



2015 Update “THE LIST”

of **North Korean** Refugees
& Humanitarian Workers
Seized by **Chinese Authorities**



Introduction

The following represents a list that the Defense Forum Foundation (DFF) began compiling in 2002 of the names of North Korean refugees and humanitarian workers who are known to have been seized by the Chinese authorities as a result of the People's Republic of China's refusal to abide by its international treaty obligations. China is a signatory to the 1951 U.N. Convention on Refugees and its 1969 Protocol, which obligates it not to repatriate North Koreans back to North Korea where they face certain torture and certain imprisonment, and increasingly public execution for fleeing North Korea. Rather than abiding by international law, China claims the North Koreans are "economic migrants" and signed an agreement with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) to arrest these refugees and force them back to North Korea. Under international law, the moment a North Korean defector crosses the border they meet the definition of an asylum seeker because it is a criminal offense, punishable by death in North Korea for a citizen to leave the country without permission. In fact, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on North Korea designated North Koreans *refugees sur place* because they face a well founded fear of persecution if they are forced back to North Korea. In addition to flagrantly violating international law, the government of China also refuses to allow the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) any access to the North Koreans AND it fines and jails anyone it discovers is assisting these refugees. Citizens of South Korea, America, Japan, and even China's own citizens, have been imprisoned for sheltering and assisting North Korean refugees. China's illegal repatriation policy and its refusal to work with the UNHCR has led to North Koreans, who are fleeing starvation and persecution, to be further victimized: 70 to 90% of female refugees are subjected to sexual trafficking sold as "wives" to Chinese men, forced into prostitution or into internet pornography.

It is estimated that the rate of repatriations escalated starting in 2004 as part of China's campaign to end the refugee crisis for fear of being embarrassed during the 2008 Beijing Olympics. At that time, it was estimated that an average of 100 to 200 North Koreans each week were being repatriated against their will by Chinese authorities to North Korea. Since the death of Kim Jong-il in December 2011, the situation for North Koreans has become even more dangerous. Fearing increasing defections, Kim Jong Eun threatened to execute three generations of a family if one family member was caught trying to escape during the 100 day mourning period of Kim Jong-il's death. Increased border security and surveillance by both China and North Korea have led to a dramatic decline in the number of North Koreans able to escape to freedom in South Korea and other countries. Because of China's inhumane, brutal and illegal repatriation policy, thousands and thousands of North Koreans have been seized and forcibly repatriated to North Korea to face torture, imprisonment and execution. THE LIST is a record of just a small fraction of those incidences that have been reported.

Background on “THE LIST”

The first version of the list was compiled in cooperation with seven NGOs working to rescue North Korean refugees and was compiled by Suzanne Scholte of the Defense Forum Foundation in 2002. Over the years, the North Korea Freedom Coalition member organizations have reviewed it for accuracy and information has been provided by the Seoul-based Citizens Coalition for Human Rights of Abductees and North Korean Refugees, the Japan-based Life Funds for North Korean Refugees, Abraham H. Lee of Refugee Plan, James Butterworth and Lisa Sleeth of Incite Productions, American citizens who have been jailed in China for rescuing North Korean refugees including Steve Kim and Phillip Buck, People for the Successful Korean Reunification (PSCORE), Sin U Nam and Moon Gook Han of the International Coalition to Save North Koreans, Kim Seung Min and the staff of Free North Korea Radio, Peter Jung and Justice for North Koreans, NKinUSA (North Koreans in the USA) and many involved directly in the underground railroad helping North Koreans to escape. The list has been read aloud at many protest rallies around the world organized by the North Korea Freedom Coalition as well as every year at the Chinese embassy in Washington, D.C. It has been submitted as part of Congressional testimony to the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee, the U.S. Congressional Executive Commission on China and the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom.

The current update to this list has some very tragic additional entries: suspicious deaths and murders of humanitarian workers, chiefly Christian missionaries, as China has allowed North Korean spies and assassins free access to its country to

kill those trying to rescue North Korean refugees, while at the same time China has prevented the UNHCR any access to the refugees.

The Purpose of “THE LIST”

The purposes of this list are (1) to keep pressure on the government of China, because it is responsible for the fate of everyone listed on these pages; (2) to keep the names before us always so that we will not forget their imprisonment and their suffering; and (3) to allow this list to be used by human rights organizations to help them join us in advocating for the release of all these individuals whether they are currently in Chinese or North Korean political prison camps.



REMEMBER:

THIS LIST REPRESENTS ONLY
A SMALL FRACTION OF THE
NUMBER OF **NORTH
KOREANS** THAT HAVE BEEN
REPATRIATED AGAINST THEIR
WILL TO NORTH KOREA.

THE LIST:

Note: Wherever ages are listed it is their age at the time of the incident

Shot dead on June 11, 2015

A North Korean refugee was shot dead by Chinese military in Hualong city, Yanbian province while refusing to be arrested.

Seized on March 26, 2015

KIM Gukgi, 61 years old South Korean missionary, and **CHOI Choongil**, 56 years old South Korean business man, were detained by North Korea for spying on North.



Seized on Oct 31, 2014

11 North Korean refugees including a seven year old child were arrested by Chinese Police in Yunnan province, China just before departing to Myanmar.

Seized on October 15, 2014

Six North Korean refugees were seized by Laotian police and detained in Laos to await repatriation to North Korea.

Seized on August 12, 2014

11 North Korean refugees were arrested by Chinese military while trying to reach the China-Laos border, and transferred to Kunming, Yunnan Province.

Seized on June 19, 2014

11 North Korean refugees were arrested by Chinese police. Eight of them were caught in Yanji and three of them were caught in Tumen. They are in danger of repatriation to North Korea.

Seized on June 8, 2014

13 North Korean refugees including two children were arrested in Thailand by a local police. They came to Thailand by travelling through China and Laos.

Seized between July 15 and July 17, 2014

29 North Korean refugees were arrested by Chinese officials. 20 of them were arrested in Qingdao and nine in Kunming. They were traveling to the southern China and supposed to go to the third country. Originally they were in the same group, but split up because it was dangerous to travel together. They were taken to a detention center in the border town of Tumen, to await repatriation to North Korea.

Seized on March 16, 2014

Three North Korean refugees were arrested in Kunming and detained at a detention center near Puor city to be repatriated to North Korea.

Seized on November 15, 2013

13 North Korean refugees were caught by Chinese police in Kunming while they were preparing to take a bus across the Chinese border to another country.

Seized and repatriated on November 7, 2013

Five North Korean refugees were caught by Chinese police while traveling on a bus near Beijing. All of them were making their way south from Tianjin in the hope of eventually reaching South Korea.

Seized and repatriated on November 2, 2013

10 North Korean refugees were seized in Yanji and Dandong. They were handed over to North Korean security forces via customs offices in Hyesan, Ryanggang Province and Chilsong, North Hamgyong Province.

Seized and repatriated on November 2, 2013

Seven North Korean refugees who had been hiding in Shenyang were arrested and sent back to North Korea.

