they gave their names and can easily be identified.

**The above was signed by all Members of  
the Commission who visited the Southern  
Phyöngyang Province.**

**May 27th, 1951**

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\* ) Hectare = 2.47 acres.

## CHAPTER V.

A group of delegates, Liu Ching-yang (China), Germaine Hannevard (Belgium), Elisabetta Gallo (Italy) and Miluse Svatosova (Czechoslovakia), visited the village of Madzen Ri (150 km. from Phyöngyang, 48 km. from Wonsan), in the district of Mon Chen, province of North Kong Won, and the port of Wonsan in the same province.

The delegation passed through the cities of Phyöngyang and Kang Tong and Sang Tong, which were almost completely destroyed. They also passed through the bathing resort of Yangtok, famous for its springs. Yangtok was now reduced to a mass of rubble and ruins, among which were the remains of a secondary school.

We saw the peasants cultivating their fields during the night, because during the day the American planes attack them with machine guns. The fields were cultivated with care.

In Madzen Ri, the peasants told us the government plan for spring agricultural work had been fulfilled ahead of time in spite of the fact that they had to work by night.

In the environs of Madzen, the delegates saw large areas of mountain forest that had been burnt by American incendiary bombs which are dropped on the mountains, forests, fields and villages.

The inhabitants of Madzen told us that on the night of May 23<sup>rd</sup>, American planes had thrown three bombs on their village and destroyed several houses.

A peasant, Kim Song Il, stated that the Americans occupied the village of Madzen from October 14th till December 5th, 1950. They invaded the village after five days' fighting with the People's Army. During the entire

occupation, the Americans were encircled by the People's army and to strengthen their position they burnt all the surrounding villages, arrested the inhabitants who had not fled and imprisoned them in a temporary prison in Madzen. After a few days they set free a number of women who escaped to the mountains or hid in the ruins of their houses. In all, about 500 of the inhabitants were imprisoned: 54 were killed; 76 were sent to Wonsan and have not yet been found. All the imprisoned women were beaten by the Americans, and 20 of them were raped. Kim Song Il maintained that the only South Koreans who came with the Americans were some interpreters and no Syngman Rhee troops.

In the village of Kum Ri, 14 km. from Madzen, the Americans threw hand grenades into a bomb shelter where the inhabitants had taken refuge, and killed nine old men, women and children.

After the Americans were driven out, the inhabitants disinterred the victims and learned how they had been killed:

- 1) by explosion of cartridges in their mouths,
- 2) by splitting their heads with axes,
- 3) by burying them alive.

Among those who witnessed the exhumation were Kim Song Il, See Woon, former chairman of the People's Committee, Tzeng Seng Kal, Yang Ki Whan and others. Soon after their retreat the Americans burned down the village by incendiary bombs. The heaviest bombardments took place on December 15 and 20, 1950. During these bombardments the entire family of the peasant Ki Son (consisting of 10 people) was killed, including 7 children, and 10 people (including 4 children) were machine-gunned from the aeroplane.

Kim Puh Chen, 43 years old, a mother of 4 children, told the Members of the Commission that the Americans persecuted the population as “Communists.” The Americans arrested her husband, who was vice-chairman of the People’s Committee in the village of Ko Ri. He was severely beaten over the head and back with wooden sticks and rifle butts, and carried half-dead to Wonsan, where he died from wounds. The village chairman of the People’s Committee was buried alive and his old father was shot. Kim Puh Chen said: “The chairman of the Women’s Organisation in Ko Ri, Tzen Man Suk, 31 years of age, was arrested by the Americans as a ‘red’ and violated for two days in succession.”

Cha Ok Sun, a woman of 27, mother of two children, told us that her husband had been working at the post office at Ko Ri, and she herself had cultivated their little field. The Americans imprisoned both of them with their two children, the younger only one year of age, and beat them, accusing them of being a “red family.” She never saw her husband again. During several days in prison she received only two bowls of rice. Consequently she could no longer feed her baby. The Americans then took her to Wonsan. While in prison in Wonsan she saw that the American soldiers chose several girls each night and violated them. After twenty days in the Wonsan prison she was freed by the People’s Army.

Kan Yu Han, a peasant woman from Ko Ri, 28 years of age and mother of a child of 18 months, told us that she had fled to the mountains before the Americans arrived. On the very day she returned in order to look after the harvesting, she was imprisoned with her child. She was whipped because she could keep her baby from

crying from hunger. After four days of solitary confinement she was taken to Wonsan and put in an underground prison, with her baby, and from here she was freed by the People's Army.

Wonsan is port on the Sea of Japan, and the capital province of Northern Kang Won. The president of the Party of Labour of the province, Che Kwan Yol gave us the following information:

“Before the war, Wonsan had 123,127 inhabitants. Of these only 57,667 remain. And of 27,345 houses and public buildings only 9,257 remain, and all of these are more or less damaged.

The American occupation lasted from October 14th until December 9th, 1950., From that date until March 31, 1951., Wonsan was attacked by 275 bombers (B-29's) and 917 fighter-planes, which dropped 838 high-explosive bombs and machine-gunned the houses and inhabitants 3,519 times. During this time warships shelled the city 487 times. The victims number 518 wounded and 498 killed, of them 255 male, and 243 female, including 241 children.

During our stay in Wonsan, the warships repeatedly fired at the city and its environs. The cannonade grew particularly strong during the night between May 23 and 24. According to official information, 6,752 shells were fired during the night, 65 public buildings and 49 private houses, already damaged, were completely burned and destroyed. Eleven inhabitants were killed, four were wounded seriously, and three received lighter wounds.

We paid a visit to the shelled section of the city located close to the oil refinery which had been completely destroyed. In that place we examined several high-explosive and incendiary shells.

Each house was nothing but a mass of rubble, which in many places was still smoking. Just before our arrival, the dead bodies of a mother and her two children had been dug out. We saw the charred corpse of this woman wrapped in straw for burial. Most of the inhabitants who had found refuge in bomb shelters were working to clear away the wreckage.

