

WITHDRAW FROM KOREA

Whereas, the U.S. military in Korea is in the process of relocating its main headquarters and northern military bases to Pyeongtaek(Camp Humphreys), another U.S. base below Seoul;

Whereas, the U.S. military is in the process of expanding its Pyeongtaek military base to about 6,560 acres, doubling the current size;

Whereas, the South Korean military and police forces are carrying out the wishes of the U.S. government by expropriating the farm land in Pyeongtaek, against the wishes of some 70 farming families who want to stay on their land and villages;

Whereas, on May 4, 2006, the South Korean authority used some 15,000 police and military personnel to demolish an elementary school at Daechu-ri, Pyeongtaek and put barbed wire fence around the local farm land to be used for the base expansion;

Whereas, on the same day, more than 500 farmers and their supporters were arrested and some 300 persons were beaten and injured in the forcible occupation of the farm land;

Whereas, the primary reason for the relocation of the U.S. military bases to Pyeongtaek is to make it easier for the U.S. to launch a preemptive military attack on North Korea; and

Whereas, the relocation plan may cost several billion dollars for the U.S. and South Korean government

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby resolved that Veterans For Peace (VFP), meeting at its national convention in Seattle, Washington, August 12, 2006,

- 1) Extends its warm solidarity and support to the courageous Korean farmers in Pyeongtaek who are justly resisting the U.S. military expansion there;
- 2) Calls upon the U.S. government to shut down its 100 military bases in South Korea and bring our troops home now, instead of relocating them below Seoul;
- 3) Organizes an official VFP delegation to Pyeongtaek this year to investigate the situation and show our solidarity with the struggling farmers there; and
- 4) Communicates this resolution to members of Congress and the White House.

Dated: July 23, 2006

Submitted by VFP-Korea Peace Campaign

(Tom Kennedy, Peter Shaw, Ted Hughes, Chuck Overby, and John Kim)