Repatriated on May 28, 2013

9 North Korean children were repatriated to North Korea on May 28, 2013. They had successfully made it to Laos to seek resettlement in South Korea. However, China conspired with the DPRK government and the Laos government to force these nine children to board a Chinese commercial flight back to China and then on to North Korea.



Moon, Chul 23 years old
Jung, Kwong Young 20 years old
Baek, Young Won 20 years old
Ryu, Kwong Hyuk 19 years old
Park, Kwong Hyuk 18 years old
Lee, Kwong Hyuk 18 years old
Ryu, Chul Ryoung 16 years old
Chang, Gook Hwa 16 years old
Noh, Yea Ji 15 years old

Seized and repatriated April 2013

Eight North Korean refugees attempting to escape to South Korea were seized in Shenyang and repatriated to North Korea.

Reported to have Died from Torture February 2013 after Chinese Repatriation in July 2012

Eunhee Kim, 26 years old from Hoeryang and Eun Ok Park, 40 years old were seized by Chinese police in Shenyang and repatriated to North Korea in July 2012. Kim was tortured and died after eight months in detention while Park was beaten so badly in the head by the North Korean Bowibu that she was discharged only to die in her home after two months.

Seized summer 2012; Suspicious Death of Missionary and North Korean Defector

Kim Do-Yeon, a 36 year old South Korean missionary and North Korean defector **Kim Hyeon Sook**, believed to be 28 years old from Sinpa, Jangang-do, were seized near the Changchun Expressway while trying to rescue five North Korean

defectors. The five North Korean defectors were believed to be immediately repatriated while Kim Do-Yeon and Kim Hyeon Sook were arrested and tortured in the Changchun State Security detention center. It has been reported that even under severe torture neither of the Kims would provide any information about their work to rescue North Koreans. In August 2012, the father of Kim Do-Hyeon was contacted and told to take away the corpse of his son and Kim Hyeon-Sook with the explanation that the couple had killed themselves.

Suspicious Death on May 30, 2012

KANG Ho Bin, 58 year old South Korean missionary was killed in a head on crash in Yonbian district near Yanji on the way to church. He had previously escaped an assassination attempt years earlier when he was pricked with a poison filled needle (commonly used by North Korean assassins).

Repatriated in March, 2012

China repatriated **31 North Korean refugees** it arrested in February despite strong international pressure that came from the fear the refugees would be executed for fleeing North Korea during the mourning period of Kim Jong-Il, who died in December 2011. The refugees left North Korea in three separate groups and were arrested in different places in China.

Repatriated on March 8, 2012

Ten of an estimated **48 North Korean refugees** were repatriated on this date. These ten had been arrested in Shenyang and transported to the border city of Dandong. **25 more North Korean refugees** were held a detention center in Shenyang while another **10 North Korean refugees** were held at a military camp in Anshan, Liaoning Province. Others were held in another military camp in Baishan, Jilin Province. All were eventually repatriated.

Repatriated on February 20, 2012

3 North Korean refugees arrested on February 17 while traveling by train in the city of Changchun in Jilin Province were transported to the city of Tumen, and then repatriated to North Korea on February 20th. Among the three is a woman in her late twenties.

Seized in February, 2012

34 North Korean refugees arrested in three different cities in China were repatriated back to North Korea; 19 were arrested on Feb. 8, five on Feb. 12 (in the city of Changchun in Jilin Province), three on Feb. 13 (in the city of Dandong in Liaoning Province), four on Feb. 17 (in the city of Zhengzhou in Henan Province) and three on Feb. 18 (in the city of Qingdao in Shandong Province).

Seized on February 20, 2012

4 North Korean refugees were arrested in the central city of Zhengzhou, China.

Seized on February 8, 2012

9 North Korean refugees were arrested in Shenyang in Northeast China; **4 North Korean refugees** were arrested in the border area of China-Laos.

Seized on February 8, 2012

10 North Korean refugees were arrested by Chinese police at a bus terminal in the city of Shenyang. Among this group of North Koreans were a 14-month old baby, a 16 year old boy and a girl, and a 70 year old senior citizen with a daughter who already successfully resettled in South Korea. Six of the defectors have family members who have already resettled in South Korea.

Seized in December, 2011

Of **30 North Korean orphans** who escaped from an orphanage in the northeastern border city of Hyesan to China, **20** were caught and arrested by North Korean border guards.

Murdered in August 2011

KIM Chang-Whan, a 46 year old South Korean missionary, established a food company and factory in Dandong to provide tofu, noodles, bread and baby formula to North Korea. On his way to help a North Korean defector in Dandong, he was found foaming at the mouth, rushed to the hospital where he died. Hospital officials claimed he had tried to commit suicide by swallowing pesticides. Kim's wife, Kim Ha-young, demanded an investigation. After the autopsy the Chinese government claimed there was no poison in his system, but Kim collected blood samples which she turned over to South Korean authorities. The blood samples showed that the levels of poison in Kim's system would cause instant death. Because Kim's work was motivated by his Christian beliefs, he was on North Korea's "terrorist list" and targeted for assassination.

Seized in May, 2011

Kang Hwa-ok, while working as a nurse in Chungjin People's hospital, was arrested by Chinese police and repatriated.

Seized in Guilin, December 2010

8 North Koreans were arrested and six were repatriated. The rescuing NGO was able to pay a bribe to help two from this group escape again. (One of those who escaped again graduated Hanawon in September 2011.)

Shot dead and seized near the Yalu river on December 14, 2010

5 North Koreans were shot and killed crossing the Yalu River while **2 were wounded** and dragged back to the North by North Korean border guards.

Seized on December 6, 2010

6 defectors were caught in front of Yongil station. They had departed from Wangchung, Yonbyon ju, China

Repatriated on August 14, 2010

5 year-old child (female),
70 year-old man,
and **others in 20-30s** including 4 males and 9 females.

Seized on July 29, 2010 and reportedly executed publicly after repatriation

7 North Korean defectors, including ones from Sinuju, were arrested by Chinese police in Dandong, China. Within a month, they were repatriated and reportedly executed in North Korea. One female defector who had obtained South Korean citizenship was arrested with them and held in prison in Dandong.

Repatriated on June 3, 2010, after being seized in Dandong

2 men (50s and 60s)
8 female (20s and 30s)

They were hiding in Dandong waiting to go to South Korea but were seized by Chinese police. Three children (ages ranging from 5 to 6) were released but ten adults were repatriated to North Korea.

Repatriated on February 19, 2010 to be jailed in political prison camp

Jung Sang-Woon (POW, male, 84) was seized and jailed in China in August 2009 and then repatriated to North Korea and sent to a political camp. The Public Security Bureau (PSB) in China learned from a member of the North Korea National Security Agency who visited China to repatriate North Korean refugees that Jung had been sent directly to a prison camp as soon as he was repatriated. Before his escape, Jung had been held against his will in North Korea for over 50 years since the Korean War. Like many South Korea POWs, he was forced to work as a miner.

Seized on February 19, 2010 near the border between China and North Korea

Lee, a defector correspondent for Free North Korea Radio (FNKR), was abducted by North Korean security agents on Feb 19 near the border between China and North Korea.