While we were there, three air alarms forced us to seek shelter in the dugouts in the mountainside, the only kind of habitation left for the people. We visited such a “town”, Chun Chong Ri. It consisted entirely of caves, cut into the slopes of the ravines. The entrance was camouflaged with a network of branches, the inhabitants being afraid of having their caves discovered and machine-gunned from the air.

Kwon Chin Lu, chairman of the Democratic Women’s Federation of the province of Kang Won, read the following official report to us:

“The attacks on the province of Kang Won began early July, 1950. Besides a great many other buildings, the following have been destroyed:

“1) On July 13, 1950, the rest home for workers, where 168 workers were killed, Elementary School No. 13, the central hospital, the Red Cross hospital, where the head nurse was killed, also hospital No. 1, where three patients and two nurses were killed.

“2) On August 13, 1950, the teachers’ college and the railway workshop (bombed from eight aeroplanes, type B-29). More than a hundred workers were killed.

“3) On August 15, 1950, the oil refinery (it has been bombed several times since), and the shipyards.

“4) On September 13, 1950, Secondary School No. 3 for girls, and the provincial central theatre were hit.

“5) On January 25, 1951, the city library.

“Neither schools nor hospitals are left in Wonsan now. Teaching is done in small groups; the teachers go from one group to another in the various parts of the city. In the districts located nearest to the 38th parallel, not one habitable house exists. From June 25, 1950, until March 31, 1951, 2,298 women and 2,292 children were killed in the province of Kang Won alone, 676 children have lost both parents.”

Of the atrocities committed by the Americans during their occupation of this province from October 9 until December 11, Kwon Chin Lu gave the following official information:

“In the town of Chelwon, 1,500 civilians were killed, of whom 130 were buried alive in the shelter to which they had been ordered to go.

“In the village of Kalma (district of Kalma, county of Chelwon) the peasant Om Son Ho and his family, including six children, were bayoneted by the Americans.

“In the village of Sa Ki (district of Chelwon, region of Chelwon) many civilians were buried alive, including a child of three who was still alive when, the grave was reopened.

In the village of Ok Tong Ri (district of Pyong Kang), the peasant Le Dong Cho’s daughter-in-law, 23 years of age and eight months pregnant, was taken by the Americans. She was undressed and exposed publicly, tied to a tree. Her abdomen was cut open and the baby taken out.

“In the village of Mih Yen (district of An To, county of An Pyen), three women belonging to the family of the peasant Se Yang Son were taken to a shelter and when they defended themselves against the Americans who wanted to rape them, their breasts were cut off, and



they were killed, having red-hot irons thrust into their vaginas.

“The woman Che Ok Li, aged 42, living in Rong Son Ri Street, in Wonsan, was raped by 14 Americans in succession. She is still alive, but is too ill to leave her bed. She now lives in the village of Ro Kok (I Tong district, Chelwon county).

“Kim Hyo Sun, aged 32, and her child were arrested by the Americans on November 3. She was undressed by them, had bayonet thrust through her abdomen and afterwards shot. The child died from hunger by her side.

“In the province of Kang Won alone, which had 130,000 inhabitants, 2,903 women have been raped by Americans and Syngman Rhee troops.”

The Members of the Commission talked to other witnesses:

Cheng Kyeng Hwa, widow, aged 49, a Protestant missionary, told us that her daughter-in-law, Yun Sun Se, 25, was awakened in the night and put into a car. She fled into the rice fields, was chased, violated and shot. Cheng’s brother, Cheng Chung Kwan, and her sister-in-law, Pak Kyeng Ryel, were killed by machine-gun fire from an aeroplane when walking in the street, the first on December 24, the second on December 29, Cheng Kyeng Hwa is bringing up their six children.

Sin Yenk Ok, 46, a peasant woman living in Kyeng San Street in Wonsan, said that her daughter-in-law, aged 25 and in the 9th month of her pregnancy, was arrested on November 18, 1950. She was beaten for being a “red” (she had been president of the district Democratic Women’s Organisation for 2 years); five days later she was exposed publicly at the town square. Her child, about to be born, was killed when a rod was thrust into her womb. The mother died at once. The

was done by two Americans and one Syngman Rhee man.

Eyewitnesses who were forced to be present during the execution were Lin Pek Man and Kim On Yo.

The husband of this woman, Pak Chan Yen, was beaten and shot at, and is now dying from his wounds.

The husband of this woman, Pak Chan Yen, 26 years of age, was beaten and shot at, and is now dying from his wounds.

Kim Sen Hi, 55, resident of Wonsan, told the Members of the Commission that on November 21, 1950, five American soldiers forced their way into the house of Sin Bon Kin, a Christian, widower, while he himself was away, and raped his oldest daughter, Sin Hwa Sun, 21 years old, while her two young sisters were present. When the two small children fled crying, they were killed in front of the neighbours. Their older sister died three days later.

Li Kum Sun, a peasant woman aged 38, member of the women's organisation, living in Sedon Ri (in the city of Wonsan) told us that she was arrested with her month-old infant on October 25, 1950. She was taken to Kal Ma Ri suburb, in the town of Wonsan. Every night she was beaten on the back and stomach when she was brought for interrogation. On November 10 she was freed. Five days later her child died. On November 20, her husband was arrested, tortured for seven days, then taken away. After the liberation Li Kum Sun discovered her husband's body in a valley near Chong Chen Ri, district of Se Won, in the county of An Pyen, together with 38 other bodies. Their hands were tied behind their backs, and their left eyes shot out.

**Signed by all Members of the Commission  
who visited the province of North Kang  
Won.**

**9 May 26, 1851.**

## CHAPTER VI

The Northern part of the Korean People's Republic was visited by a group consisting of the following Members of the Commission: Hilde Cahn (German Democratic Republic), Lilly Waechter (Western Germany), Bai Lang (China); Trees Soenito Heyligers (Netherlands).

The route followed was from Phyöngyang to Kaichen, thence to Hichen, Kangge, Mampo, and back to Phyöngyang.

