

Where Love Does Not Exist

Drawings, Pictures, Stories about
Crimes Against Humanity in North Korea

Where Love Does Not Exist

After the official establishment of Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in Democratic People's Republic of Korea ("DPRK") last March 2013, the COI underwent 1 year inquiry period and has published its final report that includes cases of widespread human rights violation on February 7, 2014.

The final report views that the elements of human rights violations in DPRK amount to crimes against humanity and recommended that proper prosecution needs to be conducted on people who have committed human rights violations. It is our wish that this official 400 pages report published by UN to be widely used as a strong and credible reference in a number of fields to alleviate North Korean human rights situation. In addition, we would like to thank and pay my respect to everyone who coordinated for the publication of COI report.

'Where Love Does Not Exist' is the graphics and story oriented exhibition on North Korean political prison camps organized by the Handong University's society of North Korean human rights 'SAGE' in 2010. We have chosen the issue of political prison camp among wide array of North Korean human rights issues, because the information on political prison camps is obscure and hidden from our view. Public only comes in contact with information on political prison camps through testimonies of former prisoners despite the fact that this is the place where the most heinous cases of human rights violation in DPRK are committed.

Some of us from the 2010 exhibition modified and supplemented exhibition contents in time with release of COI report. We have expanded the exhibition into 3 themes by including the issues of Political Prison Camps, Ordinary Prison Camps and Abduction.

In order to understand the human rights violations in North Korea, one needs to pay greater attention and focus than reviewing other human rights situations. Recording of event or interview is impossible as North Korea is extremely regulated society, and this limitation prohibits us from gauging the level of human rights violation in DPRK. The indirect testimonies, pictures and drawings need to be felt by our hearts and accepted by our minds instead of first hand photographic evidences in order for you to meaningfully understand silent tragedies in North Korea.

Just because it is not seen, it does not mean it does not exist. We have more exhibitions here that are drawn by North Korean refugees, satellite photos and stories delivered in testimonies than crystal clear images of photos or videos. However, if you take your time reading these facts, you will be immersed in the silent conversation with exhibitions. They will send you a message 'please pay attention to this place deprived of love, and please let that be not forgotten'.

We hope that those conversations will resonate in your lives.

Crime Against Humanity in North Korea

According to the definition of crime against humanity under International law and the Commission of Inquiry's final reports, two elements must coincide:

- (a) Individuals must commit inhumane acts with the requisite criminal intent; and
- (b) These inhumane acts must form part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against a civilian population.

The Rome Statute also requires that the attack must be pursuant to, or in furtherance of, a state or organizational policy.¹

The Commission has focused on the six groups of victims of crimes against humanity :

- 1. inmates of political prison camps;**
- 2. inmates of the ordinary prison system, in particular political prisoners among them;**
3. religious believers and others considered to introduce subversive influences;
4. persons who try to flee the country;
5. starving populations; and
- 6. persons from other countries who became victims of international abductions and enforced disappearances.**

Here, in this contents, we especially focused on the three victims groups, including inmates of political prison camps, inmates of the ordinary prison system, and persons who became victims of international abductions and enforced disappearances.

¹ U.N. Comm'n of Inquiry on human rights in the Dem. People's Rep. of Kor., Rep. of the H.R.C., 25th Sess., Mar. 3-28, 2014, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/25/CRP.1, para 1027, at 320, 321 (Feb. 7, 2014).

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Crimes against humanity in political prison camps

Inhumane acts

- (a) Imprisonment
- (b) Enforced disappearance
- (c) Extermination
- (d) Murder
- (e) Enslavement
- (f) Torture and subjection to extremely inhumane detention conditions
- (g) Rape and other forms of sexual violence
- (h) Persecution

Systematic and widespread attack pursuant to State policy

Political prison camps

According to the Commission of Inquiry's final report, "If they are not executed immediately, person held accountable for major political wrongs are forcibly disappeared to political prison camps that officially do not exist. Most victims are incarcerated for life, without chance of leaving the camps alive. Camp inmates are denied any contact with the outside world. Not even their closest family members receive any notification as to whether they are dead or alive."¹

Four large camps are still in operation²: political prison camp No. 14 covers 150 square kilometers; political prison camp No. 15 is spread out over an area of 370 square kilometers; political prison camp No. 16 covers about 560 square kilometers; political prison camp No. 25 covers about 980 square kilometers.³ Political prison camps are holding approximately 80,000 to 130,500 prisoners⁴ as of today.

¹ U.N. Comm'n of Inquiry on human rights in the Dem. People's Rep. of Kor., Rep. of the H.R.C., 25th Sess., Mar. 3-28, 2014, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/25/CRP.1, para 729, at 220 (Feb. 7, 2014).

² Id. para 60 at 15 (Feb. 7, 2014)

³ Id. para 735 at 223, 224 (Feb. 7, 2014)

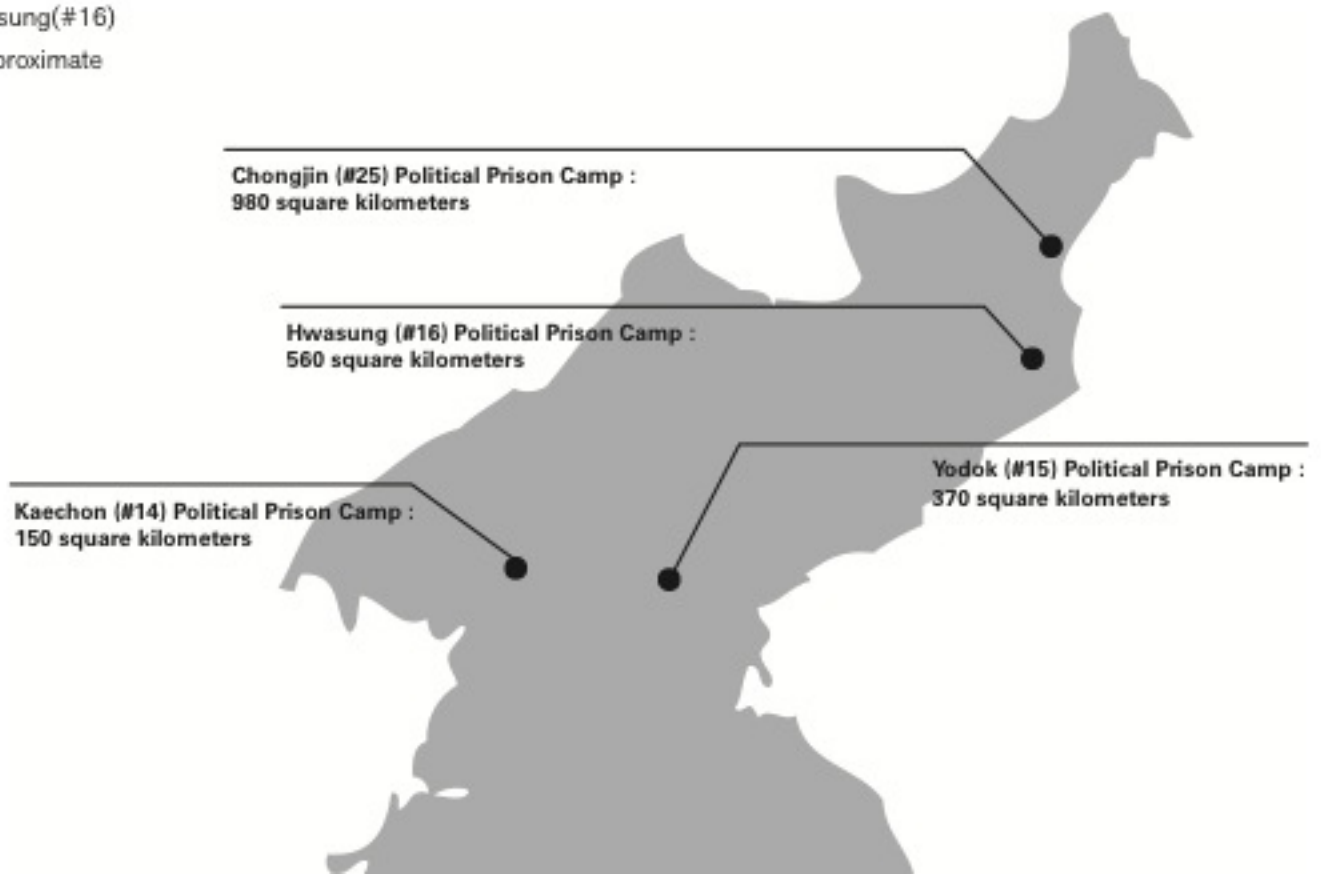
⁴ Id. para 740, 741 at 226 (Feb. 7, 2014)

The North Korean political prison camps

The North Korean Political Prison Camps generally refer to political penal-labor colony where the political prisoners are isolated from society together with their 3 generations of family members and are punished through forced labor until their death. In North Korea, the political opposition is considered as threat to its regime such group includes anticommunists, capitalists, Christian, and recently, defectors.

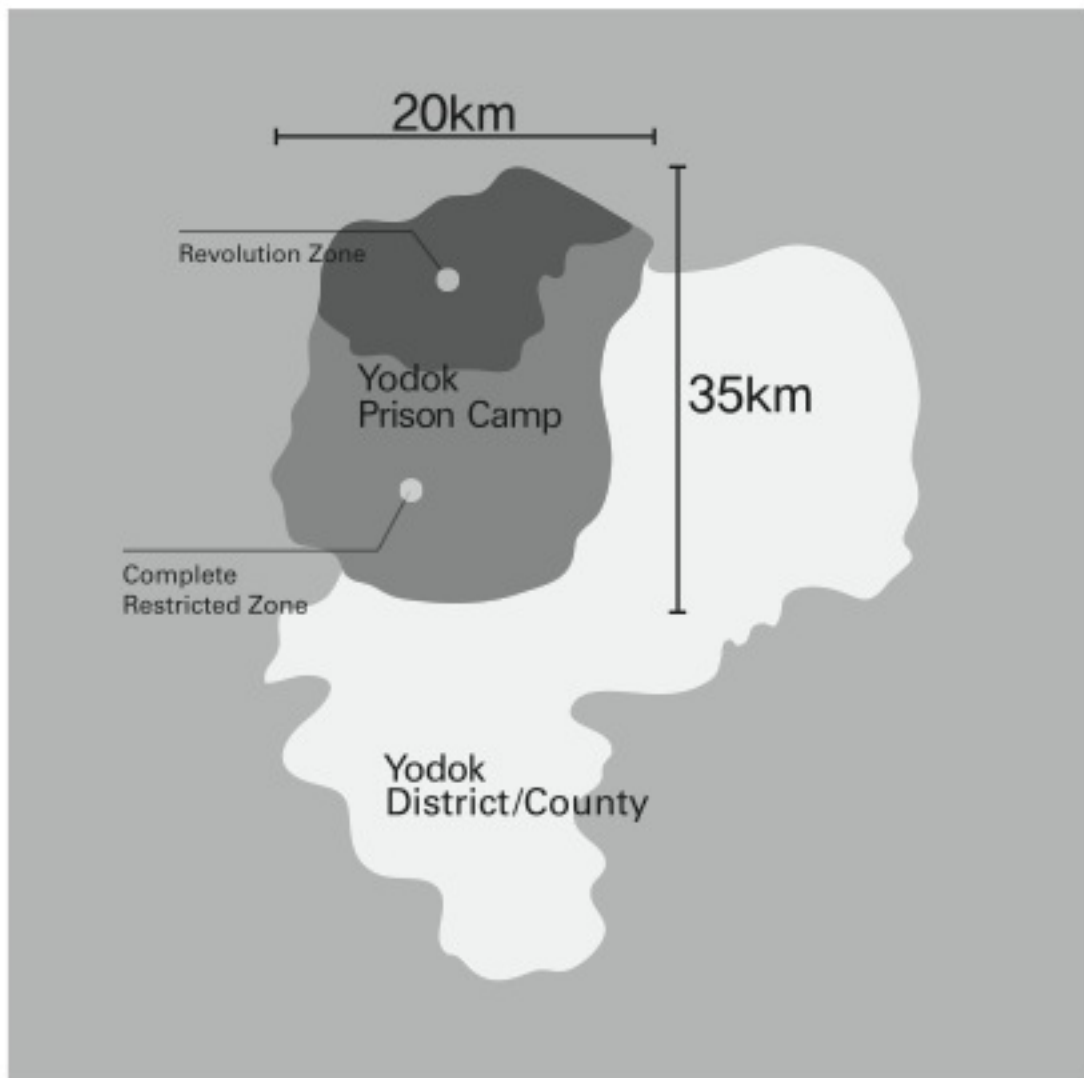
In South Korea, those camps are referred to as political prison camps, but in North Korea, they are known to 'kwan-li-so' or 'the total control zone.' The North Korean regime established camps in 1947, and after a process of establishment and relocation, and closure and integration, 4 are in operation as of today. The Kaechon(#14), Yodok(#15), Hwasung(#16) and Chongjin(#25) political prison camps¹ currently host approximate 80,000 to 130,500 people.²

The North Korean prison camps are unlike South Korean penitentiaries that are in the form of a building but in the form of a closed village, its outer perimeters surrounded by barbed wire fences with guard towers and patrolled by heavily armed guards. People in the camps get up at 5 a.m. and carry out their assigned labor from 5:30 a.m. They are tasked to do extremely hard labor such as mining, timber-cutting and agricultural enterprises. There is no exception for children. Students are ordered to take part in forced labor. The schools in the camps provide basic education in math, reading, writing and other skills needed to carry out assigned labor.



¹ U.N. Comm'n of Inquiry on human rights in the Dem. People's Rep. of Kor., Rep. of the H.R.C., 25th Sess., Mar. 3-28, 2014, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/25/CRP.1, para 735 at 223, 224 (Feb. 7, 2014).

² Id. para 741 at 226, 227 (Feb. 7, 2014).



The Total Control Zones

Political prison camps are largely divided into two categories, the total control zone or life imprisonment facility and the revolutionizing zone which is labour camp where prisoners are released after carrying out their sentences. The North Korean political prison camps fall into the first category of life imprisonment facility. However, the Yodok political prison camp (Camp No. 15) is divided into two sections a total control zone and a revolutionizing zone³. Because no judicial procedure shall be provided to political enemy and their family, even people imprisoned in the revolutionizing zone are not informed of their sentences. On the other hand, the prisoners of total control zones are imprisoned for life. These prisoners are not educated on the ideology of Kim Il-Sung and Kim Jong-Il but are only taught in minimal knowledge and skills required for mining and farming. Once imprisoned in this zone, no one can return to society and the prisoners are subjected to merciless forced labour in mines and lumber camps until he or she dies.