Repatriated in October 2009 to Onsung
42 people including children were repatriated during October. Among them, at least 20 were held in detention by Onsung police agency.

12 Seized and 10 repatriated in October 2009
12 North Korean defectors tried to escape from China to fly to Korea and the U.S., in Unnam province in China. However, a Chinese Korean (Chosun-Jok) leaked information to Chinese authorities and they were all caught. The Mission of Refugees sent a large amount of money so that 2 of them could be released, but the rest of them were sent back to North Korea.

POW family repatriated at September 2009
Two members of a South Korean POW family entered the Shenyang Korean consulate in mid-September but were forced out due to "lack of facilities." They were then arrested while staying outside the consulate and repatriated in late September.

Seized in September 2009 near the Chinese-Vietnam border
Na Young-Hyo (male, 50), from Chongjin, North Hamkyong Province, defected from North Korea in July, 2009. His wife went missing in China during her attempt to flee to South Korea.
Chon Hye-Son (female, 37) from Chongjin City, North Hamkyong Province, North Korea. A victim of human traffickers in October, 2002, she is now traveling with her son, aged six, fathered by the Chinese man who "purchased" her from traffickers. Repatriated to North Korea in 2005, she defected to China for a 2nd time in September 2008.
Lee, Chung-Kuk, Chon's son was born 9 February, 2003.
Chon, Jong-Hwa (female, 43), originally from Musan, North Korea, defected to China on 17 March, 2004. She is a former victim of human traffickers.
Kim, Wun-Nyo (female, 50), from Wonsan, North Korea. She defected from North Korea on 10 May 2009.

Executed after seized in China and repatriated in September 2009
Three female defectors who had acquired South Korean nationality caught in China and publicly executed after repatriation.

Seized December 15, 2008 in Jirin China
Choi Young-Ae (female, 24), **Yoon Eun-Sil** (24, female) Relatives of POW Mr.G, who have already resettled in South Korea.



Seized in September 2008 in Kunming Mountain area:
Twelve North Korean Refugees who were being held in Dandong detention center and scheduled to be deported back to Sinuju, North Korea on November 28, 2008. The oldest refugee was 48 years old and there were also children. There was a North Korean spy arrested with this group who was believed to have posed as a refugee to thwart their escape.

Seized on July 16, 2008, in Yanji with the pastor who was sheltering her:
Bahng Mi-Hwa (female, 36, born April 21, 1972) in North Hamkyong Province

Seized on April 21, 2008, in Kunming:
Liu, Gil-Hwa (female, 42, born November 25, 1966, in Musan)
Lee Ae-Sook (female, 26, born in 1982 in Musan)
Yoon Geum-Hee (female, 29, born October 26, 1979 in Hoeryong)
and her four year old daughter
Sohn Ok-Joo (female, 17, born July 27, 1991 in Saetbyeol)

Seized on March 30, 2008 on their way from Shenyang to Beijing (one hour from Beijing):
Lee Soo-Kyeong (female, 22, born Cheong Jin City 10-5-87)
Kim Soon-Ok (female, 40, born Hwae Ryong City, 7-4-67)
Kim Joon-Sik (male, 26, born Hwae Ryong City)
Kim Joon-Nam (male, 24, born Hway Ryong City, brother of Kim Joon Sik)

Seized on March 5, 2008 and were being held in Shenyang Border Patrol Detention Center:

Hahn Chang Kuk (male, aged 30)

Lee Jong-Sun (female)

Lee Kung-Shin (female, 30)

Lee Jong-Shin (female, 33)

Seized on October 24, 2007 in Yanji, Jilin Province

Lee Sang-Hyuk (male) and another North Korean refugee were seized by Chinese border police. Lee has already been jailed in North Korea for the crime of calling his South Korean relatives on a cell phone but escaped again to China.

Seized on October 9, 2007, in Beijing

Four North Korean defectors were seized at the South Korean international school. During this incident two South Korean diplomats were physically restrained by the Chinese police as they tried to prevent the arrest of the defectors.

Seized in September 2007

Park, Ryeon Ha, a North Korean defector, was arrested at the China-Mongolia border by Chinese soldiers.

Seized in June 2007 in Inner Mongolia

Over 44 refugees who were trying to make it to Mongolia to get to South Korea.

9 people from three families of POWs repatriated on October 11 2006

Kim, Yong-Wha

Lee, Jung-Hha

Lee, Jung-Hoon

And six others

2006 repatriated and publicly executed

Son Jung-Nam, a former general of Korean People's Army was repatriated and publicly executed. He was accused of meeting and passing information to his brother Jung-Hun, who resettled in South Korea.



Repatriated on December 20, 2005

Kim, Geum-Nam (male)

After 60 days in a Chinese prison, Kim was repatriated to be interrogated and tortured by the Hyesan police agency. He was sent to a labor camp and reportedly exempted from work due to his old age and severe frostbite.

Seized on December 2, 2005 from a Korean School in Beijing:

Lee Chun-Sil had attempted to escape by entering a Korean school in Dalian on November 30, 2005, but was kicked out. So, she went to a Korean school in Beijing in December but the Chinese police arrested her. Despite appeals by the South Korean and American governments she was repatriated to North Korea sometime in February-March 2006 time period.



Seized on August 29, 2005, from a South Korean school in Yantai

Two males and five females who entered the school during a ceremony were repatriated to North Korea on September 29, 2005, despite repeated requests and appeals by the South Korean government to allow them to travel to South Korea.

Seized in August 2005 while attempting to cross the Mongolian border

Kim Song-Sook (female, 27) - her younger sister escaped to South Korea.



October 2006,
North Korean children
hiding with their family in Thailand
are being arrested
by Thai policemen.

Seized on July 27, 2005, as they entered a Japanese residential quarter in Tianjin attempting to reach a Japanese international school:

Kim Yong-Hi, mother (DOB: 28 Jan. 1962)

Pae Wung, first son (DOB: 4 Nov. 1985)

Pae Yong, second son (DOB: 1 March 1995)

Kang Song-Hee (DOB: February 5, 1979)

51-years-old lady (name unknown)

Seized on May 25, 2005, in Chang Choon City

Two North Korean females

Seized on May 22, 2005 during a worship service in Chang Choon City

One North Korean male aged 26 and three North Korea females

Seized on May 9, 2005, on the same day that Pastor Phillip Buck was arrested; Buck was trying to help them get to Mongolia

Choi, Sang-Muk (Male, 50)

Han, Song-Hwa (Female, 43)

Kim, Pyung-Yong (Male, 50)

Park, Jeung-Lan (Female, 45)

Cho, Young-Sil (Female, 43)

Kim, Myung-Ok (Female, 40)

Kim, Hyung-Suk (Male, 21)

Han, Kum-Sook (Female, 30)

Choi, Soon-Kum (Female, 60)

Seized in May, 2005, the following refugees:

Kim Ryong-Chul (Male, 26, Ham Heung City, South Ham Kyung Province)

Kim Kyung-Sook (Female, 25, On Sung, North Ham Kyung Province)

Kim Keum-Sung (5 month old, born in Tsingtao, China)

Kim Mo-Ran (Female, 22, Chungjin city, North Ham Kyung Province)

Male (name and age not known)

6-9 members of the Choi family (4 people: 1 male, 2 females, and a 5 year-old, names not known)

Kim Hyung-Hee (Female, 15, Moo San, North Korea Province)

Sung Hee's mom (Female, 50, Moo San, North Ham Kyung Province)

2 Males (names not known; traveled separately from Yanji)

2 Females (names not known; traveled separately from Yanji)

Seized in March, 2005, in Longjing City in Jilin Province



Kang, Gun ("Kang, Sung-II" male, born 1969, Pyongyang) had become a South Korean citizen, but had traveled to China to get out information about conditions inside North Korea. He is credited with smuggling out footage of North Korea's infamous Yoduk prison camp that aired on Japanese television. He was reported as missing in Longjing City and believed to have been seized by North Korean agents in China and taken to Pyongyang. Because of his involvement in getting information out about North Korea's political prison camps, he is in grave danger of being tortured and executed. He is reported to have been held in Pyongyang and then sent to a political prison camp.