On the way from Phyöngyang to Kaichen, the Members of the Commission saw four small towns, which were almost completely destroyed; also many burned-down villages and peasant dwellings. The Members, in the whole course of their journey, did not see one town that had not been destroyed, and there were very few undamaged villages.

The Members of the Commission saw six forest fires, two of which were ignited before their eyes—one between Phyöngyang and Kaichen, and the second between Hichen and Kaichen. On both occasions a plane was heard, Members of the Commission saw light flashing upwards from the ground, and immediately afterwards they saw a blazing fire that suddenly began to spread rapidly. The Members saw the branches of the trees catching fire. In the course of this journey they noticed many mountainsides that had been burned black by forest fires.

Kaichen district contains the town of Kaichen and five villages. The district is situated in the northern part of the province of Phyöngyang Nam Do. The chairman of the regional People's Committee, Kim Beng Ho, gave Members the following information:

On the twenty-first of October, 1950, Kaichen was occupied by the 26th and 27th armoured divisions of the U.S. Army, reinforced by troops from other participating countries. Kim Beng Ho particularly noticed British, Australian, Canadian and Turkish troops, and a few hundred Syngman Rhee troops. Altogether there were 80,000 to 90,000 men. The occupation lasted for 40 days.

Kaichen district had 13,000 houses; over 6,500 were destroyed, most of them by bombing and others by the retreating forces who set them on fire. The rest of the houses are damaged.

Before June 1950, there were 7,600 oxen and cows, of which only 2,200 are left; 7,800 pigs, of which 300 are left; over 100,000 hens and chickens, of which only 1,000 remain.

Kim Beng Ho stated that in spite of the fact that so many oxen were taken away by the Americans and that most of the men are with the People's Army, the women had the crops sown three weeks earlier than the usual time.

Before being destroyed, Kaichen had a high school, 6 middle schools and 31 primary schools; one library, one theatre and 13 hospitals and clinics. All these institutions were destroyed. It is impossible to rebuild them because of the constant bombing.

The district had over 80,000 inhabitants of whom 80% were peasants. The number of inhabitants is now about 60,000 scattered over the countryside. In the Kaichen district the Americans killed 1,342 people by shooting, burning or beating them to death. As far as it is known, over 800 women were raped, but many women are ashamed to tell. Members of the Commission asked if Kim Beng Ho were sure that these crimes are

committed by American troops. He answered, yes, he was quite sure they were Americans and no other soldiers,

By way of example he related this incident: during the occupation of the district by American and other troops he himself was a partisan. One of the partisans was a well-known organiser Kim Ke Sun, 31 years old. He lost all his family. His wife Ree Whak Sil, who was with child, was arrested by the Americans and questioned about her husband. As she refused to give information, they tortured her; they cut off her left arm and then her right leg and finally opened her womb and took out the child. The four children of this family were locked in the house and burned to death. Kim Ke Sun, when he came back, saw the bodies and heard the story from neighbours.

A woman called Ree Djin Hyeng, who is living in the town of Kaichen, at 20 Ma Dyan Ri Street, gave Members of the Commission the following information:

Her younger sister, who had been decorated by the government for excellent work as a peasant, had been an official in the women's democratic movement of the district. Before the American troops arrived, Ree urged her sister to flee with her, but as an official she would not leave and so Ree went on alone with the children of both women. When the younger sister did not come, Ree went back with her 8-year-old son to see what had happened to her. She found her dead body, naked and tied to a tree. Neighbours told her that her sister had been beaten by the Americans and questioned as to her husband and her organisation. When she refused to answer, they tortured her with electricity for several days and forced the population to look on. One 8-year-

old boy in a rage threw himself on the soldiers and was shot.

Ree Djin Hyeng was also arrested but she concealed her relation to her sister and so managed to save her life. Ree told the Members of the Commission that she had seen many other cruelties, the story of her sister being only one. She confirmed that the Americans hunted women and girls, taking them in their jeeps to their brothels. Ree and other young women escaped by smearing their faces with ashes and dressing like old women.

In the almost completely destroyed town of Kaichen, the Members of the Commission saw, among other things, one of the bombed hospitals, the roof still showing the Red Cross. A representative of the women's democratic organisation in the town said that 500 Korean citizens were killed and burned in one district of the town alone.

A crowd of women and children, gathered around the Members of the Commission, urging them to listen to their stories. Many of these women were very excited, weeping and clasping our hands. Time did not permit hearing them all. Members of the Commission noted the following names and facts:

Cha You Suk, an old woman, said that when the Americans came, her wounded son, who had fought in the People's Army, was at home, dressed in uniform. He was shot before her eyes.

A young woman, Kim I Suk, said that her husband, a Peasant Union leader, had been killed. She fled with her baby on her back. American soldiers caught her, dashed the baby to the ground and trod it to death.

O In Bun said that her daughter Kim Yung Dju, 28 years old, was raped by several American soldiers who later drowned her.

Ree Sun Sil, a young woman, was kept for 12 days, quite naked, in a room with many American soldiers.

Kil Ryong Nye, 20 years old, living in Kaichen, Buk Bumyen Street, said that her brother and sister-in-law were killed by the Americans.

Hong Yung Bok, 37 years old, living in Kaichen, 472 Hyen Ryong Ri Street, stated that her husband was shot.

Kim Ryong Sil, 34 years old, living in Kaichen, 472 Ryang Hen Ri Street, said that her son was killed.

Rim Un Dju, 30 years old, living in Kaichen, 57 Chung Hung Ri Street, tells that her brother was killed by the Americans.

Choy Sen Cho, 34 years old, living in Kaichen, on Sen Po Ri Street, said that the Americans shot her husband.

Members of the Commission went to an orphans' home in the country, where 48 children are now being cared for. They had been rescued from the bombed town. One little boy of about six, had become deaf and dumb from shell shock. His name and those of his relatives are still unknown.