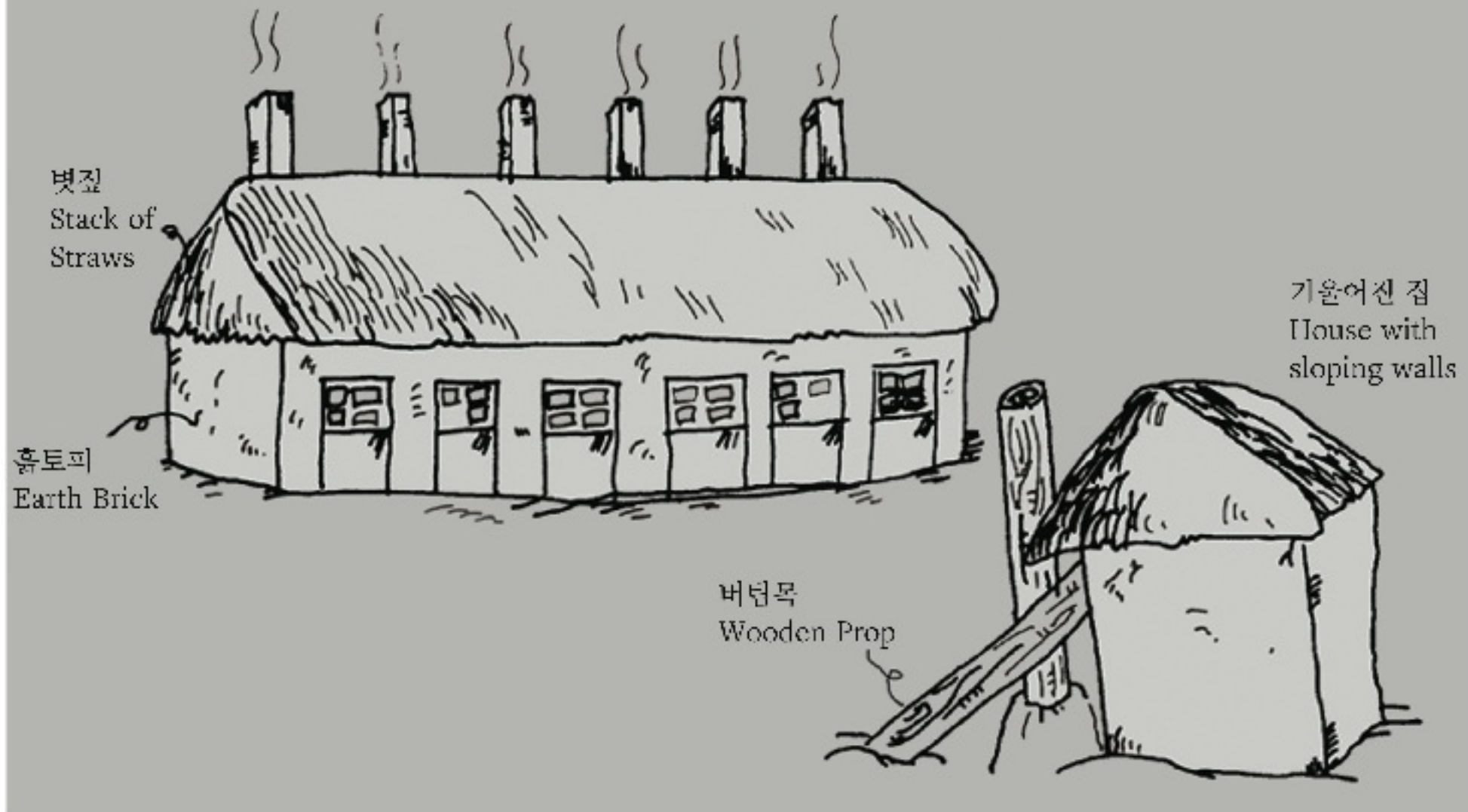
³ U.N. Comm'n of Inquiry on human rights in the Dem. People's Rep. of Kor., Rep. of the H.R.C., 25th Sess., Mar. 3-28, 2014, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/25/CRP.1, para 735 at 223, 224 (Feb. 7, 2014).



A satellite image of Yodok (#15) prison camp



A satellite image of Yodok (#15) prison camp



Structure of the Houses of Prisoners' Family

So-called harmonica house, was formed with wall piled earth bricks.

Ahn Myung Chul,
The Total Control Zone,
Zeitgeist (2007)



남자
Male



여자 Female

45세가 되면 90° 꺾이는 허리

Be bent at 45 years old (an angle of ninety degrees)

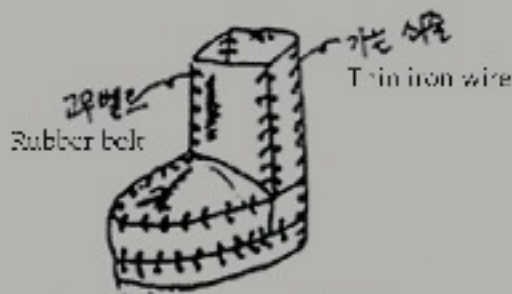


자갈줍기하는 정치범어린이
15살 미만 학생

Student under age 15
is collecting gravels



타시가지
Figskin
새끼줄
A straw rope



고무벨트와 자동화 테라이어
옆면으로 만든 신발

Shoes made of rubber belt,
or side of waste-tire

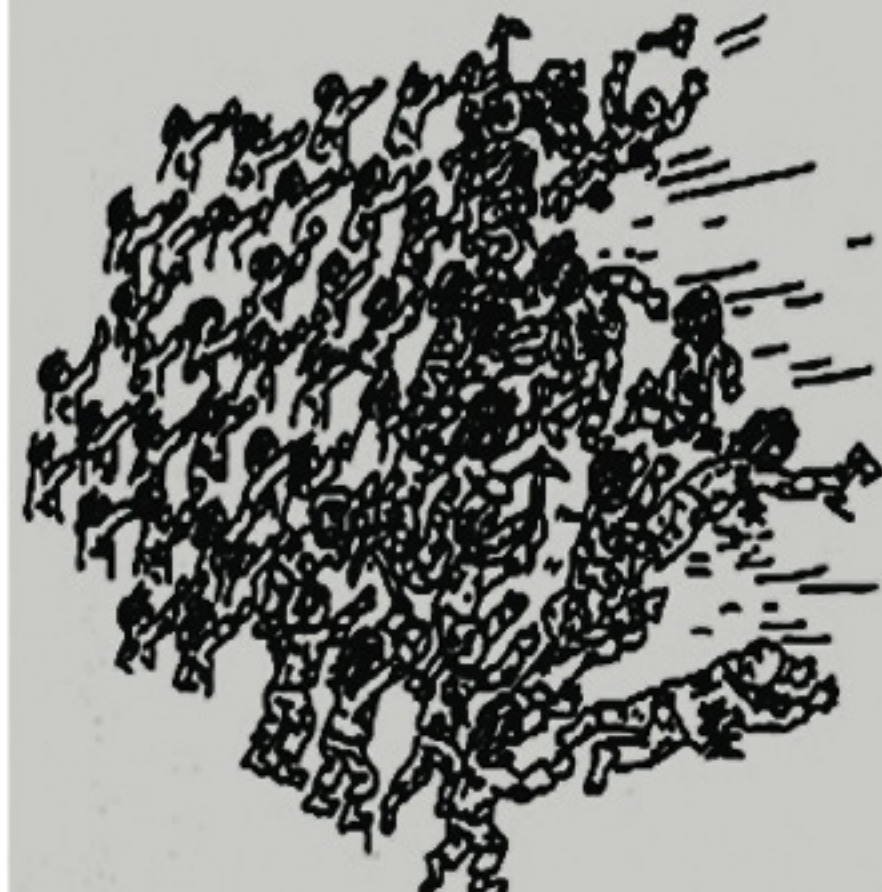


철 띠
Bel t

Clothes of the Prisoners

In the prison camp, basic necessities like clothes, blankets, etc. are not supplied, so inmates make their necessities by themselves.

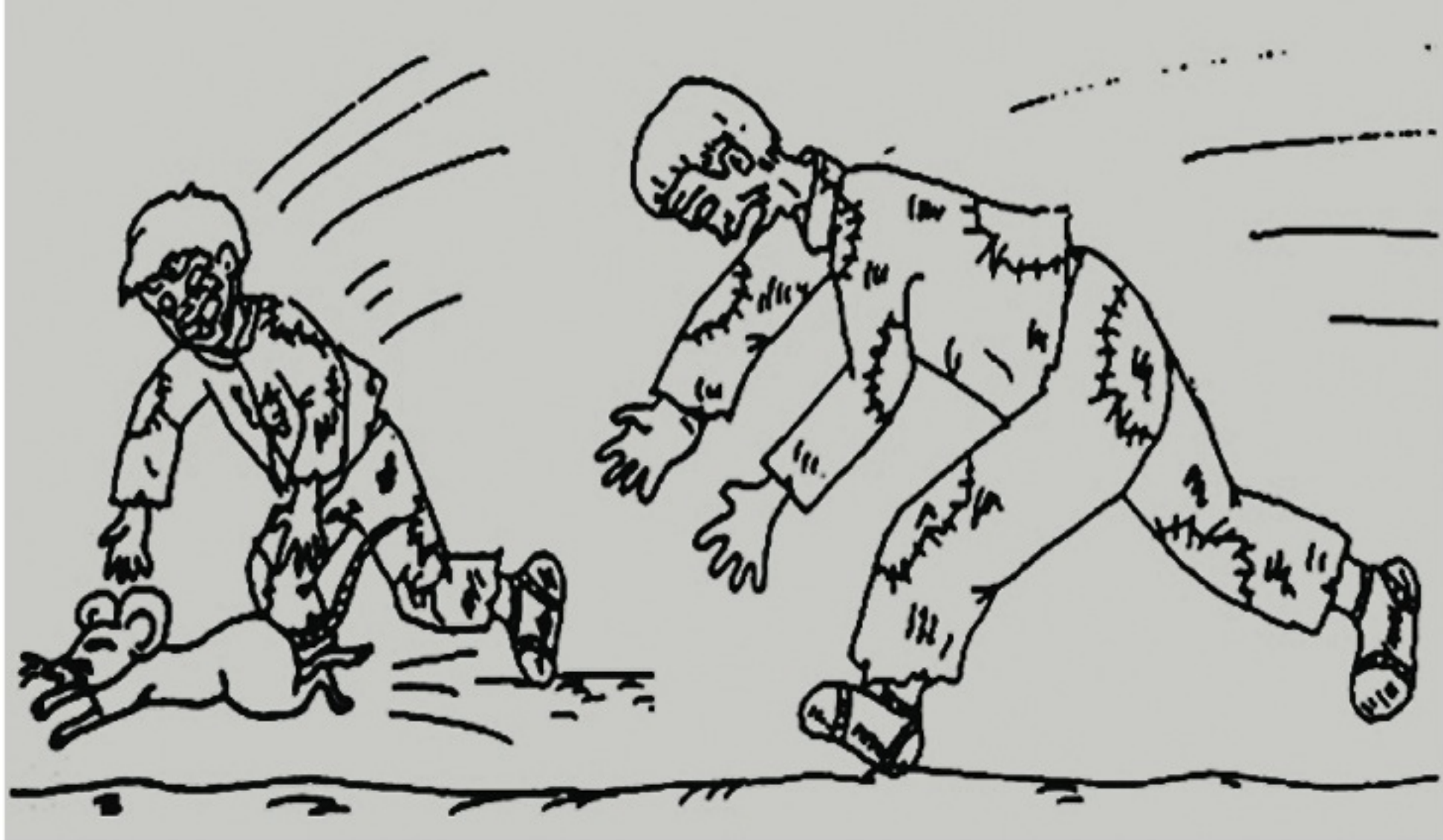
Ahn Myung Chul,
The Total Control Zone,
Zeitgeist (2007)



Massacre

The political prisoners of the Camp #12 (working in mines) numbering about 5,000 were all massacred for attacking the village where the prison guards and their families were living in.

Ahn Myung Chul,
The Total Control Zone,
Zeitgeist (2007)



The Only Source of Meat

In the Total Control Zone, meat is not provided so rat is the only source of meat for prisoners. Because of this, there are barely any rats left in the Camp No. 22. The prisoners, without access to medical help die out of epidemic haemorrhagic fever caused by rats every year during late fall and early winter.

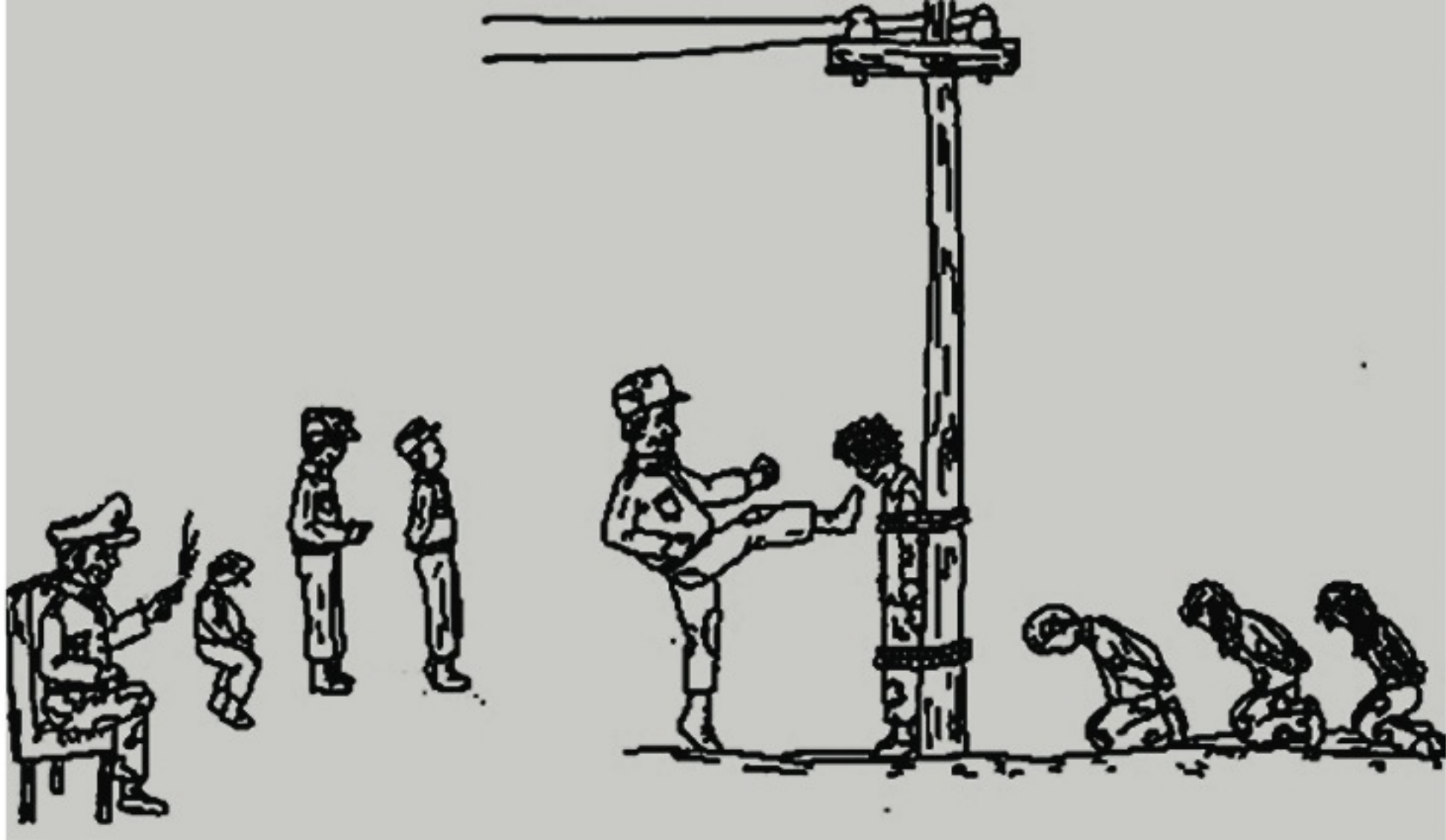
Ahn Myung Chul,
The Total Control Zone,
Zeitgeist (2007)



Man-eating Dog

In May 1988, two 13 years old middle school girls from the Camp No. 13 were attacked and eaten by the prison guard's dog on their way home from school.

Ahn Myung Chul,
The Total Control Zone,
Zeitgeist (2007)



Can't Cry

Prison guards use political prisoners as their practice target during their training. The prisoners were not allowed to say anything even if they were bleeding or had broken ribs. They could only shed tears at the injustice.

Ahn Myung Chul,
The Total Control Zone,
Zeitgeist (2007)



Human or Animals?

Political prisoners are allowed out of their cells 30 minutes a week to get some sunlight. The prisoners, men and women alike, have shaved heads, and look like walking skeletons. They eat 100g of rice with "salt soup" (water with a dash of salt), and so during their time out in the sunlight, they eat all kinds of grass when the prison guard is not looking. If they get caught, they are beaten mercilessly, and sometimes die on the spot.