Repatriated January 2005

Han, Man-Taek (POW, 73) He escaped from the North on December 27, 2005, but was seized the next day.



Seized between 2001-2005 whereabouts unknown, these refugees were being sheltered by Phillip Buck

Kim, Hyun-Deuk (male, 55)

Han, Young-Ae (female, 49)

Kim, Hae-Young (female, 18)

Kim Chol-Min (male, 16)

Kim Chol-Joo (male, 14)

Han Eun-Hee (female, 29)

Han, Seung-Hee (female, 26)

Seized in early November 2004 from a hospital in Dandong, China

Lee, Ju-Im (female, 73) – Mrs. Lee is a South Korean citizen who was abducted to North Korea during the Korea War; she had escaped North Korea and was recuperating in a hospital when she was seized by North Korea security agents.

Repatriated on October 26 2004

62 defectors repatriated

Lee, Sun-Hee (34, Eundeok)

Young-Geum (39, Chungjin)

Yang-Hwa (33, Hyesan)

Yong-Hee (39, Kimchaek)

In-Ok (36, Hoiryung)

Park, Kyung-Sook (43, Hamheung)

Kim, Hyun-Hwa (30, Hamheung)

Kim, Mi-Hwa (36, Hamheung)

Park, Young-Soon (35, Jungpyung)

Eun-Hee (19, Hamheung)

Kyung-Hwa (34, Uhang)

Jung, Dae-Chul (77, Moosan)

Lee, Dong-Sik (17, Moosan)

Lee, Jung-Sik (14, Moosan)

Lee, Il-Sim (13, Moosan)

An, Young-Gu (40, Chungjin)

Park, Sang-Sil (39, Chungjin)

Son, Ok-Joo (15, Chungjin)

Park, Young-Sook (31, Hyesan)

Kim, Gook-Chul (22, Musan)

Jung, Kyung-Sook (31, Hwaryung)

Kim, Eun-Joo (25, Pyongyang)

Kim, Chul (23, Chungjin)

Park, Young-Ok (26, Hoiryung)

Ok-Dan (13, Onsong)

Choi, Sung-Ok (34, Onsong)

Kyung-Ok(35, Dancheon)

Hyang-Ok(32, Dancheon)

Ryu, Myung-Hwa

Kim, Kyung-Sook

Sang-Ok

Kim, Sung-Chul

Lee, Sang-Il

Kyung-Il

Young-Ok

Chul-Geum

Heo, Myung-Il

Choon-Nyo

Kim, Soon-Ok (25)

Kim, Soon-Bok (33)

Kim, Kyung-Ok (27)

Choi, Geum-Ok (49, Saebyul)

Nam, Myung-Sung (18, Saebyul)

Lee, Jung-Been (38, Onsong)

Na, Young-Joo (17, Hongwon)

Han, Kyung-Hee (33, Chungjin)

Lee, Pyung-Il (23, Hoeryung)

Kang, Myung-Sung(23)

Jeon, Han-Sik(5, Chungjin)

Kim, Eun-Sil (12, Moosan)

Hong, Bak-Sook (28, Chungjin)

Jeon, Jung-Ok (74, Hamheung)

Park, Jung-Sil (40, Hamheung)

And other 8 names unknown

Seized on 25 October 2004 in the Tongzhou area of Beijing

Two humanitarian workers who had defected from North Korea and obtained South Korean citizenship and were rescuing other defectors:



Lee, Soo-Cheol (male, born 1963 in North Hamyoung Province, right side in the picture)– Lee was held for 2 years without trial and then sentenced to two years imprisonment in 2006

Kim Hong-Gyun (male, born 1965 in South Hamgyong Province, left side in the picture)-Kim was held for 2 years without trial and then sentenced to 5 years imprisonment in 2006.

These rescuers were seized in a surprise raid at 3 am in the morning along with over 60 North Korean refugees who were hiding in two shelters, including 11 children and a 70 year old man.

The refugees include:

Kim Soon-Ok (female, 25, from Eundok), who defected to China approximately 7 years ago and who has two children aged 5 and 2 years old.

Kim Soon-Bok (female, 33, from Eundok), who defected to China approximately 7 years ago and who had one child, 3 years old.

Kim Kyung-Ok (27, from Eundok), who defected to China approximately 7 years ago.

It has been reported that more than 60 of these refugees were repatriated to North Korea on 9 November 2004.

Seized shortly after the October 2004 incident in Shenyang

Hong Jin-Hee (male, born 1969 in Hamyeung), a North Korean defector who had obtained South Korean citizenship and was involved in rescuing other North Koreans from China. He had managed to escape the surprise raid but was tracked down and arrested in Shenyang. He was detained for 2 years without trial and then sentenced to a 7 years imprisonment in 2006.

Seized on 25 October 2004

15 North Korean refugees attempting to enter the Korean consulate office in China.

Seized on 27 September 2004

9 North Korean refugee women and children at the Shanghai American School in Shanghai, China; two children were released to South Korean officials but the other 7 women and teenagers were repatriated.

Seized on 8 August 2004 in Helong, Jilin Province, China

Jin Kyung-Sook (female born 24 June 1979), a North Korean defector who had established South Korean citizenship in 2002, and her husband had traveled to China to collect evidence of North Korea's opium cultivation when they were seized. Her husband escaped but she was forcibly repatriated to North Korea.

Seized July 2004 in Yenji

Oh Young-Sun (male, born 1965), a North Korean defector who had obtained South Korean citizenship, went to China to make a documentary about Mt. Changbei. While he was in China he met up with North Korean refugees and helped them escape to South Korea. Later, while he was filming the mountain Chang bei, Bekdu mountain, he was arrested and tried in 2005 for the crime of helping North Korean refugees escape to South Korea. He was given an eight year jail sentence in China.

Seized sometime between 5-10 June 2004 in Nanning, China

Yun Hyang-Shim (female, born January 12, 1956), who had defected from North Korea and is now a South Korean citizen. She was caught trying to help her son-in-law escape to Vietnam, and is being held in Nanji Prison in Nanning City.