In Kaichen, Members of the Commission met Ree Sen Sil, chairman of the Democratic Women's Organisation in a village north of Kaichen. She stated among other things that in her village a few weeks ago an American plane dived and opened machine-gun fire on three men working with their oxen in the field. Two men and the three oxen were killed; the third man was badly wounded.



Kangge is situated in the province of Tza Kangdo. Mr. Ree Chow Sen, chairman of the provincial People's Committee, gave us the following information:

This most northern province of Korea is sparsely inhabited, largely by peasants. The enemy had occupied only part of the province. The People's Government of this province does everything possible to help refugees, but the problem of how to give everyone food and shelter is a very difficult one. The difficulties were increased by the American planes, machine-gunning the people fleeing north, and killing the cattle on the roads and in the fields.

The town of Kangge had 40,000 inhabitants. There were two colleges for the training of teachers, one college of forestry, a high school and two middle schools, four primary schools, two theatres. Of all these cultural institutions, only the middle school for boys is still standing and it is damaged. The health centre was destroyed by the Americans in spite of the Red Cross on the roof.

The town had two Protestant churches and one Roman Catholic church, a temple of Confucius and a Chen Do church. All were destroyed. The Christian section of the population at first tried to find shelter in and near the churches. They expected the Americans would spare these buildings. Not only the town of Kangge, but even the smallest peasant dwellings in the mountains are bombed and burned by the American planes.

The Members of the Commission were informed that the only possible military objectives in the area, the railroad and the station, had already been destroyed on the 9th of October, 1950. Yet the town of Kangge was heavily bombed and nearly completely destroyed on

December 12th, 1950. The American planes dropped mainly incendiary bombs and afterwards time-bombs, which exploded at various times up to 20 days after they were dropped. In the beginning of February 1951, new heavy bombing of the already destroyed city followed. This time mainly time-bombs were used so that for the following 20 days the inhabitants did not dare to enter the town.

The Members of the Commission visited the almost completely destroyed town of Kangge and spoke to the city surgeon, Dr. Baik Ki Dje, who stated, that before the city hospital was bombed on December 12th, 1950, the Red Cross on the roof of the building had been machine-gunned by low-flying American planes.

After the bombing of December 12th, 1950, Dr. Baik himself took care of about 100 wounded persons. After the bombing in February 1951, he saw the bodies of over 200 people. Dr. Baik stated also that he had repeatedly seen American planes bombing peasant dwellings. He told, for example, how the house of the peasant Pak Hoo Ryong was bombed, and that in this house 10 persons were killed.

Members of the Commission asked Dr. Baik how the government managed to avoid epidemics. The answer was: by vaccinations on a large scale, the medicines for which are sent by friends of the Korean people from various parts of the world.

Members of the Commission met in Kangge three peasant women who had heard of our stay in the town and came to thank us. One of them said: "I lost my husband and two of my four children in the bombing. I will avenge them by working, so that our People's Army can get what it needs to drive the Americans out, and then we will have peace again."

Mampo is situated at the frontier between Korea and China.

People's Committee chairman Lee told the Members of the Commission that this city had 12,700 inhabitants. It has only some light industries in wood and in textiles. Mampo had two heavy bombings; on November 12, 1950, it was almost completely destroyed. Members of the Commission, visiting the ruins, noticed an unusually large number of fragments of incendiary bombs lying around. On December 7, 1950, the already destroyed town was bombed again by the Americans and in this bombing more than 350 persons were killed by incendiary and high-explosive bombs. Members of the Commission saw a bomb crater that was at least 7 m. deep. Mampo had also many cultural institutions; among other ruins Members of the Commission noticed the remains of a big school building and of the theatre.

Here, as in the other ruined cities, the inhabitants live in dugouts and cellars. Members of the Commission saw such a dwelling, part of a former cellar, and completely dark, in which were two small children, the youngest two years of age. They are being taken care of by an older brother of about 13. The Members of the Commission learned from him and from neighbours that the father, a worker on the railroad, and the mother were killed in the bombing of December 7th, 1950. Mr. Lee stated that the People's Government takes care first of all of those children who have nobody to look after them.

**Signed by all Members of the group visiting  
Kaichen, Hichen, Kangge and Mampo.**

**May 27, 1951.**

## CONCLUSION

After the observations made by the Members of the Commission in different parts of Korea, the Commission has reached the following conclusions:

The people of Korea are being subjected by the American occupants to a merciless and methodical campaign of extermination, which is in contradiction not only to the principles of humanity, but also to the rules of warfare as laid down, for instance, in The Hague and the Geneva Conventions. This is being done in the following ways:

a) By the systematic destruction of food, food stores and food factories. Forests and ripe harvests are being systematically burned by incendiary bombs, fruit trees are being destroyed, and peasants' working in their fields with their animals are being killed by machine-gun fire from low-flying planes. By these means the whole people of Korea is doomed to starvation.

b) By the systematic destruction of town after town, of village after village, many of which by no stretch of the imagination could be considered to be military objectives or even industrial centres.

The aim of this systematic destruction is clearly, in the first place, to break the morale of the Korean population and, secondly, to wear them out physically. In these never-ceasing raids, dwellings, hospitals, schools, etc., are deliberately destroyed. Even towns which have already been turned into heaps of ashes, and in which the surviving inhabitants are reduced to living in dugouts, continue to be bombed.

c) By systematically employing against the peaceful inhabitants weapons banned by international convention, i.e., incendiaries, petrol bombs, napalm

bombs, time-bombs, and by constantly machine-gunning civilians from low-flying planes.

d) By atrociously exterminating the Korean population. In the districts temporarily occupied by American and Syngman Rhee forces, in the period of occupation, hundreds of thousands of civilians, entire families from old men to little children, have been tortured, beaten to death, burned and buried alive. Thousands of others have perished from hunger and cold in over-crowded prisons in which they were thrown without charges being levelled against them, without investigation, trial or sentence.

These mass tortures and mass murders surpass the crimes committed by Hitler nazis in temporarily-occupied Europe.