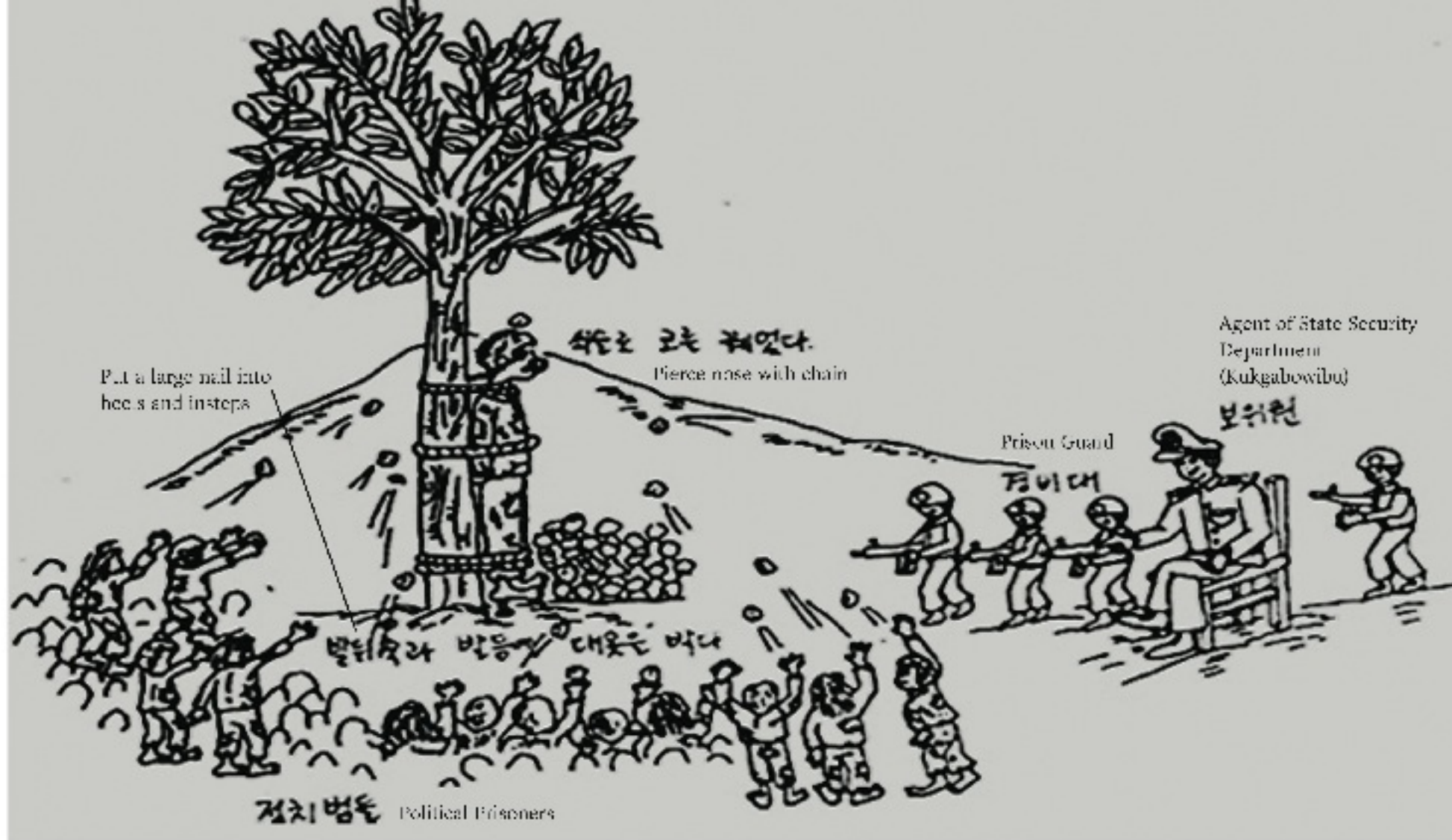
Ahn Myung Chul,
The Total Control Zone,
Zeitgeist (2007)



Who gave them the rights to take lives?

In the Su-gol Valley, prisoners are secretly executed. In the fall of 1989, a prison guard, having discovered that a female prisoner was pregnant with another guard's child, sliced open the woman's womb, took out the unborn baby and trampled the baby to death.

Ahn Myung Chul,
The Total Control Zone,
Zeitgeist (2007)

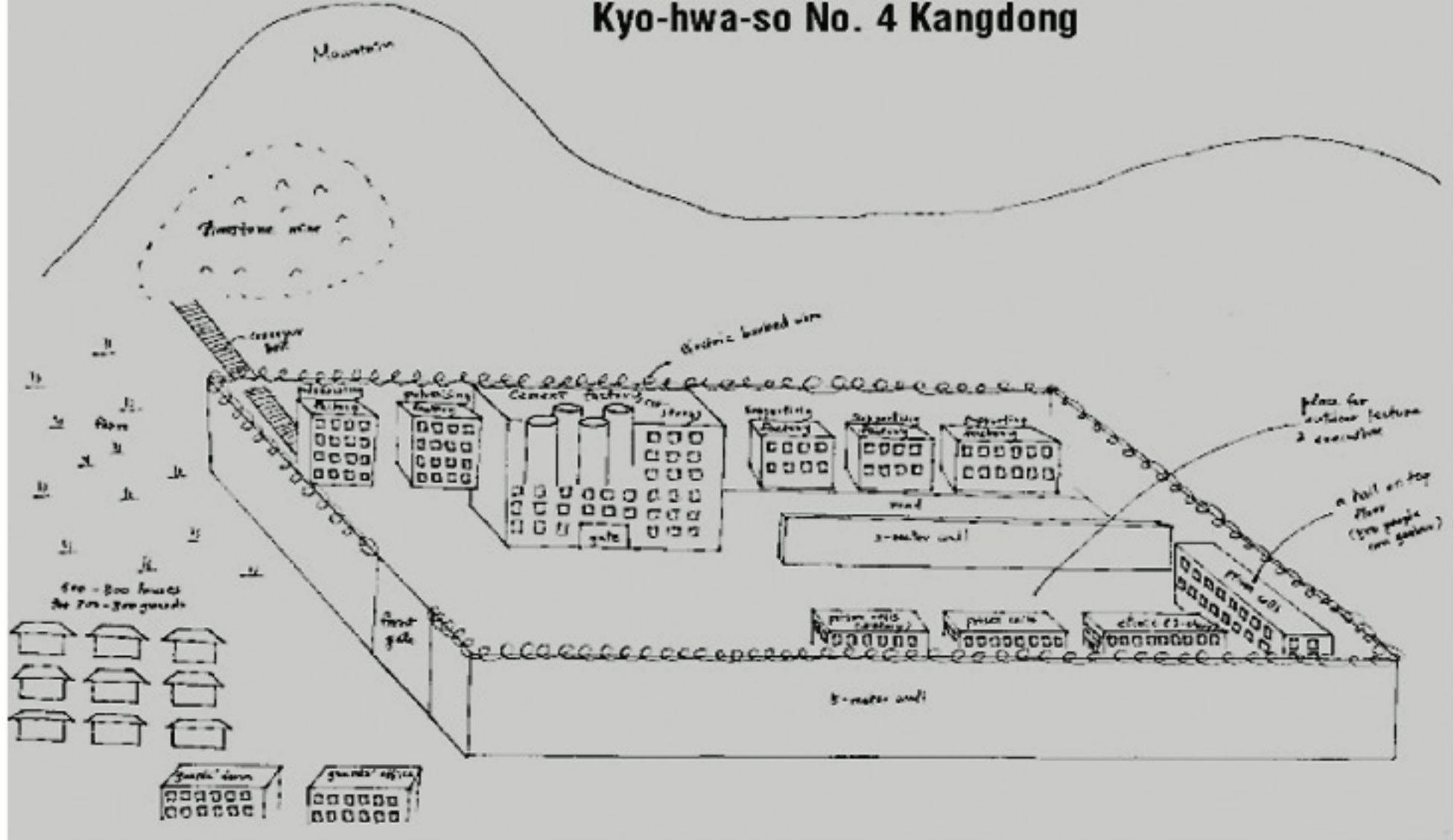


Runaway

A 27-year old prisoner at the Camp #13 took a prison property jeep #580131 and escaped from prison. He abandoned the jeep at the Tumen River and crossed the border to China. But he was caught within a week by the Chinese police and was sent back to North Korea. The furious prison ward accused the prisoner of defying Kim Il-Sung's authority. He had the prisoner's nose pierced with an iron chain, and his feet nailed with a peg. The prison ward ordered the rest of the prisoners to stone him to death.

Ahn Myung Chul,
The Total Control Zone,
Zeitgeist (2007)

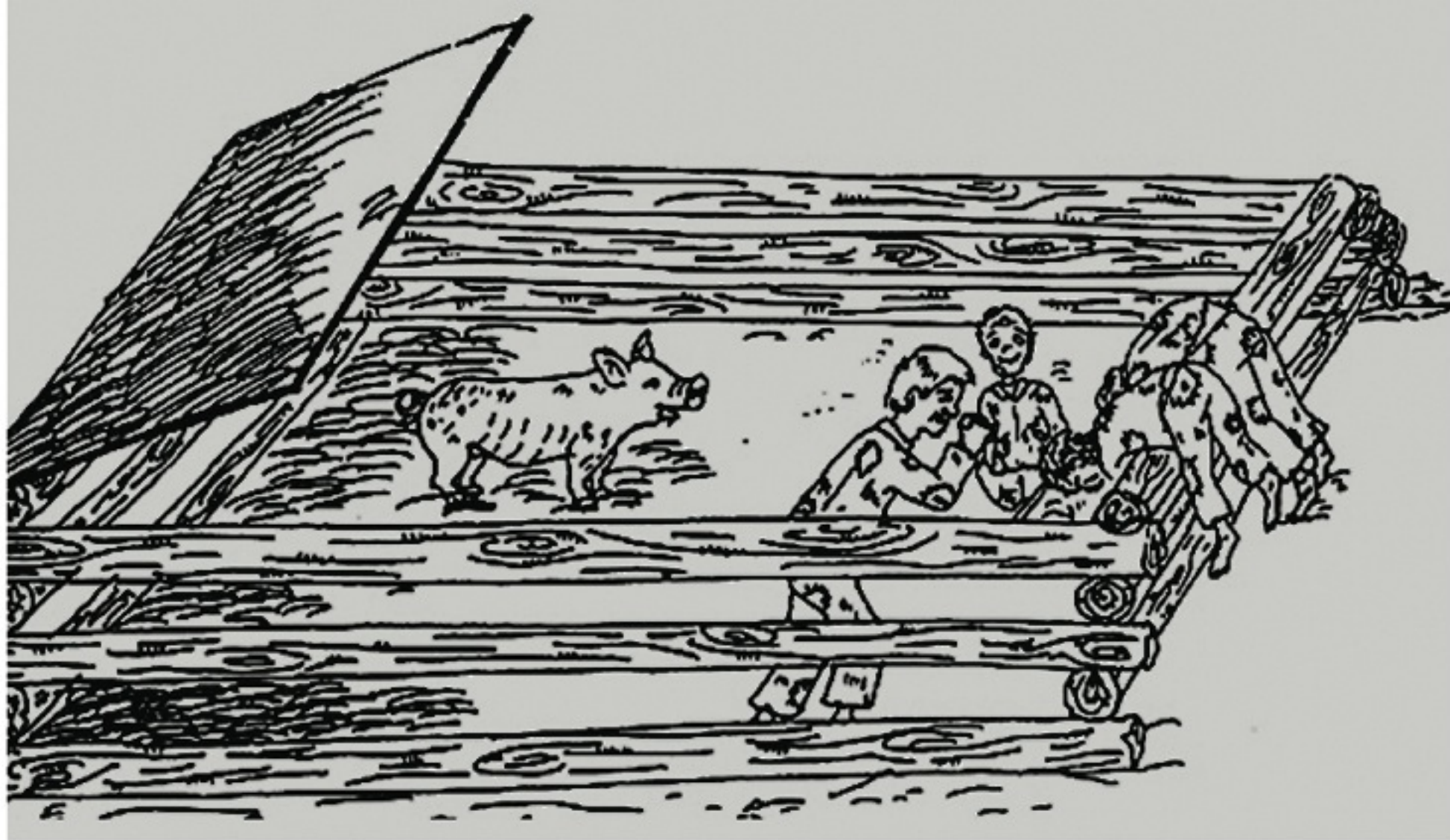
Kyo-hwa-so No. 4 Kangdong



Total Control Zone

The Camp No. 4 is located in Sam-deung-ri, Kangdong-gun. The camp is surrounded by electric fences and traps with spikes made from large pegs hidden away under trees and grass patches.

Ahn Myung Chul,
The Total Control Zone,
Zeitgeist (2007)



Humans inferior to the pig

The 6 groups of political prisoners who were working at the mine construction ate pig feed for 3 months to the point that the pigs stopped growing. They took out bits of rice, cabbage, radish leaves and bone bits from the pigsty and ate them. The remaining liquid portion of the pig food was eaten together with rice. After eating the pig food, the prisoners gave the pigs water to feed.

Ahn Myung Chul,
The Total Control Zone,
Zeitgeist (2007)

The story of Mr. Shin



Shin Dong Hyuk

Period of Work

1982–2005

Place of Work

14th Kaechon
political prison
camp

Mr. Shin Dong-hyuk was born in Political Prison Camp No. 14 in 1981, as a result of a relationship the guards had arranged between his parents without their choices on the matter. His father and his family were found to be imprisoned in the camp because one of Mr Shin's uncles had fled to the Republic of Korea. Mr Shin never found out why his mother became imprisoned in the camp. Mr. Shin described how he had been indoctrinated to internalize the guilt by family association principle and that he never questioned the basis and conditions of his imprisonment¹:

*"I was born a criminal and I would die a criminal. That was my fate... Where I lived only two kinds of people existed, the guards who had guns and the people who are inmates wearing uniforms. Inmates were born inmates, so we lived like inmates; that was our fate... Nobody taught us that way but that was all that we could see... so that's how we lived."*²

When he was 13 years old, he reported a conversation he overheard between his mother and brother in which they talked about escaping from the camp. As a result, his mother and brother were both executed. Mr. Shin had to watch the public execution of his mother and his brother, along with all other inmates. Mr. Shin described the thought process leading to him denouncing his own mother as follows³:

*"I first reported about their plan [to escape], because I was obliged to report every detail to the guards... That was the rule of the prison's camp, so that's why obviously I thought it was my job to report about their plan to the guard at that time. At my age, I was really proud of that. ... I asked the supervisor to reward me, to give full portion of cooked, dried rice to fill my stomach. And, I was promised that reward and that's why I reported about their plan."*⁴

He is the only person known to have successfully escaped a total control zone. He owes his escape to a tragic coincidence. As nightfall approached on the day of his escape, a friend and he were assigned to collect firewood in the vicinity of the perimeter fence. They decided to seize the opportunity to escape. His friend reached the fence first and was electrocuted as he attempted to climb through a hole in the fence. Dangling on the wire, the friend's body created a sufficiently insulated breach for Mr. Shin to climb through and run away. Mr. Shin explained the motivation underlying his risky decision⁵:

*"I heard from this new inmate, that the people outside could eat the same food as the guards, freely. I could have been electrocuted, I could have been shot but I just wanted to have one day for which I could eat all the food that the people outside [the camp] ate."*⁶

¹ U.N. Comm'n of Inquiry on human rights in the Dem. People's Rep. of Kor., Rep. of the H.R.C., 25th Sess., Mar. 3-28, 2014, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/25/CRP.1, para 747, at 228, 229 (Feb. 7, 2014).

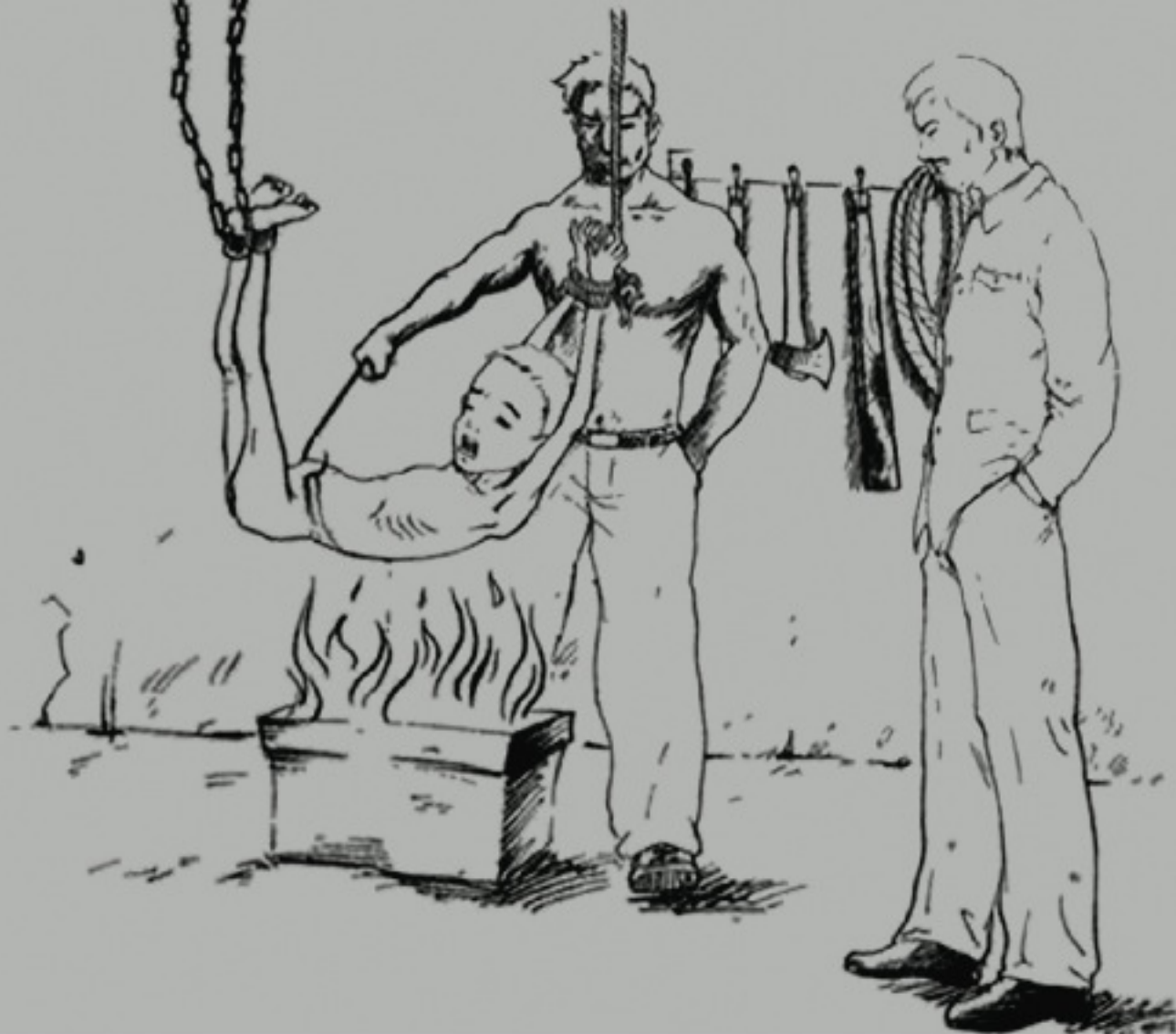
² Seoul Public Hearing, 20 August 2013, afternoon (00:43:36).