Seized on 18 March 2004 in Mongolia

Kang Hye Yeong, a North Korean defector, was arrested in Inner Mongolia, near the China-Mongolia border.

Seized on 15 February 2004 at Nanning, Guangxi Province

Kang Eun-Hee (25), **Park Il-Man** (38) and **5 other North Korean refugees** were seized by Chinese authorities and sent to Ansan refugee camp in Tumen, Ji-Lin Province on 5 March 2004. After going on a hunger strike to try to gain their freedom and safe passage to South Korea, they were repatriated to North Korea on 12 March 2004. They are reported to have been sent to Onsong Political Prison camp.

Seized on 23 December 2003 while trying to travel to Beijing, China

Choi Song-Juk (mother of Lyu Myung-Ho and Lyu Sung-Ho – see 18/19 September 2001 entry).

Seized on 13 December 2003 in Guangxi with Takayuki Noguchi

Choi Yong (male, 60) and **Shin Chung-Mee** (female, 46), who are both Japanese-born North Korean refugees whom Noguchi was trying to bring safely to the country of their birth.

Seized on 5 December 2003 in Nanning City

Chinese authorities seized **36 North Korean** refugees hiding in Nanning City, Kwangzi Province.

Seized on 26 September 2003 in Guangdong Province

The following refugees were seized when New York businessman Steve Kim was trying to help them. Kim served four years in prison in China, while the two Chinese women served two years in prison for helping these refugees:

Choi Keum-Chun (male, 19)

Park Young-Chul (male, 19)

Park Hang-Chul (male, 52)

Chung Song-Hee (female, 12)

Park Kyung-Sook (female, 38) (mother of Chung Song-Hee)

Chung Hwa-Keum (female, 36)

Kim Il-Hwa (female, 36)

Song Yeun-Hee (female, 40)

Park Choon-Hee (female, 40)

Seized in early September 2003 in Yunnan

Province, Nine of these refugees were arrested by Laos Police while trying to cross the Laos border but were repatriated to China and then to North Korea: while two eventually escaped again with the help of Pastor Buck to South Korea:



Yun Jong-Ok, (female, 37)

Yun Kwang-Chol (male, 34)

Park (first name not known) (female, 31)

Lee So-Bong (female, 54)

Ko Kum-Suk (female, 34)
Ko Hye-Suk (female, 32)
Ko I-Song (female, 27)
Ko Song-Hi (female, 24)
Oh In-Sun (female, 20)
Ko Jong-Hi (female, 40)
Oh In-Chol (male, 15)
Oh Jong-Hwa (female, 34)
Kim So-Hi (female, 27)
Sohn Mi-Hyang (female, 8)
Chung Hye-Yong (female, 26)
Kwak Hyon-Chol (male, 21)
Kim Song-Jin (male, 20)
Chang Chol (male, 19)
Dong Song-Shil (male, 19)
Kim Mi-Na (female, 16)
Kim Un-Hye (female, 17)
Yu Song (female, 15)

Seized on 5 September 2003 in Guangzhou

Dr. Lee, Chae-Woo, a North Korean biological weapons expert, was seized while trying to enter the Australian consulate general office in Guangzhou. Dr. Woo's wife and children fled when he was seized.

Seized on 18 August 2003 at Pingxiang China near the Vietnam border

Choi, Soon-Hwa (female, 56)
Song, Jung-Hwa (female, 22)
Lee, Kwang-Rim (male, 23)
Han, Kwang-Suk (male, 14)
Han, Eun-Byul (female, 12)
Moon, Kwang-Hyuk (male, 22)

Seized on 7 August 2003 in Shanghai along with Fumiaki Yamada, who was later released

Chang Gyung-Chul (male, born 22 September 1969)
Chang Gyung-Soo (male, born 21 March 1972)
Chang Mi-Hwa (female, born 15 January 1969)
The two brothers and their female cousin were repatriated to North Korea and the two brothers were sent to the North Korean State Security Agency detention center in North Hamgyung Province.

Seized on August 1, 2003 at the train station in Beijing while on their way to the South Korean Embassy

These refugees were being rescued by Rev. Jung and Rev. Pak who were jailed by China for 1 and ½ years for helping them. All 6 were repatriated back to North Korea six months after being seized in Beijing:

Mr. And Mrs. Lee
Mr. Park
Mr. and Mrs. Kang and their daughter

Seized on 27 July 2003 in Beijing

These four were arrested outside a restaurant in Beijing. On the day of their arrest, they had arrived from the city of Yanji by the Tumen-Beijing express train.

Lee, Kil-Wun (male, 64, coal-mine administrator from the Onsong district, North Korea)
Han, Sun-Bok (female, 60, wife of Mr. Lee Kil-wun, former high school teacher, from the same district)
Lee, Song-Min (male, 31, son of Mr. Lee and Mrs. Han, worker, from the same district)
Kang, Myong-Ok (female, 35, from the city of Chongjin, North Korea.)

Seized on 27 July 2003 in Quingdao, China

Eight North Korean refugees including four children.

Seized April 2003 in Changbai China

Kim, Chul-Soo (born, 1965) and **Ji Man-Gil** (born, 1971) were both from Hyesan, Yanggang Province but had become South Korean citizens. According to Kim's wife and Ji's brother the two traveled to China to try to rescue their family members including children from North Korea but were abducted by North Korean refugees to North Korea.

Seized in April 2003, somewhere in China

Newlyweds **Kim Cheol-Hoon** (born 1970 in Hwanghae Province) and **Shin Sung-Shim** (born 1981 in North Hamgyeong) were defectors that had become South Korean citizens. They were seized in China and abducted to North Korea while on their honeymoon.

Seized on 18 January 2003 in Yantai City, Shandong Province: "The Boat People Incident"

Park, Yong-Chol (male), a North Korean national.

On 22 May 2003, sentenced to a 2-year imprisonment and a fine of 5,000 RMB. Believed to have been forcibly repatriated to North Korea in October, 2004.

Park, Yong-Ho (In Chinese, "Piao LONGGAO") (male), an ethnic Korean Chinese national. On 22 May 2003, sentenced to a 3-year imprisonment and a fine of 10,000 RMB.

Lee, Yu-Son (female, born 21 Sept 1982 in Pyon an Puk Do, DPRK)

Kim, Son-Hee (female, born 1 Sept 1961 in HanGyongPuk Do,DPRK)

Pee, Okk-Ju (female, born 11 Feb 1988 in Han Gyong Puk Do, DPRK)

Kim, Myong-Chol (male, born 28 Jan 1965 in HanGyong Puk Do,RajingJangPyon Dong)

Chu, Hun-Kuk (male, born 29 Dec 1956 in Han Gyong Puk Do, Kil Ju Gun Yong Buk Ku)

What is the **fate** of repatriated defectors?

The criminal code of North Korea, Article 62

"A citizen of the Republic who defects to a foreign country or to the enemy in betrayal of the country and the people ... shall be committed to a reform institution for not less than five years.

In cases where the person commits an extremely grave offence, he or she shall be given the death penalty...."