Evidence given by all civilians questioned points to the fact that nearly all these crimes were either perpetrated by U.S. soldiers and officers or else on the order of U.S. officers. Therefore the full responsibility for these atrocities falls on the U.S. Supreme Command in Korea, i.e., on General MacArthur, General Ridgway and other commanders of the invading forces who call themselves the Forces of the UNO. Although these atrocities have been performed under the command of generals in the field, the full responsibility for them must also rest with the governments who sent their troops to Korea and whose representatives to the U.N. gave their votes in favour of the war in Korea.

The Commission expresses its belief that those responsible for the crimes committed against the Korean people must be charged as war criminals as defined by the Allied Declaration of 1943, and must be brought to trial by the peoples of the world, as was defined by the same Declaration.

The Commission calls on all the peoples of the world, in the name of common humanity, to urge by every means in their power that the war in Korea be brought to an end without delay and that the invading foreign troops be immediately withdrawn from Korea.

The Commission also urges all the peoples of the world to organise immediate help for the Korean people, who are threatened by hunger and disease as a result of the atrocious crimes committed by the American invading forces on Korean territory.

The Commission asks the Women's International Democratic Federation to send this document to the Governments of all the countries of the world, to all women's organisations throughout the world, irrespective of whether they are members of the Federation or not, to the World Peace Council, to all organisations fighting for peace, to all social organisations, and public leaders, regardless of their political or religious views, who hold dear the cause of peace.

The Commission urgently asks the WIDF to forward the report of the Women's International Commission for the investigation of the atrocities committed by U.S.A. and Syngman Rhee forces in Korea, to the United Nations Organisation.

The report has been compiled in five languages: English, French, Russian, Chinese and Korean.

**Chairman of the Commission:**  
**Nora K. Rodd (Canada)**

**Vice-Chairmen: Liu Ching-yang (China);**  
**Ida Bachmann (Denmark)**

**Secretaries: Miluse Svatosova  
(Czechoslovakia);  
Trees Soenito-Heyligers (Netherlands)**

**Members of Commission:  
Monica Felton (Great Britain),  
Maria Ovsyannikova (U.S.S.R.),  
Bai Lang (China),  
Li Keng (China),  
Gilette Ziegler (France),  
Elisabetta Gallo (Italy),  
Eva Priester (Austria),  
Germaine Hannevard (Belgium),  
Hilde Cahn (German Democratic Republic),  
Lilly Waechter (Western Germany),  
Li-thi-Quê (Viet-Nam),  
Candelaria Rodriguez (Cuba),  
Leonor Aguiar Vazquez (Argentina),  
Fatma Ben Sliman (Tunisia),  
Abassia Fodil (Algeria).**

## **FIFTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FEDERATION, Sofia, June 20- 24, 1951**

The Fifth Session of the Executive Committee of the Women's International Democratic Federation was held in the National Assembly Building in Sofia, Bulgaria, on June 20-24.

The Session discussed the following questions:

1. Report of the Commission of the Women's International Democratic Federation which visited Korea to investigate the atrocities committed by the American invaders.

2. Participation of the Women's International Democratic Federation and its national organisations in the campaign for the conclusion of a Pact of Peace among the five Great Powers.

3. Preparations for the International Conference in Defence of Children.

The report on the first question on the agenda was made by Nora K. Rodd (Canada), chairman of the Commission of the Women's International Democratic Federation for the investigation of the atrocities committed by the American and British interventionists in Korea.

In the discussion which followed the floor was taken by Liu Chin-yang (China), Anna Lungu (Rumania), Stanislawa Zawadecka (Poland), Candelaria Rodriguez (Cuba), Pak Den Ai (Korea), Irene Falcon (Spain), Edith Hoschek (Austria), Nel Boudewyn (Netherlands), Emilienne Brunfaut (Belgium), Agnete Olsen (Denmark),



Giséle Joannes (France), and Zinaida Gagarina (U.S.S.R.).

On the motion of Gita Banerjee, of India, the Session of the Executive Committee unanimously adopted a resolution setting out for all the national organisations of the Women's International Democratic Federation a concrete program of action aimed at rallying the broadest masses of women in all the countries of the world to struggle against the American intervention in Korea.

The Session of the Executive Committee unanimously carried the motion made by the Italian delegation to send a special letter to the Chairman of the United Nations General Assembly, the Chairman of the Security Council and the Secretariat of the United Nations.

In view of the persecution by the British authorities of Monica Felton, who was in Korea as a member of the International Women's Commission, the session of the Executive Committee adopted an Appeal to the British people calling upon the women and men of that country to organise a wide protest movement against the accusations and threats levelled against her.

The Session also sent a letter to Prime Minister Attlee of Great Britain; protesting against the persecution in Britain of Monica Felton, and another to Prime Minister St. Laurent of Canada, asking that all intimidation of Nora K. Rodd, the chairman of the International Women's Commission for the investigation of the atrocities committed by the U.S.A. and British invaders in Korea, be stopped and that she be granted the full democratic right to tell what she saw in Korea. The session condemned any persecution or intimidation of the members of the Commission as an attempt to

suppress the truth and as approval of the crimes committed in Korea by the American and British interventionists.

The report on the second item on the agenda was made by Eugénie Cotton, President of the Women's International Democratic Federation.

The speakers who took part in the ensuing discussion included Li Teh-chuan (China), Elli Schmidt (German Democratic Republic), Dolores Ibarruri (Spain), Sarah Pascual (Cuba), Edith Hoschek (Austria), Constanta Craciun (Rumania), Edwarda Orłowska (Poland), Andrea Andreen (Sweden), Elisabeth Vas (Hungary), Nahid Sina (Iran), Friedel Ledwohn (Western Germany), Helvi Laine (Finland), Anezka Hodinova-Spurna (Czechoslovakia), Leonor Aguiar Vazquez (Argentina), Emilienne Brunfaut (Belgium), Nel Boudewyn (Netherlands), Francoise Leclereg (France), Nina Popova (U.S.S.R.), Fiorella Della Seta (Italy), Beatrice S. Johnson (U.S.A.), Avra Partsalidou (Greece), Gita Banerjee (India), Maria Maddalena Rossi (Italy), and Quibrie Cui (Albania).