³ Id. para 752, at 236, 237 (Feb. 7, 2014).

⁴ Seoul Public Hearing, 20 August 2013, afternoon (00:41:00).

⁵ Id. para 756, at 233, 234 (Feb. 7, 2014).

⁶ Seoul Public Hearing, 20 August 2013, afternoon (01:11:40).



Torture by fire

When he was 14 years old, Mr Shin Dong-hyuk was interrogated under torture for six months in the punishment block of political prison camp No. 14 to establish whether he knew about escape plans discussed between his mother and brother. Among other methods, he was strung over a lit fire until his back was burned. He survived only because of the help of an older cellmate who nursed his injuries.¹

Shin Dong Hyuk, *North Korean Maximum Security Camp out to the World*, NKDB (2007)

¹ Seoul Public Hearing, 20 August 2013, afternoon.



Scars

Shin Dong-Hyuk 's scars injured from electrical fence when his escaping from Gaechon prison camp.

*Shin Dong Hyuk, North Korean
Maximum Security Camp out to the
World, NKDB (2007)*



A finger lost to a sewing machine

On another occasion, Mr Shin accidentally dropped a sewing machine at the factory he was forced to work at. The middle finger of his right hand was cut off as punishment¹:

Shin Dong Hyuk, North Korean Maximum Security Camp out to the World, NKDB (2007)

¹ *Id.*, para 760, at 235 (Feb. 7, 2014).



A finger lost to a sewing machine

"The guard told the floor manager to cut off my finger, so got on my knees and I begged not to do so but that didn't work obviously. And, I thought my whole hand was going to cut off, but it was just a finger. So, at that time I was grateful, really grateful to the guard because I was only losing a finger instead of a hand."⁹

Shin Dong Hyuk, *North Korean Maximum Security Camp out to the World*, NKDB (2007)

⁹ Seoul Public Hearing, 20 August 2013, afternoon (00:57:50).

Research on Dong-Hyuk Shin's Expression Terminology Recognition Phase

Shin Dong Hyuk, *North Korean Maximum Security Camp out to the World*, NKDB (2007)

Dong-Hyuk Shin :
former prisoner of
North Korean prison camps

● :
Phase of time when expression term
were heard or understood are indicated

Category	Emotional Expression	Prison camp	North Korea	China	South Korea
Sadness and Worries	Depressed	●			
	Sad	●			
	Unloved			●	
	Horrible	●			
	Despair	●			
	Worry	●			
	Apprehensive	●			
Fear and Anxiety	Afraid	●			
	Anxious	●			
	Scared	●			
	Despair				●
	Rejected	●			
	Frightened	●			
	Discouraged	●			
Rage and Anger	Angry	●			
	Hatred	●			
	Aggression	●			
	Curse	●			
	Unjust				●
	Resist				●
	Dislike	●			

Category	Emotional Expression	Prison camp	North Korea	China	South Korea
Happiness	Happy				●
	Pleased				●
	Satisfied	●			
	Peaceful				●
	Joyful				●
	Bliss				●
	Good mood	●			
	Moved				●
	Lively				●
	Hopeful				●
Affection and Concern	Tender				●
	Kind	●			
	Pretty				●
	Lovely				●
	Warm	●			
	Affectionate				●
	Good				●
	Pure				●
	Genuine	●			
	Overflowing love			●	
	I love you				●



Ahn Myung Chul

Period of Work

1987 – 1994

Place of Work

No.11 Kyungsung political prison camp

No.13 Jongsung political prison camp

No.22 Hoeryung political prison camp

No.26 Seungho-Ree Reformation camp

-
He became prison camp guard when he was enlisted for military service in 1987, and since then, he had worked at four different camps. In 1994, he escaped from his service at No.22 Hoeryung political prison camp, stopped over China and sought asylum in South Korea in October. He published his autobiography "*The Total Control Zone*" in 2007.



Kang Chul Hwan

Period of Imprisonment

1977–1987

Place of Imprisonment

15th Yodok political prison camp

-
When he was 9, his grandfather, who was of Jochongnyeon background, was charged with espionage. His entire family with lone exclusion of his mother was found guilty by association and was imprisoned in Yodok political prison camp in the Southern Ham-Kyung province. He was held under brutal captivity for 10 years. He published his autobiography, "*The Aquariums of Pyongyang*".



Kim Young Sun

Period of Imprisonment

1970–1979

Place of Imprisonment

15th Yodok political prison camp

-
She grew up in an upper class family of North Korea. As a talented individual, she graduated from Pyongyang College of Arts' Department of Dancing and taught a dancer Choi Seung-Hee. Her entire family was imprisoned for the reason that Hye-Rim Sung, Kim Jung-Il's first wife, was her friend. Both her parents died of starvation. She published autobiography, *"I was Sung Hye-Rim's friend."*



Kim Hae Suk

Period of Imprisonment

1975–2002

Place of Imprisonment

18th Buk-Chang political prison camp

-
When she was 13, it was suspected that her grandfather had defected to South Korea, and her entire family was imprisoned in the Buk-Chang political prison camp. During the 28 years under captivity, her grandmother died of starvation and she lost both her mother and brother to an accident.



Jung Gwang-il

Period of Imprisonment

2000–2002

Place of Imprisonment

15th Yodok political prison camp

-
He was imprisoned for 3 years on the charge of espionage for coming into contact with a South Korean personage while based in China as the branch manager of Chosun Pyong-Yang Commerce Corporation.



Kang Hong Shik

Period of Imprisonment

?–1971 (Passed away)

Place of Imprisonment

15th Yodok political prison camp

-
He was both a famous actor and singer in the 1930's and 40's. He also gained fame by his directing of North Korea's first art film, "My Hometown." It is speculated that he was imprisoned for his carefree nature, as it was considered to be a hindrance in the process of deifying Kim Il-Sung (Testimony of Kim Young-Sun). He is also the grandfather of actor Choi Min-Su, South Korean actor.



Shin Bul Chul

Period of Imprisonment

1972–1976(Passed away)

Place of Imprisonment

15th Yodok political prison camp

-
He was a renowned actor and comedian during Japan's colonial rule. After defecting to North Korea in 1974, he was known to be politically successful and awarded with different titles and awards, but was imprisoned in the Yodok political prison camp for satirizing North Korea's situation by a slip of tongue. He tragically died of undernourishment.



Choi Seung Hee

Period of Imprisonment

?—1967(Passed away)

Place of Imprisonment

18th Buk-Chang political prison camp

-
She gained international fame in 1930's for founding Korea's own unique modern dance. After Korea's liberation from Japan, she defected to North Korea and was given various titles and positions, but later, was imprisoned in the Buk-Chang political prison camp because dancing was considered to be a decadent in a socialist society. She died while imprisoned, and her name was reinstated after her death.



The story of Oh Hae Won, Oh Kyu Won,

Who may have been arbitrary detained in North Korea

Oh Hae Won and Oh Kyu Won were born in Kiel, Germany on September 17, 1976 and on June 21, 1978 respectively to South Korean parents. Kyu Won played the violin well, while Hae Won was talented in painting and writing. Hae Won entered elementary school in Kronshagen on September 1, 1983, and she was beloved by German friends and teachers.

In 1985, a North Korean agent approached their father, Mr. Oh, and offered him a government position in North Korea as well as free first class medical treatment for his wife, who was then suffering from hepatitis. Despite his wife's objections, Mr. Oh decided to accept the offer, believing that the promise made by the agent was legitimate. Soon, though, authorities ordered Oh to return to Germany and recruit more South Korean students to live in North Korea. His wife and daughters, he was told, could not accompany him. En route to Germany, Oh turned himself over to authorities in Copenhagen and was granted political asylum. Mr. Oh was successful in his escape from North Korea but was unable to help his wife and daughters. For this reason, Hae Won and Kyu Won were imprisoned with their mother in the "Revolutionizing zone" of the Yodok Camp at the end of 1987. At the time of imprisonment, Hae Won was 11 years old and Kyu Won was 9 years old. Later, for unknown reasons, they were moved to the "Total Control zone," where one must serve a life sentence.

Mr. Oh petitioned the UN agency and the UN WGAD sent a letter of inquiry to North Korea to release his wife and two daughters on March 1 in 2012. North Korea responded on April 27 that the wife of Oh Kil Nam died of hepatitis. The response does not say when or where she died raising suspicions that the account is a cover-up. Also, it denies Mr. Oh's account, claiming Shin and her daughters came to North Korea voluntarily in 1985. It is assumed that North Korea probably lied about Mr. Oh's wife to thwart the efforts of Mr. Oh and human rights groups to rescue her. If it is true, Mr. Oh's wife died probably at the Yodok political prison camp or an internment facility.¹

For more information, see No. 4/2012 (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) Communication addressed to the Government on 1 March 2012, Concerning Shin Sook Ja, Oh Hae Won and Oh Kyu Won, 'United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention Document Search' <http://www.unwgdatabase.org/un/Document.aspx?id=2838&terms={+shin+sook+ja+}>

¹ News article: N.Korea Says High-Profile S.Korean Is Dead, May 9, 2012, available at http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2012/05/09/2012050900867.html



Hae Won's Childhood in Germany



**Kyu Won's
Childhood in
Germany**



**Hae Won, Kyu Won's
Childhood in Germany**




**Hae Won, Kyu Won's
Childhood in Germany**



**A photograph showing
Dr. Oh Gil Nam's family who are
imprisoned in Yodok camp**

A photograph showing Dr. Oh Gil-Nam's family who are imprisoned in Yodok Camp: Wife Shin Sook Ja, younger daughter Kyu Won and older daughter Hae Won. One of the 6 photographs sent together with a cassette tape recording of family members' voices through composer Yoon Yi Sang on Jan 20, 1991 with the demand that Dr. Oh re-enter North Korea.



**A photograph showing
Dr. Oh Gil Nam's family who are
imprisoned in Yodok camp**



2

Crimes against humanity in ordinary prison camps

Inhumane acts committed against ordinary prisoners

- (a) Imprisonment
- (b) Extermination and murder
- (c) Torture, rape and other grave sexual violence
- (d) Enslavement
- (e) Forcible transfer of a population

Systematic and widespread attack pursuant to State policy

Ordinary prison camps (Kyohwaso)

According to the Commission of Inquiry's final report, ordinary prisons are for the most part operated by the Prisons Bureau of the Ministry of People's Security. They are subjected to the oversight of the Office of the Prosecutor. Perpetrators of more serious crimes are sentenced to imprisonment in ordinary prison camps (called kyohwaso, which literally translates to "Reform and Edification Centre")¹.

A considerable number among the kyohwaso inmates are incarcerated for having exercised their human rights. Persons who try to cross the border into China without authorization may be imprisoned in a kyohwaso, in particular if they are repeat offenders or are from families with bad songbun social class. As Christianity is spreading in the DPRK, ordinary followers of the Christian religion with good songbun are increasingly sentenced to imprisonment in ordinary prison camps.²

The representative camps are as follows; No. 12 at Jonggo-ri (North Hamgyong Province) is one of the biggest and perhaps the best-documented ordinary prison camp, No. 4 serves mainly as a place of detention for residents of Pyongyang and some members of the military, and No. 22 at Oro, Yongkwang County (South Hamgyong Province) is a smaller facility that was upgraded from a labour training facility to a regular prison camp in 2006.³

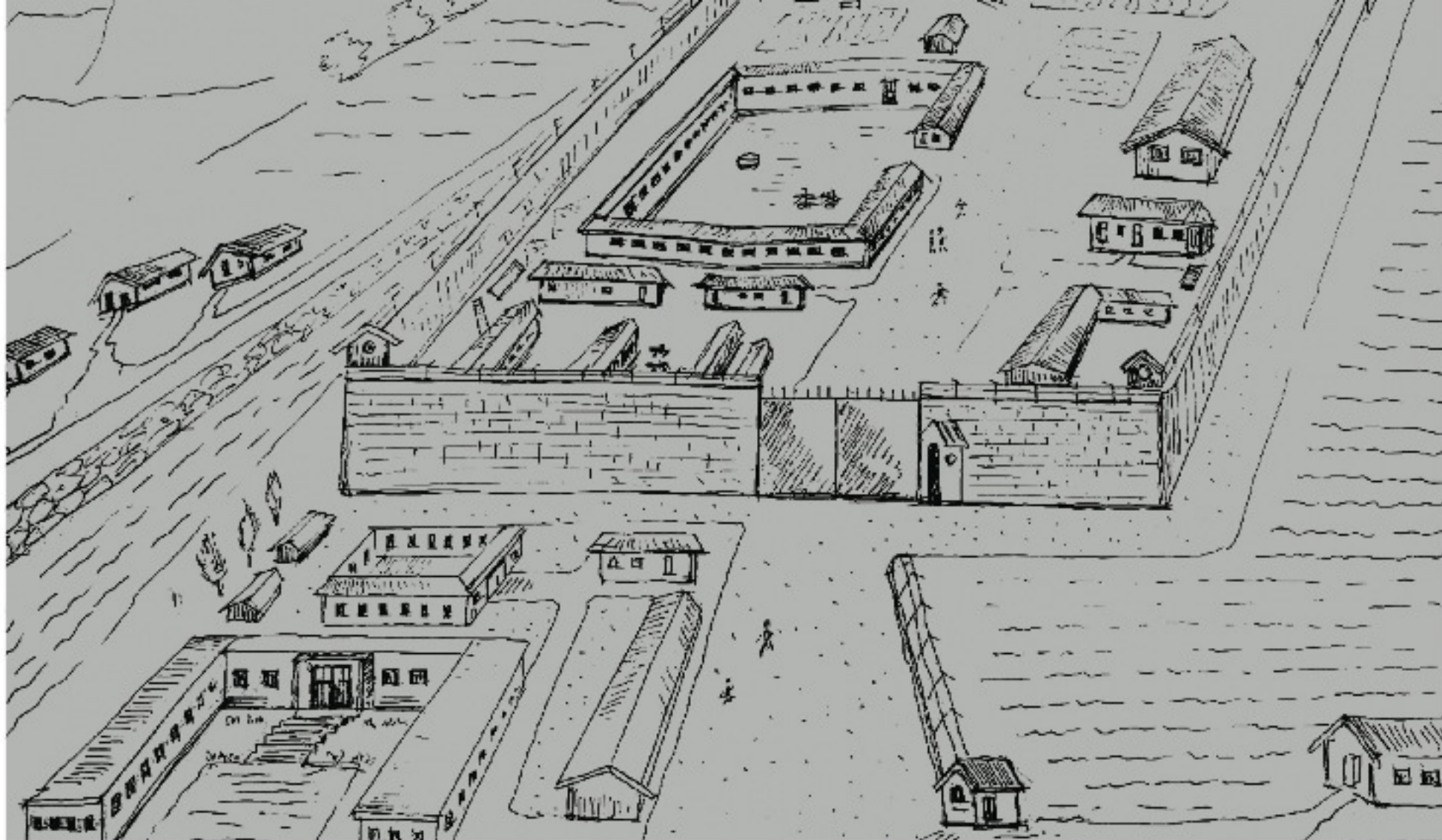
Jonggo-ri Prison is a restructured ordinary prisons camp exclusively for the defectors, following the command of Kim Jong-il in May 2009, "Never allow even a single defector". This camp is known as 'hell on earth' as the labor is more intense than any other camp and beating and torturing are everyday life. The ones who experienced the camp comment that "Jonggo-ri kills so many people that Yodok might be better".