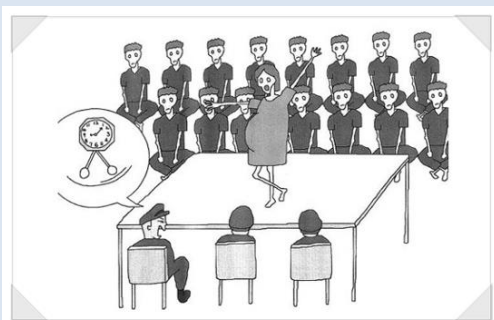
Corroborated accounts by refugees confirm the existence of labor and "re-education" camps where returnees are tortured and killed. At these facilities, women who became pregnant while in China are forced to have abortions and infanticide is carried out on children born to Chinese fathers. Other defectors, whose community was called together by officials in the North Korean town of Namyang, witnessed the public execution of three returned refugees - an act designed to discourage any further attempts to cross into China.



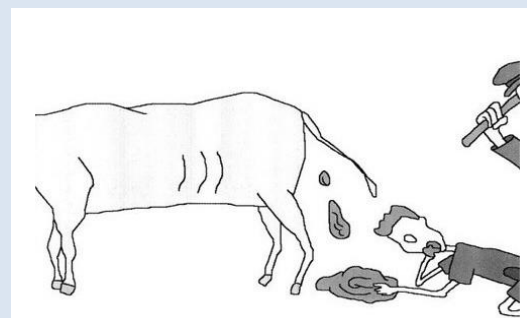
North Korean police force repatriated North Korean men to step on planks placed on the abdomen of pregnant Women. These women are called betrayer or pigs that got pregnant.



The prisoner is hanged upside down and his abdomen is being kicked at by the policeman.



The investigators interrogate prisoners by asking to pose difficult positions. In this picture, the pregnant woman is being asked to pose her legs like clock needles as the interrogators call out the time.



A prisoner, who starved from the meager amount of food ration, is trying to pick up corn grains from a cow's droppings.

Kim, Yong-Ho (male, born 17 Dec 1969 in Han Gyong Puk Do, Fe Ryong City, Yok Chon Dong)

Kim, Kum-Ok (female, born 28 Mar 1960 in Han Gyong Nam Do, Ham Hung Song Chon)

Sin, Young-Hee (female, born 14 July 1986 in HanGyongPukDo, SeppyorGunAnWonLi,39)

Choun Hyang-Hwa (female,born10 July 1983 HanGyongNamDo, HamHung SongChonKang DPRK)

Kim Un-Kum (female, born 25 June 1931 in Han Gyong Puk Do, Myon Chon Kun)

Be Kwang Myong (male, born 1 Jan 1986 in Han Gyong Puk Do, Chong Jin Chong)

Park Ran-Hee (female, born 17 Jan 1964 HanGyongNamDo, HamHungYongSongGuYoku)

Lee Kyong-Su (male, born 18 February 1968 in Yang Kang Do, He San city)

Lee Chol-Ho (male, born 28 August 1967 in HanGyong Puk Do,Chong Jin City,Chong Jin)

Lee Chol-Nam (male, born 26 April 1969 in HanGyongPukDo,Chong Jin City, Chong Jin)

JangYong-Chol (male, born 20 April 1955 in Han Gyong Puk Do,Chong JinCity,Chong Jin)

Seized on 13 November 2002 at the Vietnam/China border

These seventeen refugees were seized by Vietnamese border guards and turned over to Chinese authorities. After their arrest they were held in Pingshang, Nanying City, Guangxi Province, China.

Kim Ok-Ryun (female, 38)

Kim Myung-Hee (female, 33)

Choi Kil-Sook (female, 62)

Kim Kum-Dan (female, 67)

Hwa Jung (28)

Lee Sung-Yeol (male, 20)

Kim Chul-Ho (male, 44)

Lee Hwa-Jun (male, 35)

Park Yoon-Sang (male, 54)

Cho Kyung-Sook (female, 29)

Cho Sung-Sook (26)

Kwak Myung-Neo (male, 35)

Yoon Seo-Young (female, 24)

Chun Chang-Sup (male, 42)

Hwang, Tae-Wook (male, 9)

Oh, Song-Wol (4 year old child)

Lee, Dae-Ho (7 month old baby)

Seized on 31 October 2002 at the German School in Beijing

Joo, Seung-Hee (female, 41, Hamkyung Bukdo)

Han, Mee-Kyung (female, 17, daughter of Joo Seung-hee)

Lee, Sun-Hee (female, 39, Hamkyung Bukdo)

Kim, Ok-Byul (female, 14, daughter of Lee Sun-hee)

Kim, Kwang-Soo (male, 16, son of Lee Sun-hee)

Seized on 30 October 2002 in Dalian

Kim, Gun-Nam (male)

Seized on 2 September 2002 at the Ecuadorian Embassy in Beijing

Han Song-Hwa (female, 45)

Cho Seong-Hee (16, daughter of Han Song-hwa)

Cho Hyun-Hee (12, daughter of Han Song-hwa)

Kim Yeon-Hee (female, 31)

Cho Il-Hyun (10 months, daughter of Kim Yeon-hee)

Choi Jin-Hee (female, 28)

Chung Kwon (male, 28)

Cho Young-Ho (male, 20)

Seized on 31 August 2002 near the Mongolian border

Yun Kim-Shil (female)

Seized on 26 August 2002 at the Chinese Foreign Ministry in Beijing

These seven refugees (known as “The MoFA Seven”) attempted to legally apply for asylum at the Chinese Ministry of Foreign affairs but the Chinese arrested them and forced them back to North Korea:

Kim Jae-Gon (male, born 1942, from Kowun Kun, Hamkyong Nam-Doh Province)

Kim Jong-Nam (male, born 8/29/67, from Hwae-Ryung City, Hamkyong Buk-Doh Pvince)

Kim, Mi-Young (female, born 1970, from Un-San Kun, Pyong-An Buk-Doh Province)

Jo, Song-Hye (female, born 2/25/76, from Dan-Chun City, Hankyoung Nam-Doh Province)

An, Choi-Su (male, born 3/20/63, from Hungnam Ku, Hamkyong Nam-Doh Province)

Ko, Dae-Chang (male, born 9/4/49, from Pyongyang)

Kim, Hong (female, born 4/12/73, from Pyongyang)



[One of the MoFA 7 holds a sign “We want freedom” as the group attempts to enter the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs to legally apply for refugee status. Their story was featured in *Seoul Train*.]

Seized between 24-26 May 2002 in Yunnan Province near the Laos/Burma/China borders

Six North Korean defectors, of which three names are known:

Lee, Song-Yong (male, 3, note his mother, **Park Sun-hi** (female, 31) defected successfully to South Korea in 2000)

Lee, Hong-Gang (male, 48)

Kim, Mi-Hwa (female, 30)

Seized on May 20, 2002 in Yanji, Jilin Province

Kim, Kyung-il (male, born 17 January 1976). Mr. Kim is in Changchun Tiebi prison serving a 12-year prison term for the charge of helping North Koreans escape from China.