By unanimous vote the Session adopted a resolution on the participation of the Federation and its national organisations in the campaign for the collection of signatures to the Appeal of the World Peace Council for the Conclusion of a Pact of Peace among the five Great Powers, and an Appeal to the Women of the World.

On the third item on the agenda, preparations for the International Conference in Defence of Children, the report was made by Carmen Santi (Italy), Secretary of the Women's International Democratic Federation.

In the discussion that followed the Session was addressed by Edith Hoschek (Austria), Rada Todorova (Bulgaria), Louise Ernst (German Democratic Republic), Nel Boudewyn (Netherlands), Magda Joboru (Hungary),

Cecile Burgos (Belgium), Erna Luzius (Western Germany), Luciana Viviani (Italy), Nadezhda Parfyonova (U.S.S.R.), Natalia Scurtu (Rumania), Elli Alexiou (Greece), Justina Alvarez (Cuba), Pierette Fornelli (France), Eugenia Pragerowa (Poland), Anna Liisa Mantykoski (Finland), Bai Lang (China), Gita Banerjee (India), Norjen Lham (Mongolian People's Republic), Nahid Sina (Iran), Elsa Bergamacci (Italy), Vera Liouie (Yugoslavia), and Maria Bernetic (Trieste).

The Session of the Executive Committee unanimously passed a resolution on the preparatory work for the International Conference in Defence of Children, which is to be held in Vienna, Austria, from September 18 to 23 this year.

The Executive Committee of the Women's International Democratic Federation considered an application submitted by the Yugoslav democratic women and decided to co-opt their representatives, Vera Liouic, Bazilka Marianovic and Mira Jovanovic.

## **On the Results of the Work of the Commission of the Women's International Democratic Federation Which Visited Korea to Investigate the Atrocities of the American Invaders**

The report of Mrs. Rodd, chairman of the Commission of the Women's International Democratic Federation which visited Korea to investigate the atrocities perpetrated by the American invaders, as well as the documents and materials presented by the Commission, arouse the profoundest indignation of every member of the Executive Committee against the American interventionists and their British and other allies, who are turning Korea into a desert zone and who are exterminating the Korean people.

The Session of the Executive Committee of the Women's International Democratic Federation approves the work done by the Commission and expresses its appreciation to all members of the Commission, who performed their noble mission in trying conditions, under shell fire and bombing by American aircraft. The Commission toured Korea and inspected her towns and villages, which American planes have reduced to ruins, It examined the bodies of a large number of men, women and children who had been tortured to death or buried alive, visited caves that were used by the Americans as prisons, saw the instruments with which prisoners were tortured, and talked to the Korean population, who supplied the Commission with valuable eyewitness testimony. On the strength of all this, the Commission has incontrovertibly ascertained what monstrous atrocities the American interventionists are

perpetrating in long-suffering, Korea under the flag of the United Nations.

The Session of the Executive Committee considers that the documents submitted by the Commission should be made known to every man and woman, to every boy and girl, in all countries of the world.

The Session calls upon the national organisations to make every effort to have the Commission's report printed in the greatest possible number of publications, not only in their own magazines and those of other progressive national and international organisations, but also, wherever possible, in the general and women's press and in the publications of various pacifist, feminist, religious and other organisations.

While approving the decision of the Secretariat to forward the Commission's findings to the Chairman of the General Assembly of the United Nations, to the Chairman of the Security Council and to the Secretariat of the United Nations, the Session of the Executive Committee directs the Secretariat to also forward the Commission's report to the World Peace Council and to all organisations and civic leaders anxious to promote the cause of peace, irrespective of their political and religious leanings.

The Session recommends that in all those countries where the governments support the American interventionists in Korea, the national organisations send women's mass delegations to their respective governments to present the documents submitted by the Commission, to demand that the persons guilty of the atrocities committed be indicted as War criminals, to demand the immediate termination of their participation in the war against the Korean people and the withdrawal of their troops from Korea.

The Session urges all of the Federation's national organisations, in co-operation with women's organisations not affiliated with the Women's International Democratic broad Federation campaign and with all other public organisations standing for peace, to organise a of protest against the atrocities committed by the American interventionists in Korea, and send letters to the United Nations Organization in support of the demands set forth by the Federation's Secretariat: an immediate stop to the bombing of peaceful Korean towns and villages by the American air force, withdrawal of foreign troops from Korea and according the Korean people an opportunity to decide their own internal affairs, peaceful settlement of the Korean problem by calling a conference of the interested countries. Simultaneously with this a mass protest movement must be organised against the persecution and hounding of Commission members, particularly Mrs. Felton (Great Britain), for telling the truth about the situation in Korea.

The Executive Committee calls for the enlistment of the broadest masses in a great and human campaign to aid the Korean people, and particularly the Korean children. This campaign can assume diverse forms: collection of clothing, medicines, condensed milk for the children, money, etc.

The Session of the Executive Committee is certain that all national organisations of the Women's International Democratic Federation will exert every effort to mobilize public opinion throughout the world and rally the broadest masses of women of all countries to action against the American intervention in Korea and against the atrocities being committed by the

invaders, in order to secure the lives of the children and people of Korea.

**To the Chairman of the General Assembly of the  
U.N., To the Chairman of the Security Council,  
To the Secretariat of the U.N.**

The Executive Committee of the Women's International Democratic Federation in Session June 21, 1951, in Sofia, has heard the report of the International Women's Commission to investigate the atrocities committed by the American and the Syngman Rhee troops in Korea. The Commission remained in Korea from May 16 to May 27. The Executive Committee familiarized itself with the report, the text of which was mailed to you on June 11, 1951.

The Executive Committee examined all the documents assembled on the spot by the Commission, among others pictures of graves which were opened in the presence of the Commission, where men, women and children had been buried alive, photos showing buildings and caves in which whole families were completely annihilated by indiscriminate bombardments.