Kwon Hyo-jin, who made a drawing of Jonggo-ri Prison, was born in 1961 at Cheongjin Hambuk and graduated from a college of Gyeongseong Ceramics. He majored crafts in North Korea but is also talented in paintings and calligraphy, which allowed him to show his ability in the field of art. He was relatively richer than others, but since mid-1990s, he also suffered from the shortage of food; he was sentenced to No. 12 Jonggo-ri ordinary prisons camp for 7 years after being caught in helping defectors to cross the river "for food and life." When he finished his sentence for 7 years and was released from the horrible camp where people die each day and night, the North Korean national agents called him "a hero". After he got released, he crossed the river and came to South Korea in 2009 via China.

¹ U.N. Comm'n of Inquiry on human rights in the Dem. People's Rep. of Kor., Rep. of the H.R.C., 25th Sess., Mar. 3-28, 2014, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/25/CRP.1, para 783, at 245 (Feb. 7, 2014).

² Id. para 789 at 246, 247 (Feb. 7, 2014).

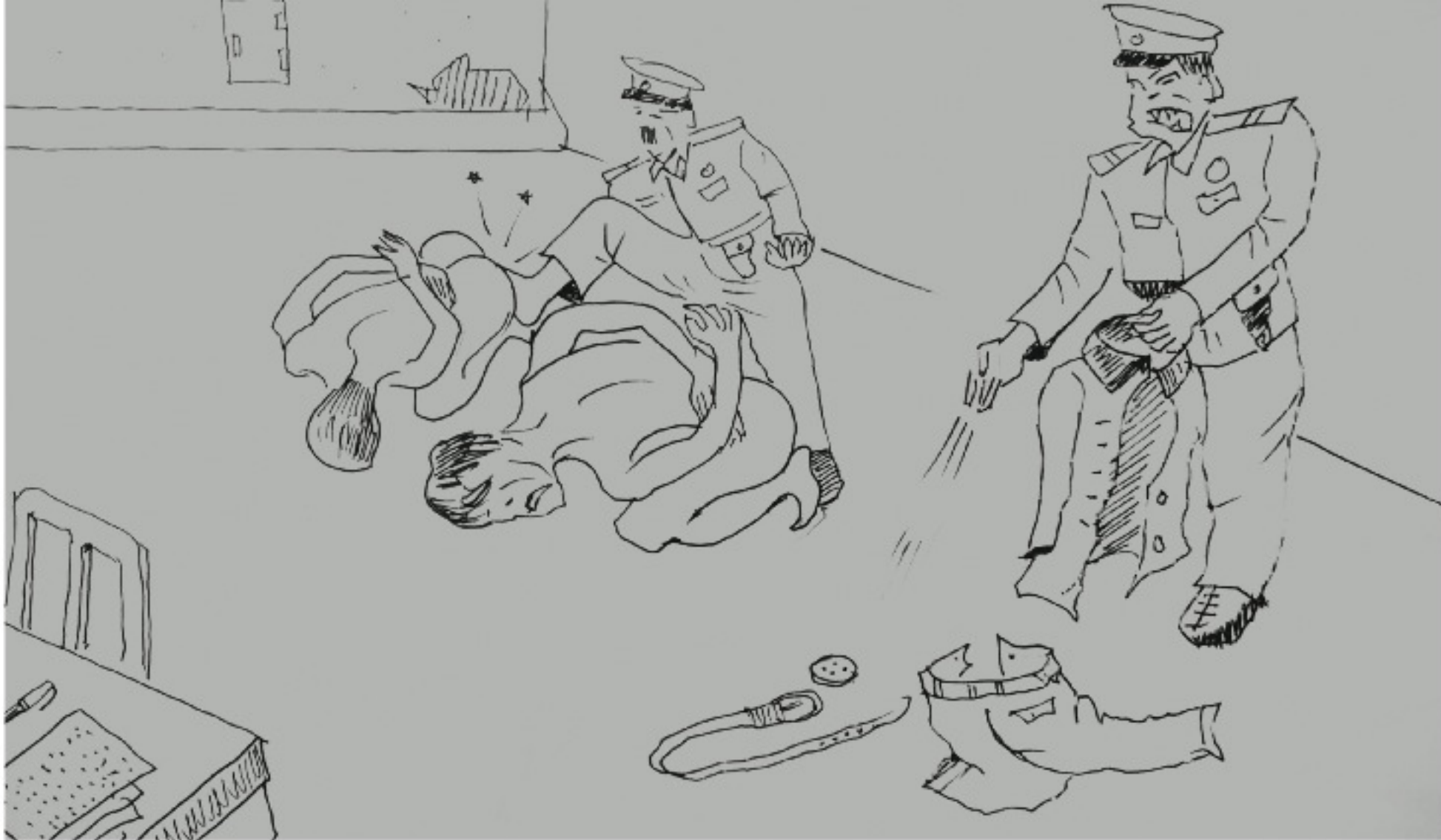
³ Id. para 790 at 247 (Feb. 7, 2014).



Reformation Camp

The panorama of a reformation camp, where defectors are imprisoned after being forcibly repatriated.

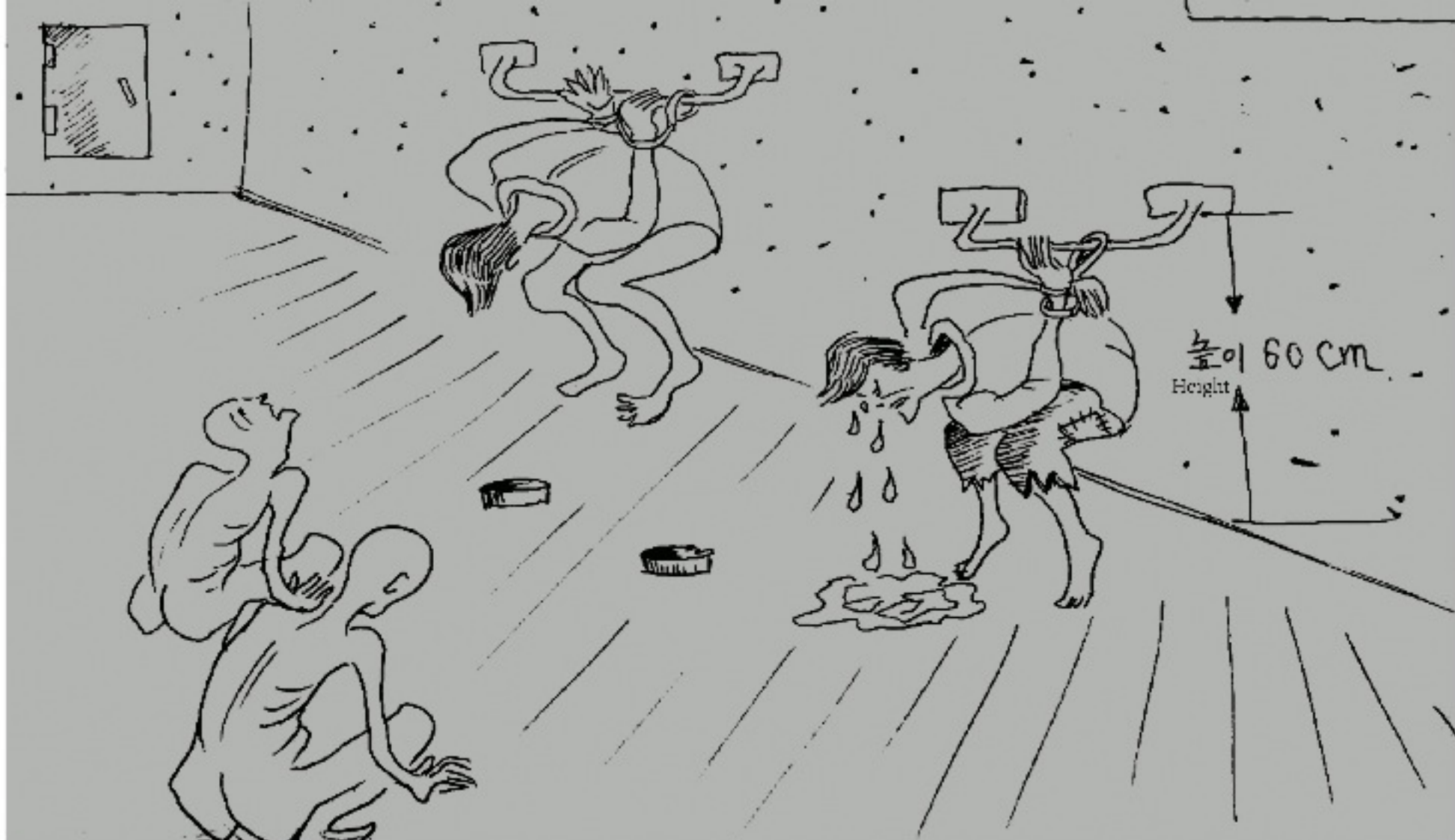
Drawing by Kwon Hyo Jin



Strip Search

The scene of a strip search before defectors are interrogated. Any valuables or money that are found during the search are confiscated.

Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



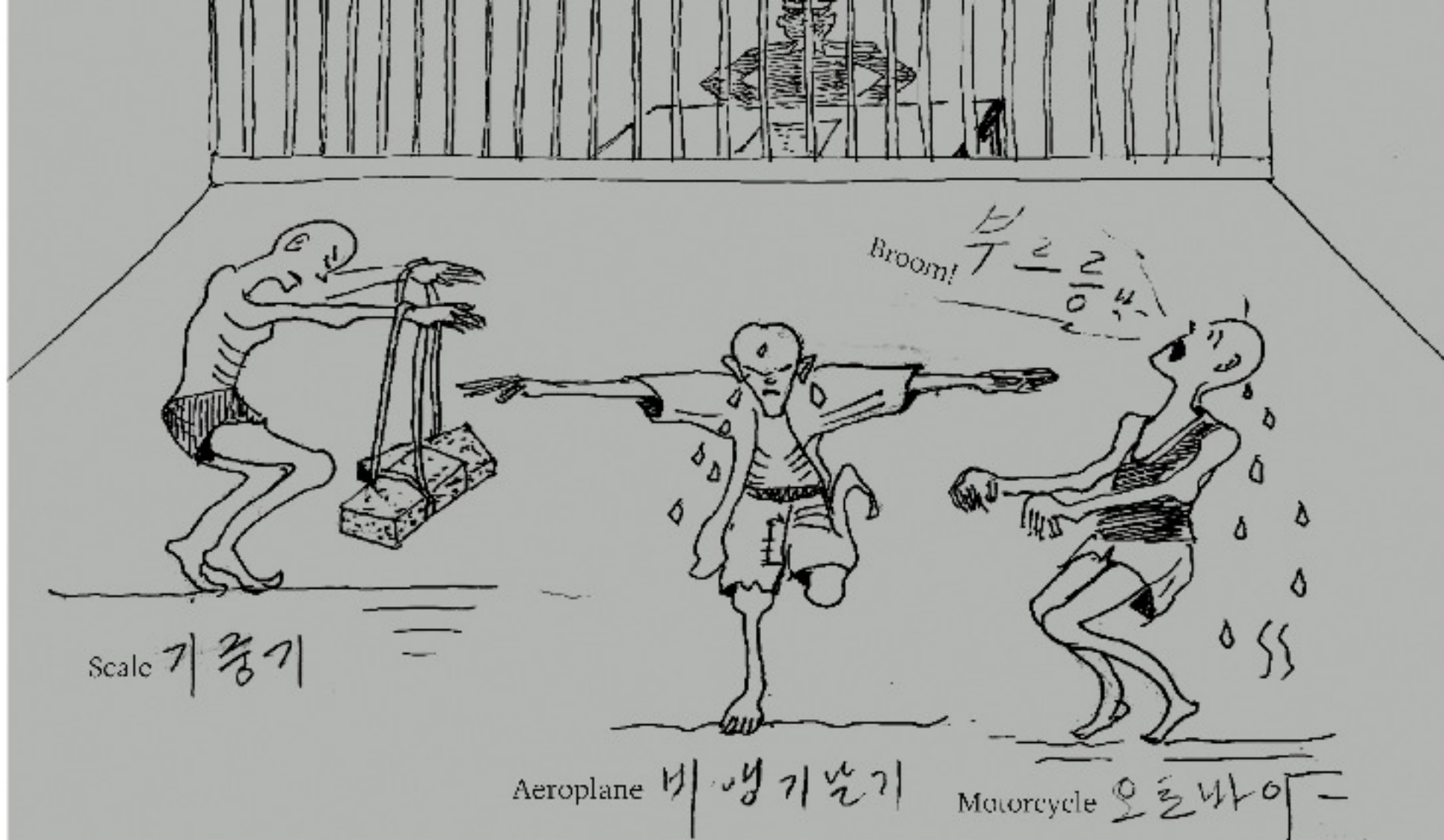
Pigeon Torture

It is called "pigeon torture" because the prisoner is hung from the wall for a long time with his hands tied behind him.

According to the Commission of Inquiry's final report, Mr Kim Gwang-il described how the police officers interrogating him propped him up in the "pigeon torture" position. In this exposed position, his chest was beaten until he vomited blood.¹

- Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon
- Drawing submitted to the COI on DPRK by former prisoner Mr Kim Kwang-il

¹ Id. para 717 at 216 (Feb.7,2014).



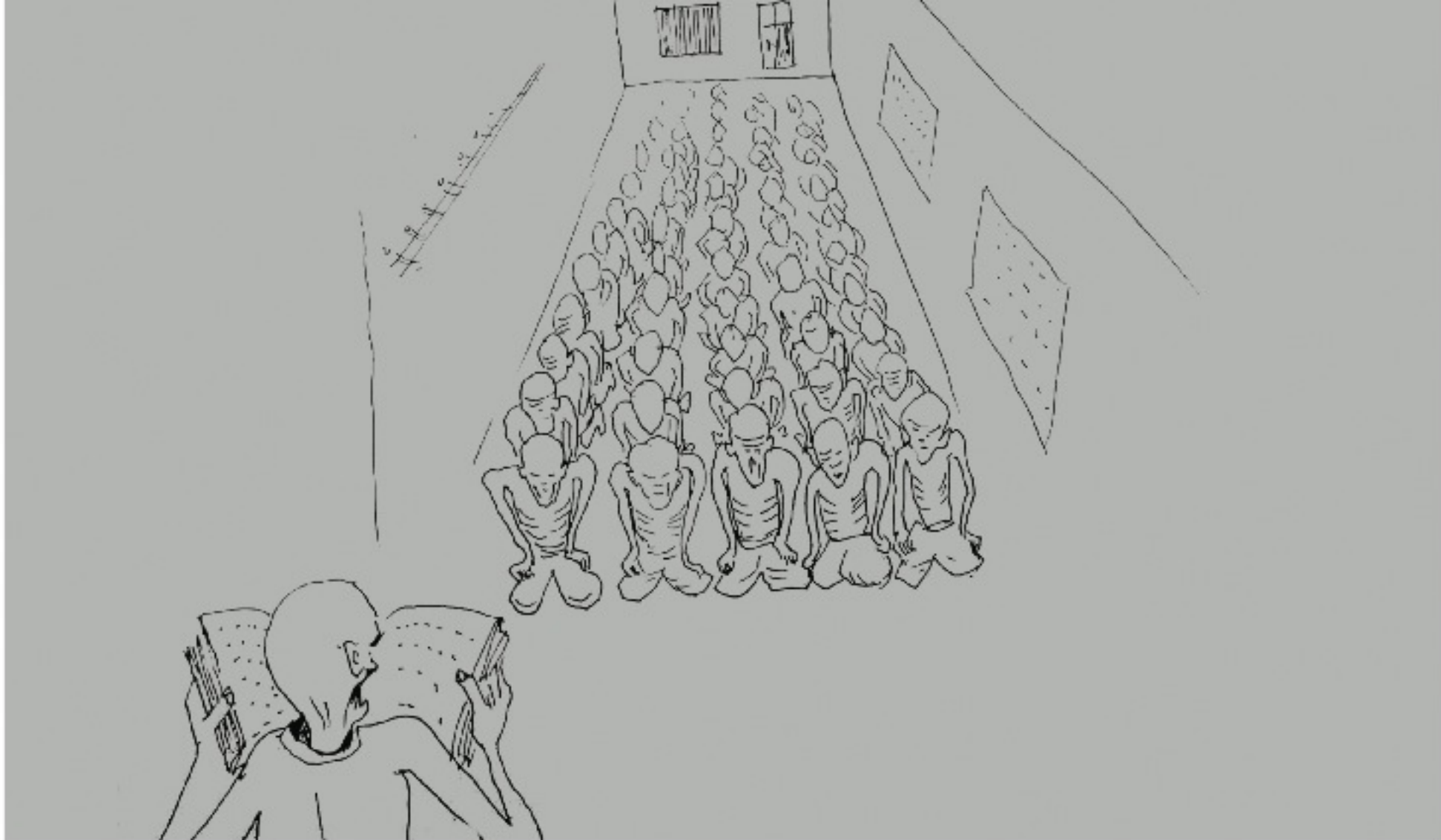
Various Kinds of Torture

An inspector observes inmates undergoing various kinds of torture: the so-called crane torture, aeroplane torture, and motorcycle torture (from left to right).