Seized on 10 May 2002 while attempting to reach Thailand

Kim, Chul-soo (male, 63)

Kim's wife (female, 60)

Kim's daughter (female, 30)

Choi, Soon-Kum (female, 59)

Kim, Myung-Wol (female, 45)

Pack, Nam-Gil (male, 18)

Park, Myung-Chul (male, 45)

Han, Young-Ae (female, 45)

Han's husband (male, 47)

Eun Shim (female, 10)

Eun Shim's brother (male, 14)

Seized on 12 April 2002 in Yanji, China

Two refugees were seized along with Rev. Choi Bong-il who was sentenced to 9 years imprisonment when he was caught helping these refugees. One (**Choi, Sung-gil**, 23) escaped again to South Korea. **Shin, Chul** (24)

Seized in 2002

Baek, Nam-Kil (male 20) was forcibly repatriated to North Korea where it is believed he died of tuberculosis after three months in a North Korean detention center; his mother and younger brother were safely brought to South Korea by Phillip Buck

Seized on 6 March 2001 in Yunkil, Jilin Province, China

Jung, Soon-Ae (female, 46, born February 5, 1955); the mother of Gil-Su; seized by Chinese police and repatriated to North Korea on 13 March 2001. On 15 April 2001 she was taken to a prison in North Korea. Most of her family has safely escaped to South Korea. Gil-Su specifically requested that her name be added to THE LIST because "raising her name may keep her alive."

Seized between 29-30 December 2001 near the Mongolia border

These refugees were seized on 29 December/early 30 December trying to cross the China/Mongolia border near the border town of Dongchi in northeastern Inner Mongolia when Pastor Chun Ki-Won was arrested (Pastor Chun served eight months in a Chinese prison for trying to help these refugees). Two other refugees in the group who had U.S. relatives were allowed to go to Seoul. After their arrest, these refugees were held at Manchu-Ri Prison in China:

Roh, Myung-Ok (38, wife of a SK citizen, Chung, Jae-song)

Chung (Jung), Yoon (Eun)-Mee (10, daughter of Roh Myung-Ok)

Chung (Jung), Yoon (Eun)-Chul (8, son of Roh Myung-Ok)

Kim, Kwang-Il (male, 32)

Kim, Chul-Nam (son of Kim Kwang-Il)

Kim, Ji-Sung (male)

Nam, Choon-Mee (wife of Kim Ji-Sung)

Seized in October 2001

Song, Yong-guk and Song Yong-su, who are North Korean defectors, were arrested by the Chinese police from a boat in the Yellow Sea heading towards the Republic of Korea

Seized on 18/19 September 2001 in Yanji

These brothers are believed to be at Changchun Tiebei prison serving a 5 year prison sentence:

Lyu Myung-Ho (male, 24, born 9 July 1977)

Lyu Sung-Ho (male 22, born 8 September 1979)

Seized on 11 June 2001 from shelters established by Christian NGOs in Xian, Shaanxi Province

50 North Korean defectors including the following: **Choi, Kum-Chul** (male, born 10 December 1958); served time in prison at Changchun Tiebei prison; sentenced to 4 years in prison in China for helping North Koreans escape from China and then repatriated back to North Korea in May/June of 2005.

Cho, Chul-Sok (male, 28, from Hamheung); after repatriation sent to prison at Hoeryung (camp #22) political prison camp.

Jung, Yong-Chol (male, 42, from Onsong); after repatriation sent to prison at Hoeryung (camp #22) political prison camp.

Lee, Kil-Su (male, from Wonsan); after repatriation sent to prison at Hoeryung (camp #22) political prison camp.

During this time period, two surviving female North Korean defectors also reported that **Kim Ju-Bok** (male, 26) was seized in Dandong and repatriated to North Korea where he was sentenced to death for leading a group of North Korea defectors. Among his group were 6 defectors who were sentenced to 15 years imprisonment, and 17 defectors who were sentenced to 10 years imprisonment in Yodok political prison camp.

Seized on 16 September 2000 at their "safe-house" in Dalian by Chinese police

Han, Won-Chae (male, 60)

Shin, Keum-Hyun (female, 58) Their son, Han, Sin-Hyuk, was not captured and successfully defected to South Korea.

Their son, Han Sin-Hyuk, was not captured and successfully defected to South Korea.

Seized on 17 January 2000 by North Korean security agents in China

Rev. Kim, Dong-Sik (male, 53, born 10 October 1947). Rev. Kim is a citizen of South Korea but also was a permanent U.S. resident. It was confirmed by the South Korean authorities based on testimony by a North Korean defector that Kim was abducted to North Korea by North Korean spies. It is feared that he was tortured and killed, but we continue to hope that he may be alive. Kim's wife, Young Hwa, and children live in Chicago.

Seized in Russia in November 1999, received refugee status from UNHCR, but Russia forcibly returned the refugees to China on December 30, 1999, and then China forcibly returned the refugees to North Korea on 12 January 2000
note: one of these entries escaped again to South Korea

Kwang-Ho Kim (male, 23)

Ho-Won Chang (male, 24)

Young-II Ho (male, 30)

Young-Sil Bang (female, 26) (wife of Mr. Ho)

Woon-Chul Kim (male, 20)

Dong-Myung Lee (male, 22)

(released due to being minor: Sung-II Kim (male, 13)

Seized on 6 August 1997 by Chinese police in Jian, Liaoning Province

Li Song-Nam (51)

Seized on 7 July 1995 in China

Rev. Ahn Seung-Woon, a citizen of South Korea, was in China when he was abducted by North Korean agents and taken to North Korea. He appeared on North Korean television that July and was last seen in Pyongyang.

Seized on 4 February 1997 at the Shanghai International Airport

Kim Eun-Chol (male, 35). **Kim's parents (Kim Jae-won and his wife)** live in South Korea and believe he was sent back to North Korea.

Also note this other brave rescuer:

Disappeared in January 2005

Jeffrey Bahk

US citizen and resident of Georgia, disappeared crossing the Mekong River in January 2005 while helping six North Korea refugees escape. The six refugees made it to South Korea but no one knows what happened to Bahk. It was reported that he had drowned while others claimed he was in jail in Kenpun, Myanmar. ROK officials reported that they visited Kenpun, and he was not there. His wife and other family members have been trying to find out what happened to him.



We pray and work for these repatriated people who are under indescribable hardship in North Korea.