It also examined the instruments brought by the Commission which were used by the Americans to savagely torture men, women and children.

The snapshots were made by the Commission itself and it guarantees that these instruments and other documents presented are absolutely authentic.

The Executive Committee heard discussions of the members of the Commission who unanimously confirmed the facts contained in the report. It also heard women representing different countries who had been personal witnesses of the devastation and atrocities committed by the aggressive armies in Korea. These women were in



Korea to present gifts to the Korean people, as a pledge of solidarity.

All the members of the Commission enjoy great authority in their own countries as well as the full confidence of women of other countries.

On the basis of the observations and of the incontestable proof brought forth by the Commission, the Executive Committee of the Women's International Democratic Federation, which represents more than 91 million women, declares firmly that these crimes which aim at the extermination of the Korean people were committed primarily by American troops with the participation of British, Canadian, Turkish and others under the cover of the U.N.

The Executive Committee unanimously approves the action of the Secretariat of the Women's International Democratic Federation which has sent the report of the Commission to the Chairman of the General Assembly of the U.N., to the Chairman of the Security Council and the Secretariat of the U.N. asking that it should be examined by all the apparatus of the U.N.

It requests from the U.N.:

1) to immediately stop bombardments of Korean towns and villages.

2) to withdraw all foreign troops from Korea and to allow the Korean people to decide their own destiny and to settle their internal affairs,

3) to hasten the peaceful settlement of the Korean problem in accordance with the proposal of the World Peace Council.

It requests that those who are responsible for the crimes against the Korean people, and in particular Generals MacArthur and Ridgway, be tried as war criminals according to the definition of the allied

Declaration of 1943 and that they be judged by the people as stipulated by the same Declaration.

In the name of all women, all mothers, we address you, Mr. Chairman, requesting you to submit the documents for discussion in the General Assembly of the U.N., in order to acquaint all its members with the factual material. We feel that nobody can ignore its gravity or should fail to be conscious of the responsibilities he assumes before history.

We hope that our request will be taken under consideration and that a delegation of the Women's International Democratic Federation will be admitted to the General Assembly of the U.N. during the discussion on this question. It will be in a position to produce the documents and the objects which constitute the material evidence.

We ask you, Mr. Chairman, to answer our request without delay.

On the other hand, we wish to inform you that we consider the evidence of such importance, and the action of the U.N. so urgent, that we do not hesitate to publicize the report, the documents, as well as the content of this letter. They will be forwarded to the governments, to the World Peace Council, to the international democratic organisations—of lawyers, of journalists, of trade unions of youth, of women's organisations, to the press and to all personalities interested in the defence of human rights and for peace. We remain very truly yours.

For the Executive Committee Eugénie COTTON,  
President

June 21, 1951.

## **APPEAL TO WOMEN OF THE WORLD**

Today the world is in greater danger than ever before.

The war of destruction and extermination of the population now in progress in Korea signalizes what could happen to children, to women, to men the world over should a new world war break out.

Anguished mothers ask themselves—how can war be avoided? Must ruin and suffering spread to the entire world?

The World Peace Council, representing hundreds of millions of men and women, indicates the road to peace in its Appeal for a Peace Pact:

“Responding to the hopes cherished by millions of people throughout the world, whatever may be their opinion of the causes giving rise to the danger of a world war,

And in order to strengthen peace and safeguard international security,

We demand the conclusion of a Pact of Peace among the five Great Powers: the United States of America, the Soviet Union, the Chinese People’s Republic, Great Britain and France.

We shall consider a refusal by the government of any of the Great Powers to meet for the conclusion of such a Pact as evidence of aggressive designs on the part of that government.

We call upon all peace loving nations to support the demand for a Pact of peace, which should be open to all countries.

We set our names to this Appeal and we invite all men and women of good will and all organisations striving for peace to add their names to it”.

We women from many different countries assembled in executive session of the Women’s International Democratic Federation sign this Appeal and call upon all women to sign it.

We say to each woman, to each mother: the defence of your home is in your hands. Peace can be saved.

Only the action of the people can block the road to war.

Your name added to those of millions of men and can prevail upon the representatives of the five Great Powers to meet and sign a Peace Pact.

Sign for this Peace Pact!

Signed by:

**President of the Women’s International Democratic Federation:**

**Eugénie Cotton (France),**

**Vice-Presidents of the Women’s International Democratic Federation;**

**Dolores Ibarruri (Spain),**

**Nina Popova (U.S.S.R.),**

**Eugenia Pragerova (Poland),**

**General Secretary of the Women’s International Democratic Federation;**

**Marie Claude Vaillant-Couturier (France),**

**Quibrie Cui (Albania),**

**Elli Schmidt (German Democratic Republic),**

Louise Ernst (German Democratic Republic),  
Edith Hoschek (Austria),  
Friedel Ledwohn (Western Germany),  
Erna Luzius (Western Germany),  
Leonor Augiar Vazquez (Arentina),  
Tsola Dragoicheva (Bulgaria),  
Rada Todotova (Bulgaria),  
Vera Nacheva (Bulgaria),  
Tsvetana Kiranova (Bulgaria),  
Emilienne Brunfaut (Belgium),  
Marie Guisse (Belgium),  
Cecile Burgos (Belgium),  
Sarah Pascual (Cuba),  
Justina Alvarez (Cuba),  
Candelaria Rogriguez (Cuba),  
Li The-chuan (China),  
Liu Chin-yang (China),  
Bai Lang (China),  
Chi Yun (China),  
Li Kleng (China),  
Pak Den Ai (Korea),  
Kim Sen (Korea),  
Nora K. Rodd (Canada),  
Agnete Ofsen (Denmark),  
Inger Nordentoft (Denmark),  
Irene Falcon (Spain)  
Carmen Pinedo (Spain),  
Helvi Laine (Finland),  
Anna-Lisa Mantykoski (Finland),  
Claudine Chomat (France),  
Francoise Leclercq (France),  
Juliette Dubois (France),  
Nicole Olphandery (France),  
Suzanne Roubakine (France),