Also, Mr Kim Kwang-il was subjected to the "motorcycle torture" and "plane torture", where he was forced to assume extremely painful stress positions involving the prolonged extension of his arms until he collapsed.¹

- Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon
 - Drawing submitted to the COI on DPRK by former prisoner Mr Kim Kwang-il (Scale, Aeroplane and Motorcycle Torture)

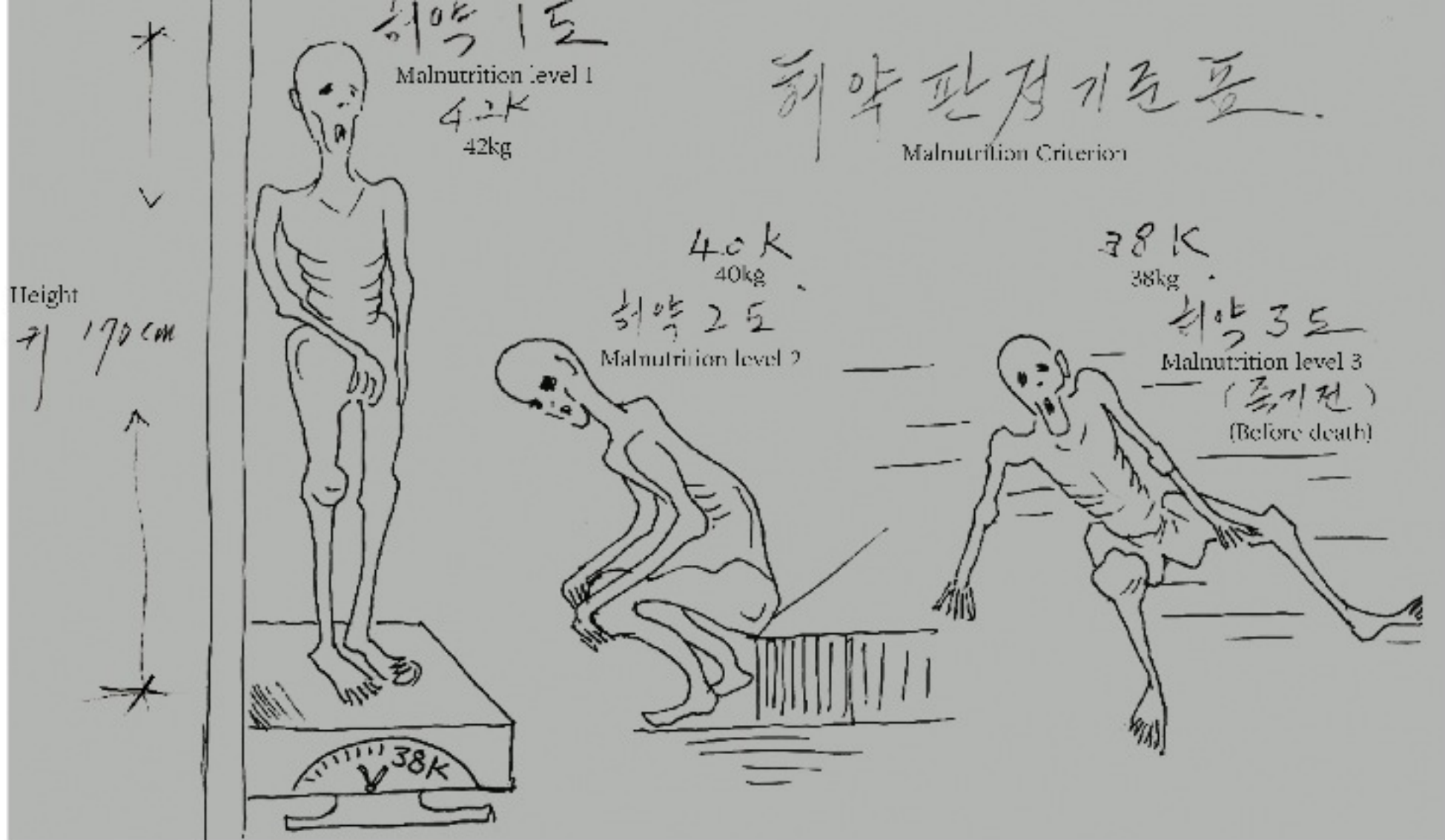
¹ Id. para 717 at 216 (Feb.7,2014).



Studying Regulations

The prisoners study inmate regulations on their knees.

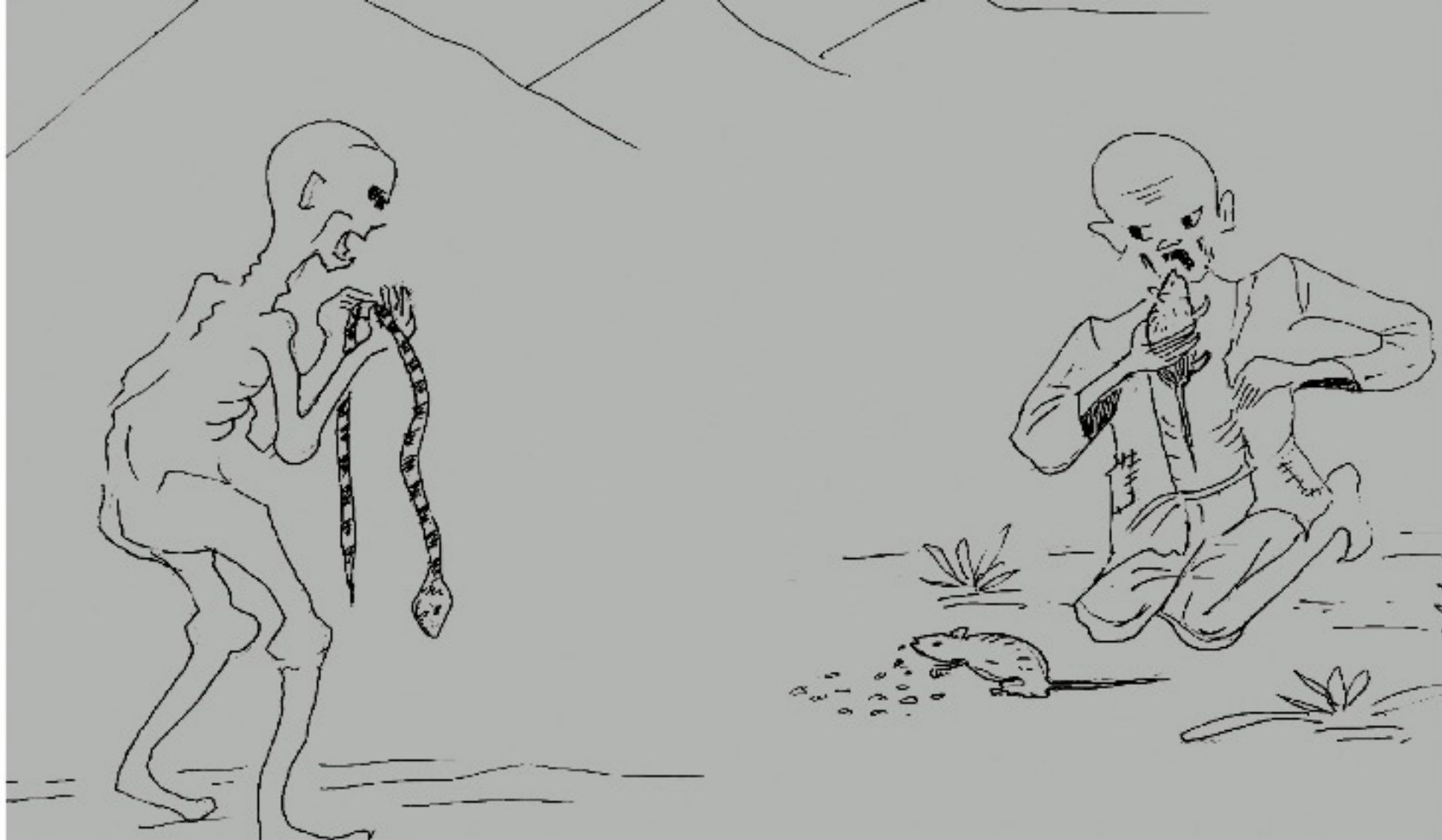
Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



Degree of Malnutrition

- Level 1: 42Kg weight, 170cm height
- Level 2: 40Kg weight, 170cm height
- Level 3: 38Kg weight, 170cm height

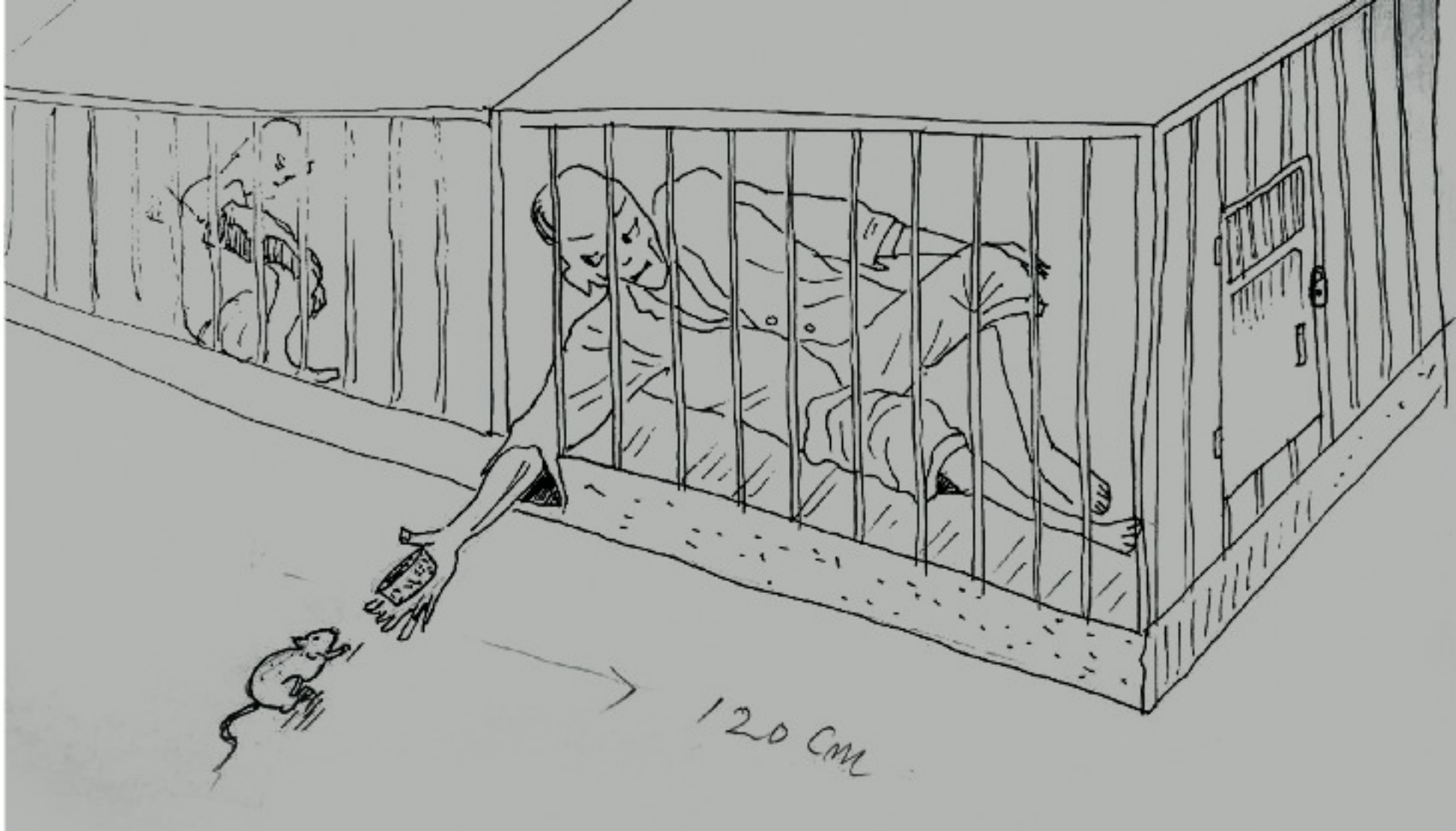
Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



Secretly Eating Snakes and Rats

Prisoners avoiding guards and secretly eating snakes or rats during forced labour. They can withstand for a month if they eat like this.

Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



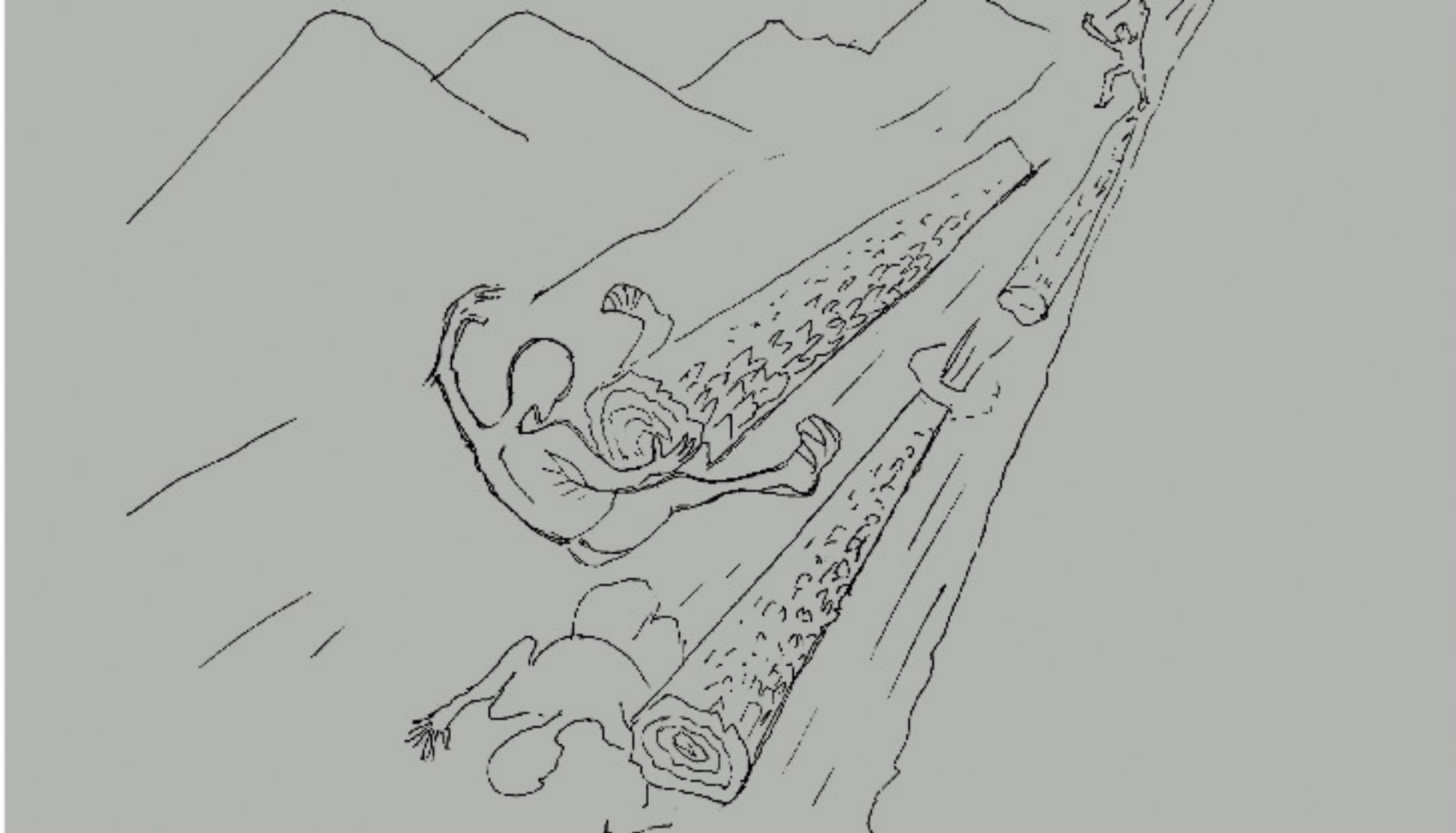
Solitary Confinement

The scene of a prisoner in solitary confinement trying to lure a rat to eat it. This is the only means of sustention.