FORMER NAMES FROM THE LIST THAT ARE NOW FREE

The following are defectors that were once on this list but escaped again and made it to freedom:

Repatriated in 2007 and 2008 but escaped to freedom in South Korea

Choi Myung-Sin (female)

Repatriated in 2007 but escaped to freedom in South Korea

Song Jae-Im (female)

Repatriated in 2006 but escaped to freedom in South Korea

Lee Yu-Mi (female)

Repatriated twice in 1998 and 2006, but made it to South Korea in the end

Kim Sun-Sook (female)

Repatriated in 2005 but escaped to freedom in South Korea

Kim Geum-Nam (male)

Park In-Sook (female)

An Hye-Young (female)

Repatriated in 2004 and 2005 but escaped to freedom in South Korea

Sin Hyang-Sook (female)

Repatriated in 2003, 2004, and 2005 but escaped to freedom in South Korea

Na Deok-Jin (male), underwent 15 day of investigation and "pigeon" torture

Repatriated in 2003 and 2005 but escaped to freedom in South Korea

Yoon Boon-Ryun (female)

Repatriated in 2002 and 2005 but escaped to freedom in South Korea

Um Choon-Sil (female)

Repatriated in 2004 but escaped to freedom

Seized in 2003 during the Yantai boat incident but escaped to freedom in South Korea and Japan:
YangYong-Ho (male, born March 30, 1961 Musan)

Yang Gum-Soon (female, born December 2, 1987 Musan)

Kim Young-Kwang (male, 20 years old)

All above now live in South Korea

Chilba Yomiko (alias) (female, born September 23, 1960 in Osaka, Japan), now living in Japan

Seized in early September 2003 in Yunan Province but escaped again in 2004 and made it to South Korea with help of Pastor Phillip Buck

Kim Kwang-II (male, 18)

Park Kum-Song (male, 18)

Repatriated in 2002 but escaped to freedom in South Korea

Lee Young-Ok (female) and her son (14)

Seized on 12 April 2002 in Yanji, China

Choi Sung-Gil (23) was repatriated to North Korea but escaped again and is now in South Korea. She was seized with Rev. Choi Bong-II who was sentenced to 9 years imprisonment.

Repatriated in 2001 and 2002 but escaped to freedom in South Korea

Lee Bok-Soon (female)

Repatriated in 1997 but escaped to freedom in South Korea

Kim Dong-Nam (male)



The following are **humanitarian workers** who were formerly in jail and were part of THE LIST, but happily have been taken off due to their release:

USA Citizens:

Seized on May 9, 2005

Pastor Phillip Jun Buck

(American citizen since 1989, resident of Washington state, born January 6, 1941 in North Korea) was held in Yanji for the crime of helping North Korean refugees. Was in Chungdao city and had left with three American pastors to travel to Yangi via Beijing. All four were seized by Chinese police, but the three other American pastors were released. Buck was considered "a big fish" and he was held for a year and a half until his trial on December 30, 2005. The verdict was announced in 2006 deporting him on August 19, 2006. He received the 2007 Civil Courage Award from the Train Foundation for "steadfast resistance to evil at great personal risk." He is credited with rescuing hundreds of North Korean refugees until his arrest.



Seized on 26 September 2003 in Guangdong Province

Steve Kim, (Kim Seung-Whan, born, 1949),

was arrested by Chinese police in 2003 on charges of helping some 30 North Koreans defect to South Korea via Vietnam. He was sentenced to five years' imprisonment and put in jail. Even in the prison cell, he bought food and daily necessities for North Korean defectors. As a result, he has been called "father" by former North Korean defectors who have settled in South Korea with his help. Since the release in 2007, he organized 318 Partners, a humanitarian non-profit organization that rescues NK refugees and supports underground churches and missionaries in North Korea. While in prison, Steve Kim's daughter, Lisa Kim, read her father's name aloud as THE LIST was read in front of the Chinese embassy in Washington, D.C., every year he was in prison. A newspaper with a front page photo of one protest where Steve Kim's name was read aloud from THE LIST was delivered to Steve Kim in prison: he knew he had not been forgotten.



Seized 27 July 2003

Rev. Park Young-Hwa, an American citizen, was held for 1½ years for helping North Korea Refugees. He was seized on 27 July 2003, officially arrested on 8 September 2004, and released in late October 2004.



South Korean Citizens:

Seized on August 2007 in Inner Mongolia

Yu Sang-Joon (male), a South Korean citizen (born in the DPRK) was arrested by Chinese police while trying to help nine North Korean refugees escape to Mongolia. He was released in November, 2007.

Seized on 18 January 2003 in Yantai City, Shandong Province

Choi Yong-Hun (male), a South Korean humanitarian aid worker. On 22 May 2003, sentenced to a 5-year imprisonment and a fine of 30,000 RMB. He was subjected to torture and beatings during his imprisonment and was released early on November 29, 2006. It is believed he was released early because of his weakened mental and physical health caused by the abuse he endured in prison.

Seized on 31 August 2002 in Changchun in Northeast China

Kim Hee-Tae, humanitarian worker seized along with eight North Korean refugees attempting to leave China. Sentenced to 7 years imprisonment, but was released on 15 July 2004. While in prison, Kim Hee Tae was beaten by Chinese security but he learned through THE LIST he had not been forgotten. While listening to Radio Free Asia secretly in prison, he heard Suzanne Scholte call out his name in front of the Chinese embassy at a protest where the list was read aloud in 2003. Kim said hearing this name called out gave him great strength and encouragement.

Seized between 29-30 December 2001 near the Mongolia border

Pastor Chun Ki-Won, a South Korean human rights activist, was held from December 2001 until August 2002 (220 days in jail) for trying to help a group of North Korean defectors reach Mongolia.

Japanese Citizens:



Fumiaki Yamada, humanitarian worker with Society to Help Returnees to North Korea and a citizen of Japan, was seized with North Korean refugees he was trying to help but released after a week.

Takayuki Noguchi (male, 32), humanitarian worker with Life Funds for North Korean Refugees seized by Chinese police along with three Japanese-born North Korean refugees: a woman in her 40s (born in Tokai Region, Japan), a man in his 50s born in West Japan, and Choi Yong, 61, who was born in Hiroshima, Japan. Noguchi was released in August 2004 after 9 months of incarceration.

Seized from his hotel room on November 2002

Hiroshi Kato, humanitarian worker with Life Funds for North Korea Refugees and a citizen of Japan, was seized at his hotel in China for helping North Korean refugees and held in prison for a week in November 2002.



Chinese Citizens:

Korea-Chinese who helped defectors, seized and sent to the North in April, 2008

Lee, Gi-Cheon (42), a broker for defectors, guided defectors to Yenji province from the border. He was seized by North Korean security agents near the Tumen River.

Seized on September 27, 2003.

Lee Bok-Ja (female, 51) arrested by Chinese Border Police and served a 2 year sentence for providing transportation to 4 North Korean refugees from her church in Yanji to Changchun city as part of a rescue operation with Steve Kim

Lee Young-Ok (female, 46), the wife of a church pastor, arrested by Chinese Border Police and served a 2 year sentence for buying tickets for 4 North Korean refugees so they could travel from ChangChun to Guang Zhou in southern China as part of a rescue operation with Steve Kim. Both women spent part of their sentence (2 years) in the same prison with Steve Kim.

Seized on 22 May 2003

Park Yong-Ho (male), an ethnic Korean Chinese national was sentenced to a 3-year imprisonment and a fine of 10,000 RMB.

Seized on 18 January 2003 in Yantai City, Shandong Province

Kim Song-Man (Chinese version, "Jin CHENGWAN"), ethnic Korean Chinese national sentenced to 1 year imprisonment and a fine of 1,000 RMB. Kim served his sentence and is now free.

Many more Chinese citizens have been imprisoned and are in jail today but we do not know their names, only that they helped rescue refugees.