Simone Bertrand (France),  
Gisèle Joannes (France),  
Avra Partsalidou (Greece),  
Maria Kaline (Greece),  
Elli Alexion (Greece),  
Magda Joboru (Hungary),  
Elisabeth Vas (Hungary),  
Stanislava Zawadecka (Poland),  
Edwarda Orłowska (Poland),  
Nel Boudewyn (Netherlands),  
Nahid Sina Iran),  
Gita Banerjee (India),  
Maria Maddalena Rossi (Italy),  
Carmen Santi (Italy),  
Elsa Bergamacci (Italy),  
Fieorella Della Seta (Italy),  
Luciana Viviani (Italy),  
Norjen Lham (Mongolian People's Republic),  
Namsraijah (Mongolian People's Republic),  
Constanta Craciun (Rumania),  
Anna Lungu (Rumania),  
Valéria Melega (Rumania),  
Natalia Scurtu (Rumania),  
Andrea Andreen (Sweden),  
Anezka Hodinova-Spurna (Czechoslovakia),  
Anna Slechtova ((Czechoslovakia),  
Tonia Tumova (Czechoslovakia),  
Irene Durisova (Czechoslovakia),  
Miluse Svatosova (Czechoslovakia),  
Marie Bernetic (Trieste),  
Nadezhda Parfyonova (U.S.S.R.),  
Lydia Perova (U.S.S.R.),  
Zinaida Gagarina (U.S.S.R.),  
Beatrice S. Johnson U.S.A.),

**Maria Sierra (Spain),  
Vera Liouic (Yugoslavia),  
Bazilka Marianovic (Yugoslavia),  
Mira Jovanovic (Yugoslavia).**

## **On the Participation of the Women's International Democratic Federation and its National Organisations in the Campaign for the Conclusion of a Pact of Peace among the Five Great Powers**

The Appeal of the World Peace Council for the conclusion of a Pact of Peace among the five Great Powers represents a new stage in the struggle to prevent a new world war and expresses the most heartfelt desire of women the world over.

The national women's organisations, which eagerly responded to this Appeal, have joined the signature campaign in support of the Appeal and are helping to set up and strengthen local peace committees, appointing women signature canvassers, conducting explanatory work, etc. They are forming groups of women in defence of peace, groups of mothers of soldiers and recruits, and so forth.

The Session of the Executive Committee approves of this participation of the national organisations in the campaign for a Pact of Peace. It notes, however, that in certain capitalist countries the signature campaign has not yet been developed to the necessary proportions, The Session urges all the national organisations to take whatever steps are required to activate their own participation in the collection of signatures, setting as their goal the endorsement of the World Peace Council's Appeal by the greatest possible number of women, and striving everywhere to gather more signatures for a Pact of Peace than were collected for the Stockholm Appeal. The national organisations must



strive to draw new masses of women into the campaign—factory and office workers, housewives, peasants, and women engaged in the free professions—as well as women’s organisations not affiliated with the Federation.

To achieve these ends, the Session of the Executive Committee recommends the following:

1. That the work among women to explain the importance of the conclusion of a Pact of Peace in the matter of preventing war be intensified. All forms of graphic, press and oral propaganda should be used for this purpose, including radio, the circulation of handbills and pamphlets, speeches at meetings, talks with small groups of women, and private conversations with women at their homes and places of employment, exposing the lies and slander spread by the warmongers.

2. That the methods that proved valuable in the collection of signatures to the Stockholm Appeal, as well as the new methods that arise in the course of the current campaign, be employed on a more extensive scale, These include the organisation of signature gathering contests between women’s organisations and between the individual active women, collecting signatures at market places, in stores, theatres and cinemas, at railway stations, in trains, and by making the rounds from house to house and from farm to farm, and by dedicating special days and weeks to intensified canvassing for signatures.

3. In view of the fact that the success of the campaign in support of a Peace Pact depends on how it is organised, the Session recommends that the experience in a organisation accumulated in the course of the Stockholm Appeal signature campaign be fully utilised, that instruction conferences of organisers,

speakers and signature collectors be held, that the role of representatives of women's organisations in national and local peace committees be made more active, and that concrete tasks of the national women's organisations in working jointly with all partisans of peace to promote the signature campaign be defined.

4. The Session of the Executive Committee stresses that the signature campaign for a Pact of Peace should be conducted in co-operation with women's organisations not affiliated with the Federation. It recommends that the national organisations approach the leaders of other women's organisations and prominent influential women with a proposal to work jointly not only in the collection of signatures, but also in the matter of uniting all women regardless of their political convictions and religious beliefs.

5. The Session of the Executive Committee instructs the Secretariat to report in its publications ("Women of the World" and "News in Brief") in a timely and systematic manner on the progress of the Peace Pact campaign, and also to popularise the constructive experience of the national organisations in the collection of signatures in support of the World Peace Council's Appeal. The Session calls upon the national organisations to inform the Secretariat of the progress of the signature campaign with utmost promptness.

6. In addition to promoting the signature campaign in support of the Peace Pact Appeal the national organisations must further activise their work to counter concrete measures connected with war preparations in their countries.

7. The Executive Committee recommends that the women's organisations in the countries where the collection of signatures for a Pact of Peace has been

successfully completed should not regard their task as being finished. The Executive Committee urges them to continue incessantly to explain to the women the danger of war and the need to actively defend the cause of peace.

8. The Session of the Executive Committee calls the attention of the national organisations to the fact that the reactionaries, frightened by the growth of the peace movement and aware of the women's growing prominence in the movement for Peace, are hounding and persecuting democratic women's organisations, their leaders and their active rank-and-file members. The Session recommends that the national Organisations conduct mass campaigns of protest against these repressions and in defence of the fighters of peace.

The Session is confident that the national women's organisations will spare no effort to help, by their participation in the campaign for a Pact of Peace, to broaden the international women's movement and thereby extend the world-wide peace movement.