Solitary confinement means imprisonment in cells so small that the victim could not lie down or stand up. During time served in solitary confinement, the food ration is reduced to less than 100 grams of rice or corn porridge per day.¹

Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon

¹ Id. para 806 at 253(Feb.7,2014).



Forced Labour

Prisoners sometimes are pinned to death under logs they carried.

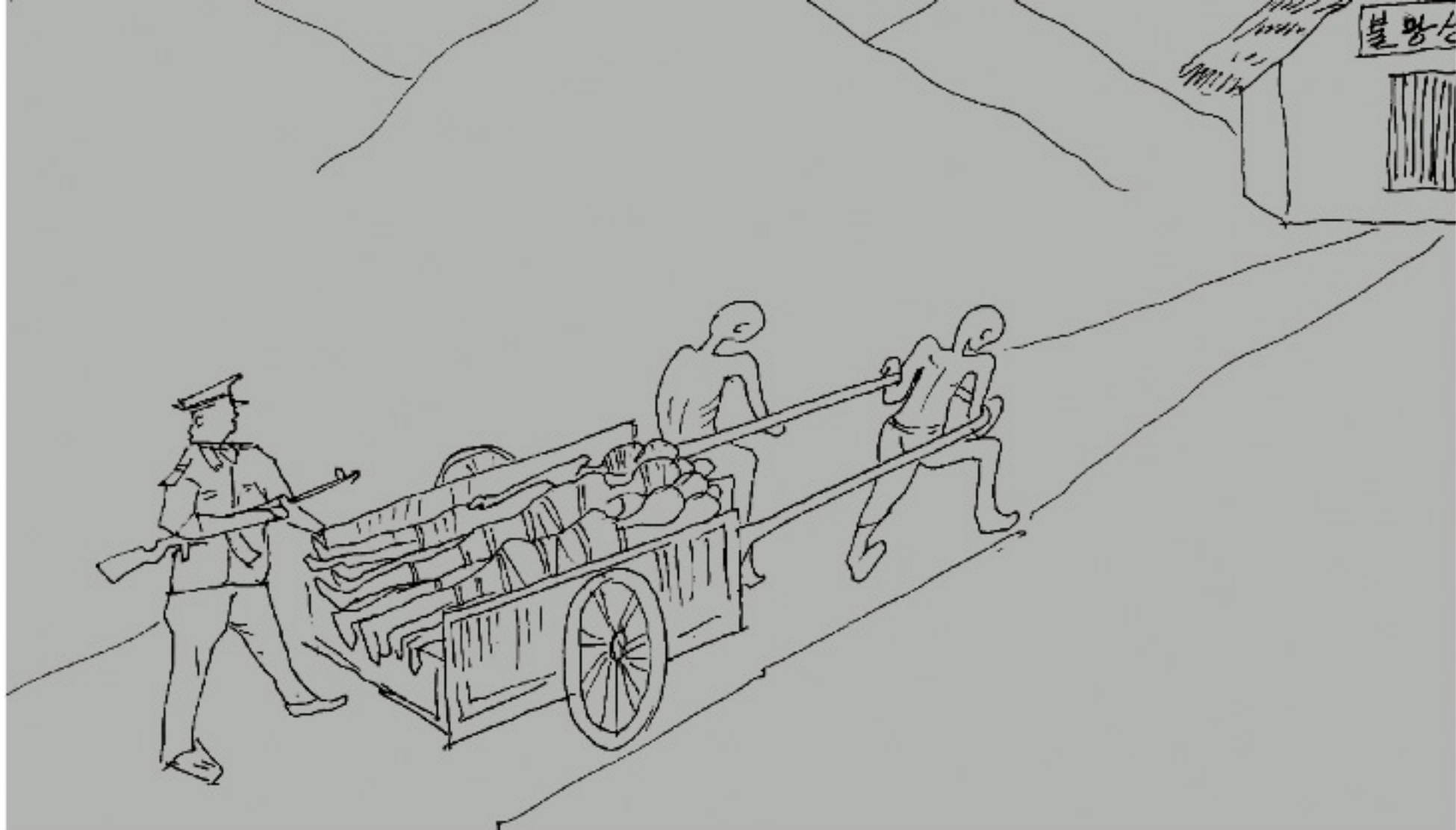
Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



Forced Labour

The prisoners are forced to carry excrement, but they are too exhausted to take more than a couple of steps.

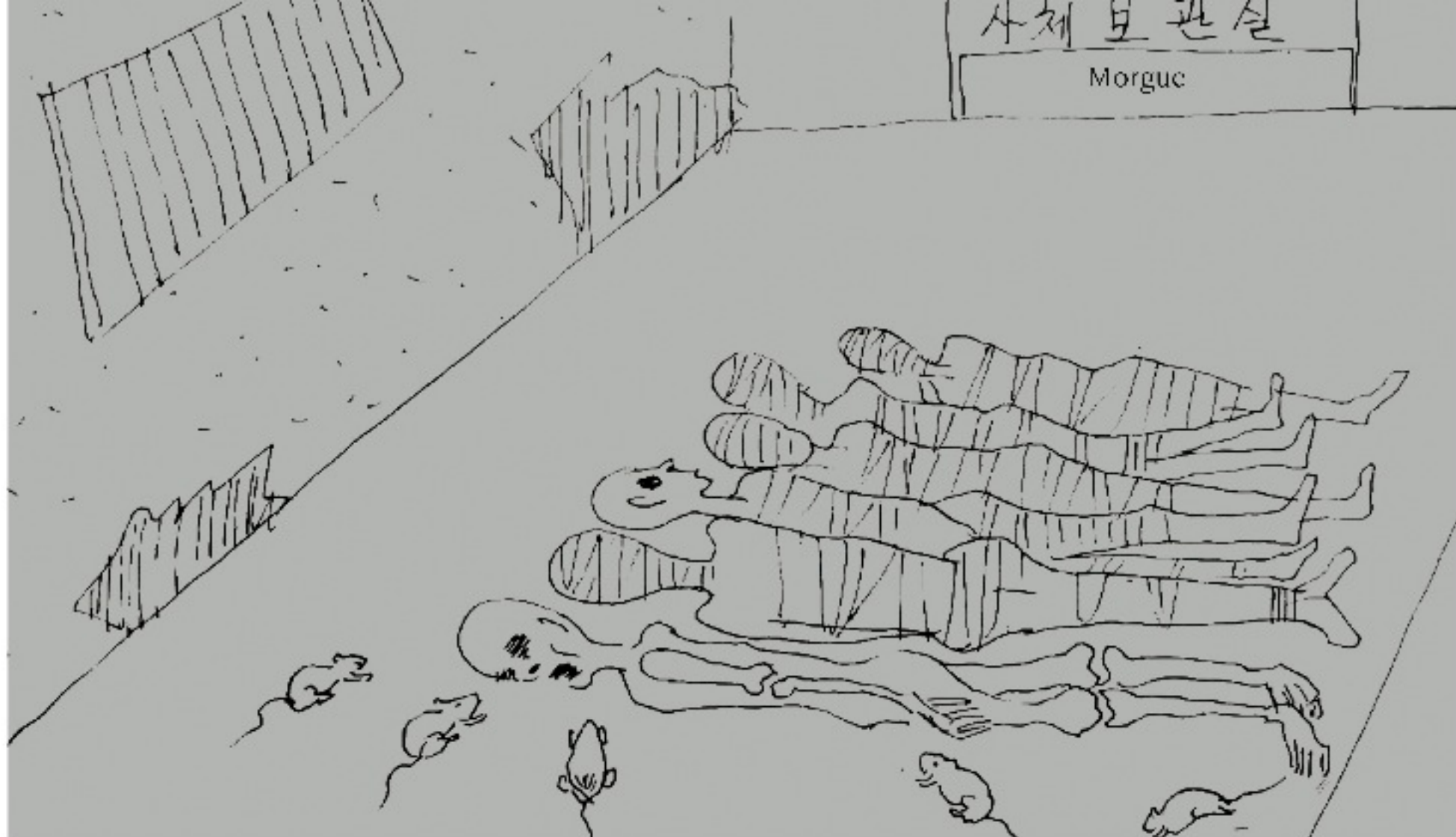
Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



Disposing Corpses

The bodies of prisoners dying out daily due to forced labour and violence are disposed of without coffins.

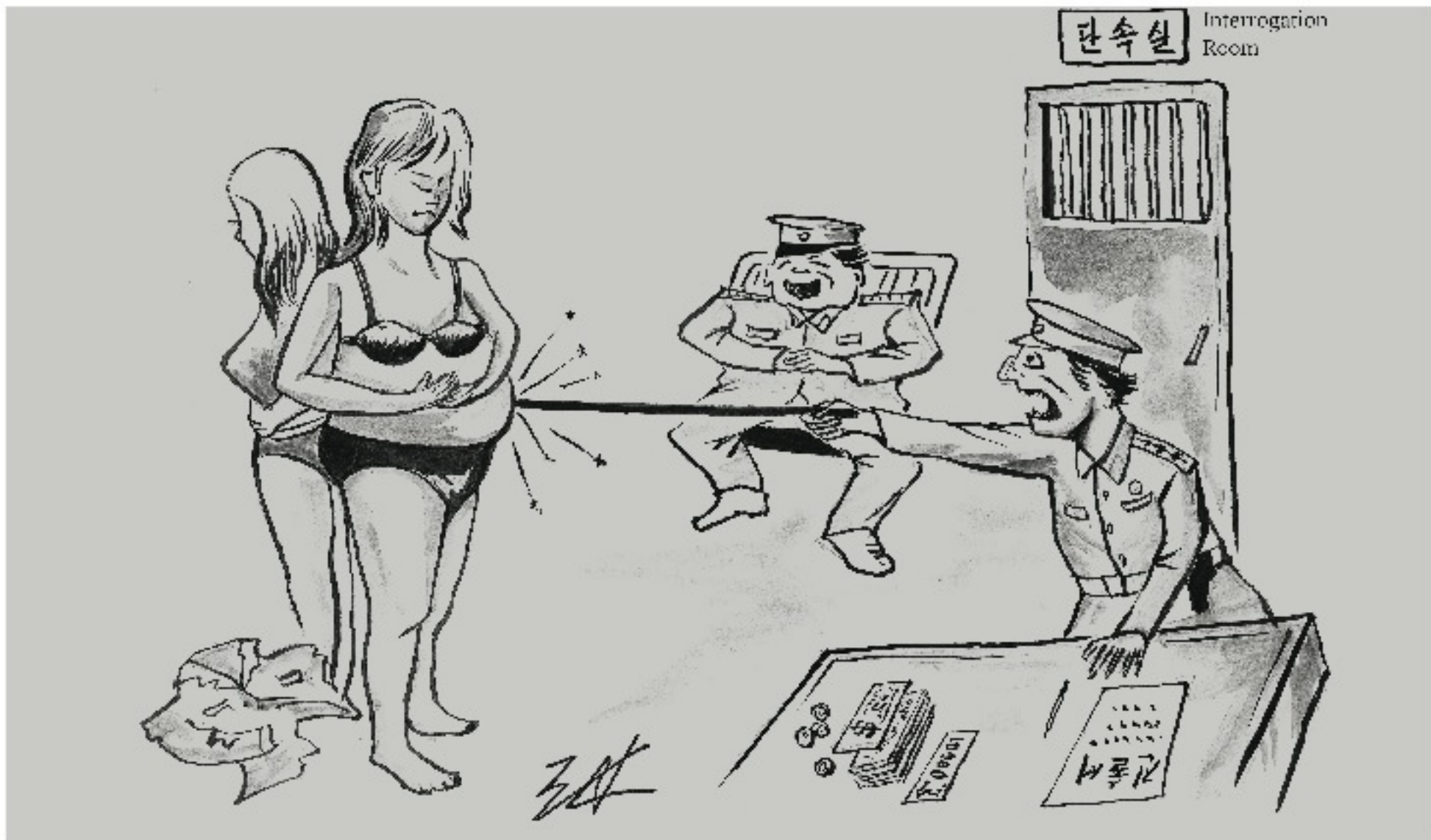
Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



The Morgue

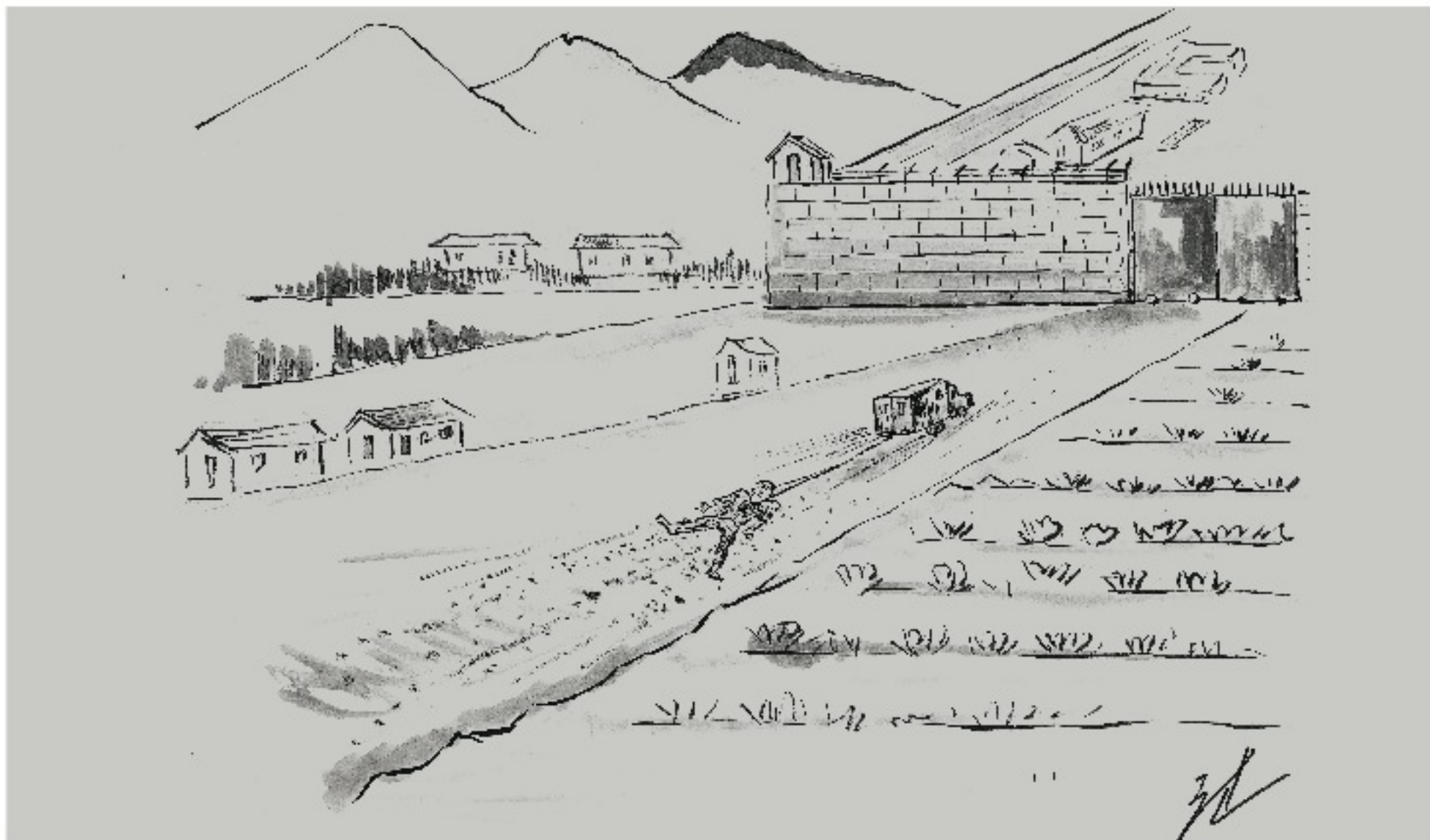
The scene of rats eating the corpses placed in the morgue. Corpses are heaped here daily.

Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



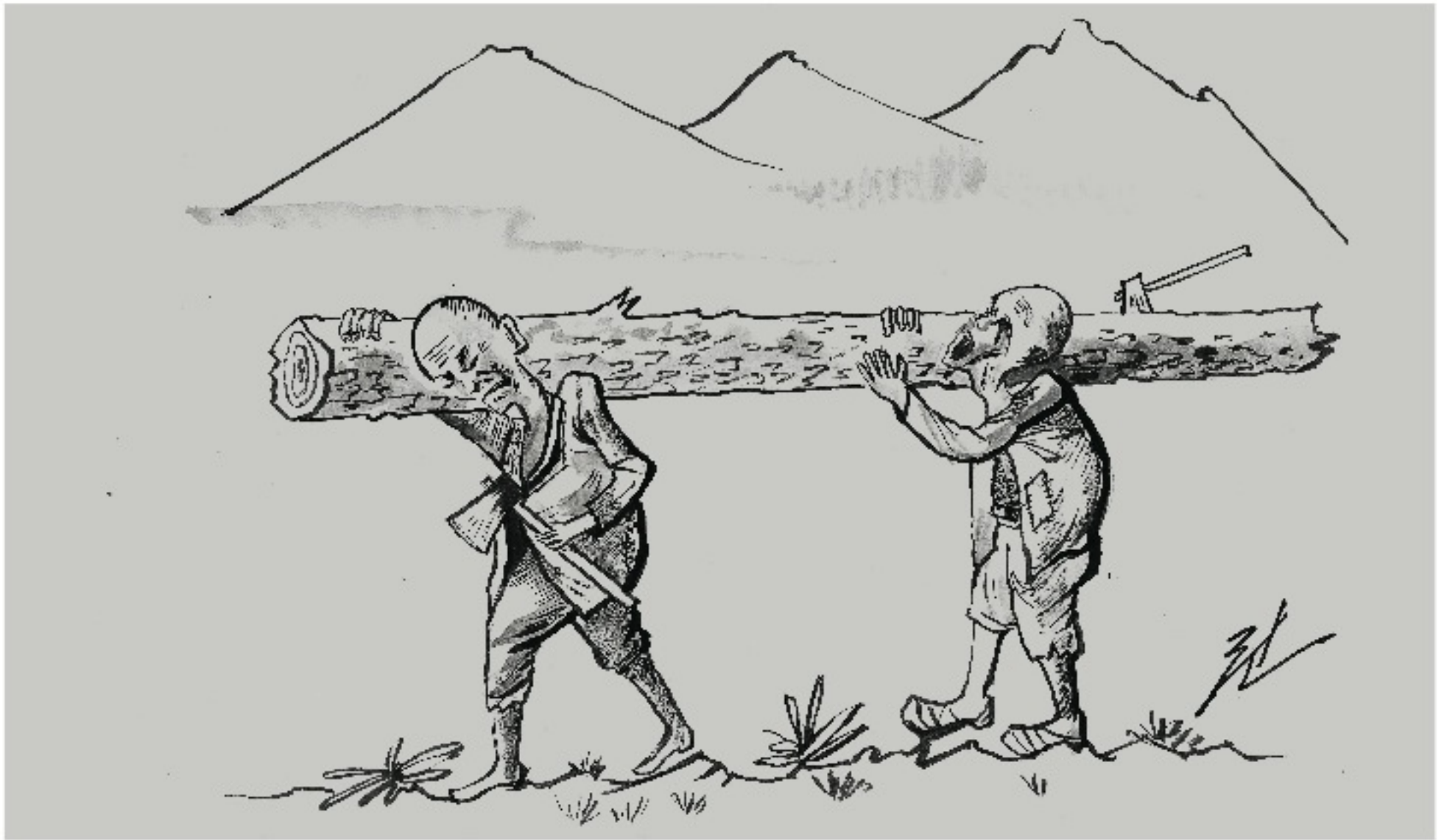
"Is it Chinese or Korean?"

Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



A Fugitive

Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



Log Length 3.5 – 4m

Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



A Human Cow

Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



Half Time, Illusory Snack

Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



Handicapped's Log-dragging

Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



At the Corn Field

Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



To Make Them Freeze in Winter

Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon



A Dead Man's Last Present

Drawing by Hyo-jin Kwon

3

Crimes against humanity targeting persons from other countries, in particular through international abduction

Inhumane acts

(a) Enforced Disappearances

Systematic and widespread attack pursuant to State policy

Periods and types of abductions and other enforced, involuntary disappearances

- (a) 1950-1953: abduction of civilians from Republic of Korea during the Korean War
- (b) 1953: denial of repatriation of prisoners of war from the Korean War
- (c) 1955 -1992: post-war abduction and enforced disappearance of Republic of Korea citizens
- (d) 1959 - 1984: enforced disappearance of ethnic Koreans and Japanese nationals who migrated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from Japan during the "Paradise on Earth Movement"
- (e) 1970s – 1980s: abduction of Japanese nationals
- (f) Late 1970s: abduction and enforced disappearance of women from other countries
- (g) 1990s to present: abductions from China



Korean War abduction

During the Korean War, DPRK forces took thousands of people from South of Korea to the North. The widespread abductions were organized, indicating that they were planned and conducted in line with the State policy. The young persons who have practical skills and expertise were targeted along with skilled professionals, including persons with training in medicine, law and governance.¹ The abductions were not spontaneous violations, but has followed specific objectives to gain labor and skills by the central-level institutions of DPRK.²

At the time of the end of the Korean War, an estimated 82,000 members of the Republic of Korea Armed Forces were missing.³ Estimates of those taken as prisoners of war (POWs) and detained in the DPRK or other countries allied to the DPRK range between 50,000 and 70,000.⁴ According to KWAFU, 2,919 civil servants, 1,613 polices, 190 judicial officers and lawyers and 424 medical practitioners were among the abductees.⁵

¹ U.N. Comm'n of Inquiry on human rights in the Dem. People's Rep. of Kor., Rep. of the H.R.C., 25th Sess., Mar. 3-28, 2014, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/25/CRP.1, para 852 at 272 (Feb. 7, 2014).

² *Id.* para 853 at 273 (Feb. 7, 2014).

³ The United Nations Command at the time of the armistice estimated 82,000 of the Korean Armed Forces to be missing: KINU, White Paper of Human Rights in North Korea (2013), p. 541.

⁴ Heo Man-ho, "North Korea's Continued Detention of South Korean POWs since the Korean and Vietnam Wars", *The Korean Journal of Defence Analysis*, vol. 14, No. 2 (Fall 2002), p. 142; Wada Haruki, *The Korean War* (New York, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2013), p. 289.

⁵ U.N. Comm'n of Inquiry on human rights in the Dem. People's Rep. of Kor., Rep. of the H.R.C., 25th Sess., Mar. 3-28, 2014, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/25/CRP.1, para 852 at 272 (Feb. 7, 2014).



The forced abduction from South of Korea to North

The forced abduction from South to North Korea
A large number of young men are walking along the line. Skilled professionals, person with training in medicine, law and governance and person who served in important institution or agencies were specifically targeted for abduction by DPRK.¹

¹ Id. para 852 at 272 (Feb. 7, 2014).



The forced abduction from South of Korea to North Korea

The forced abduction from South to North Korea was enforced.



The forced abduction from South of Korea to North Korea

The forced abduction from South to North Korea was enforced.



Korean Air Lines YS-11 hijacking

On 11 December 1969, a Korean Airlines YS-11 aircraft on a domestic flight, heading to Gimpo from Gangneung in ROK, was hijacked with 4 crews and 47 passengers by a DPRK agent and flown to the DPRK.¹ On 13 December 1969, the Pyongyang Broadcasting Station reported that the airplane voluntarily flew to the DPRK by two pilots.² However, it was later discovered that the pilots were threatened by a DPRK agent on-board.³ Thirty-nine of the passengers were released 66 days after the hijacking and returned to the ROK.⁴ The four crew members and the remaining seven passengers, however, were not returned to the ROK.⁵

The DPRK claimed that the 11 persons remained in the DPRK of their own will.⁶ However, during a press conference with the 39 passengers who were returned to the ROK, it became evident that those remaining in the DPRK did not do so voluntarily.⁷ The DPRK also rebuffed petitions for their release transmitted through the Red Cross.⁸

On 26 February 2001, during the 3rd Inter-Korean separated family reunions, it was found that non-repatriated abductees, Yoo Byeong-ha (Captain) and Choi Seok-man (Co-pilot) is at service in DPRK Air force. Choid Seok-man was also found to have two children in North Korea.⁹ However, on June 2006, DPRK sent a notification letter through the ROK Red Cross, which said, "Unable to confirm the life status of the requested person", to all members of abductees' families.¹⁰

¹ U.N. Comm'n of Inquiry on human rights in the Dem. People's Rep. of Kor., Rep. of the H.R.C., 25th Sess., Mar. 3-28, 2014, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/25/CRP.1, para 897, at 286, 287 (Feb. 7, 2014).

² Id. para 897, at 286, 287 (Feb. 7, 2014).

³ Id. para 897, at 286, 287 (Feb. 7, 2014).

⁴ Id. para 897, at 286, 287 (Feb. 7, 2014).

⁵ Id. para 897, at 286, 287 (Feb. 7, 2014).

⁶ Id. para 897, at 286, 287 (Feb. 7, 2014).

⁷ Id. para 897, at 286, 287 (Feb. 7, 2014).

⁸ Id. para 897, at 286, 287 (Feb. 7, 2014).

⁹ Legal Association for North Korean Human Rights and Development (LANK), "The Possibility of Solving North Korean Human Rights Issues through UN and International Human Rights Protection Mechanism-The Case of Hwang Won (former MBC Producer), An Abductee of Korean Airlines' Aircraft Hijacked to North Korea in 1969", LANK North Korean Human Rights Forum, p32 (Aug. 16, 2012).

¹⁰ Id. p32 (Aug. 16, 2012).

Photo of Hwang Won

On 11 December 2008, Hwang In-chul, as a son of non-repatriated Hwang Won (Former producer of MBC) established '1969 Korean Air Abductees' Families Committee'.¹ On 6 June 2010, the committee started the submissions to UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID) for identifying life status and repatriation of Hwang Won who is one of the abductees.² On 8 October 2010, the committee submitted for request on Lee Dong-ki a former owner of a private printing company, and on 8 November 2010, submitted for Choi Jung-wong a former head of Gangneung Branch of Hankook Slate.³

WGEID commenced the investigation process and requested DPRK for a response.⁴ On 9 May 2012, DPRK answered that above three persons were not abductees, therefore, and none of them were subjected to forced disappearance or involuntary detention were in DPRK.⁵

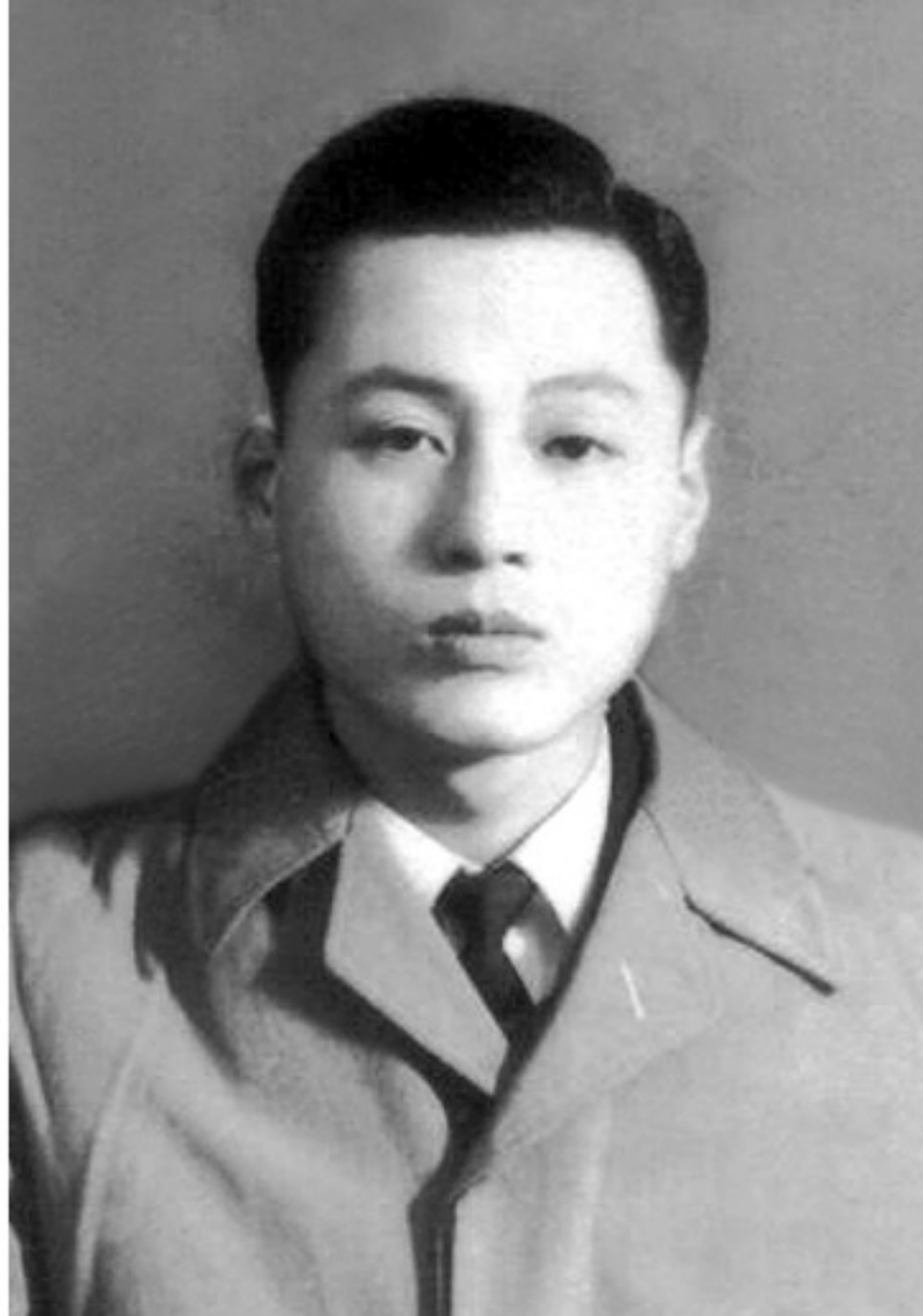
¹ Id. p32 (Aug. 16, 2012).

² Id. p32 (Aug. 16, 2012).

³ Id. p32 (Aug. 16, 2012).

⁴ Id. p32 (Aug. 16, 2012).

⁵ Yonhapnews, "1969 Korean Air Abductees' Families apply to Ministry of Unification for permission of visit to DPRK", Yonhapnews, (Feb. 14 2014). <http://www.yonhapnews.co.kr/bulletin/2014/02/14/0200000000A KR20140214059551014.HTML?from=search>



The Family Photo of Hwang Won, one of the KAL abductees

"I was two, and my sister was only 100 days old. So my mother had to raise us all on her own. I repeatedly asked my mother whereabouts about my father. I had no memory of my father, but I remember he loved me very much, and I missed him. So the memory is very clear. I have very clear memory of my father. I asked my mother, and every time I asked my mother about the whereabouts of my father, she said that he was on a business trip in the United States and that was her answer and I kept asking her and kept waiting for my father. When I was on the third grade in the elementary school, my uncle, the younger brother of my father, told me that my father had been abducted when he got on that plane and ever since I have missed my father so much until this day."¹

- Mr Hwang In-chul

¹ U.N. Comm'n of Inquiry on human rights in the Dem. People's Rep. of Kor., Rep. of the H.R.C., 25th Sess., Mar. 3-28, 2014, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/25/CRP.1, para 1009, at 317 (Feb. 7, 2014).



“ Crimes against humanity are ongoing in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea because the policies, institutions and patterns of impunity that lie at their heart remain in place. ”

“ The gravity, scale and nature of these violations reveal a State that does not have any parallel in the contemporary world. ”

- Michael Kirby, Commissioner of the COI on DPRK -

“ I never heard the words 'love, bliss, pleasant, misfortune, injustice, resistance', and only discovered the meanings of these words in South Korea. These words are words that do not exist in the prison camps. ”

- Shin Dong Hyuk, political prison camp 14 survivor -

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves,
for the rights of all who are destitute."

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