

# Stop Trafficking !

## Anti-Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

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1 This issue highlights how military presence impacts the trafficking of women and children and perpetuates violence against them.

May 2006  
Vol. 4 No. 5

## Women Suffer in War

### Due to War 'Tactics'

These are situations where women are held captive by enemy troops, raped and forced into prostitution, sometimes for the sake of providing sexual slaves for the soldiers and sometimes as a tactic of genocide by means of forced impregnation. The women, essentially, are under the complete control of the enemy military forces.

Sexual violence against women and children is a weapon of war employed by most of the armies fighting in the six-year-old **Dem. Rep. of Congo** conflict, called '*Africa's world war*.' Militia from Angola, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Uganda, Rwanda, and Congo were involved.

Sexual violence against women, including rape and mutilation, is a central tactic in **Colombia's** 40-year old civil war, human rights group *Amnesty International* said in a report in late 2005.

Marxist guerrilla groups, far-right paramilitaries and government security forces are all committing sexual crimes against women and girls as part of tactics to instill terror and inflict humiliation on the enemy.

"Women survivors of sexual violence are punished again and again. Not only have they been sexually abused but they are often rejected by their family, humiliated by the legal system, refused medical care and rarely see their attacker brought to justice," said Susan Lee, Director of Amnesty International's Americas Program.

As many as 120,000 girls have been abducted and forced to serve as soldiers, sex slaves and domestic workers in armed conflicts around the world. These abuses are occurring in **Uganda, Sri Lanka, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sierra Leone** and elsewhere. ('Save the Children')

Out of the total of 103,000 **Sierra Leone** combatants who completed demobilization in December 2004, nearly 22,500 (22%) were women. Some of these female fighters

Victims in War cont. pg. 2

### Due to Government-Tolerated Policies for Troop 'R & R'

These situations involve women who serve in brothels for military forces, but under a completely different concept of 'force.' They are not held captive by military troops, but are the victims of the general problem of international/domestic trafficking in women.

Military involvement in prostitution ('*military prostitution*') is extensive. But military prostitution has not been considered a crime because the '*prostitute*' is considered a willing participant. But victims of trafficking are forced. They have been sold by their families, tricked by illegal migration agencies, and fear physical violence. Since many victims of trafficking end up near military bases, the women of military prostitution are seldom there voluntarily.

Their '*forced*' situation is prolonged by military involvement in the management of brothels: regulation of '*officially approved brothels*,' ensuring a steady supply of available military prostitutes, acting as procurers, keeping track of the prostitutes that contract sexually transmitted diseases (to protect servicemen, not prostitutes), and in some instances, through government-to-government agreements that keep track of prostitutes through identification. In this way, military authorities essentially aid in the management of brothels.

(Adapted from an article by Isabelle Talleyrand, *Syracuse Journal of International Law and Commerce*, Dec., 2000.)



Women cont. pg. 2

Photo: Kay Chernush for the U.S. State Dept.



Awareness

# Abuses by

## UN Peace Keepers

## U.S. Military Personnel

### Victims in War *from pg.1*

had been abducted. Some joined voluntarily, for the same reasons as male recruits. Some operated primarily as combatants. Many served as nurses, cooks, messengers, spies or administrative or logistical personnel, as well as providing sex for male combatants.

Yet during demobilization, they were categorized among “vulnerable groups,” i.e. wounded or disabled male combatants and all women and children accompanying warring factions.

“Women combatants are often invisible and their needs are overlooked,” said UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. “As ‘dependents’ they do not receive the benefits that come to male combatants. They can’t get work and it’s hard to go back to their villages. So they are forced to engage in commercial sex work.”

<http://www.nationmedia.com/eastafrican/current/Magazine/Magazine051220051.htm>

### Women *from pg. 1*

The Asian Development Bank reported that there is widespread human smuggling or trafficking, especially of women, into the **Greater Mekong Subregion** (Myanmar, Cambodia, China’s Yunnan Province, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam).

“The Burmese military is one of the largest forces in the region and dominates the present government. Because of continuing border and ethnic clashes, about 330,000 armed forces are deployed in remote areas.” The report stated, “military and police are among the largest groups of clients in the sex venues.”

<http://asia.news.yahoo.com/041111/kyodo/d869vgp84.html>

### Albania/Serbia

In 1999 UN personnel and NATO-led troops entered Kosovo after the 78-day NATO air war aimed at stopping a Yugoslav crackdown on Albanian separatists. *Amnesty International* reported that the presence of these forces fueled a growth in the trafficking of women, who were then forced into prostitution. The UN and NATO denied the charge.

Monika Hauser, head of the NGO, *Medica Mondiale*, in Cologne, Germany reported that since 1999, bordellos, housing minors working as prostitutes, sprang up all over the Balkans. Ever younger girls were offered to the international soldiers stationed there. The girls were often kidnapped or lured to the bordellos by false promises and were then locked up under slave-like conditions, raped and abused.

*Medica Mondiale*, which supports a facility for prostitutes in southern Kosovo, said evidence pointed to widespread sexual abuse of girls in the region.

The stories of the girls who came to the gynecological clinic or the psychological consultations the clinic offered confirmed *Medica Mondiale’s* charges against German soldiers.

“We’re talking about bordellos where the women have grilled bars in front of their windows,” Hauser said. “They have absolutely no chance of escaping from there. And that’s apparent to the clients.”

*Medica Mondiale* contends that clients, including German soldiers, were complicit in the abuse of minors since they could see how young the girls were and the prison-like conditions they lived in. International human rights groups such as *Amnesty International* and the UN women’s organization, UNIFEM, confirmed *Medica Mondiale’s* charges.

<http://www.nzherald.co.nz/latestnewsstory.cfm?storyID=3612431&thesection=news&thesubsection=world>; <http://www.cbc.ca/cp/world/041111/w111140.html>; <http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,1564,1365134,00.html>

UN Haiti *cont. pg. 3*

Military personnel are trained to ‘dehumanize others’ as part of their preparation for war. This process, and the experience of combat, often makes them edgy, fearful, frustrated, alienated, or aggressive — negative feelings vented on host communities, especially the women.

Sexism is central to a militarized masculinity, which involves physical strength, emotional detachment, the capacity for violence and killing, and an appearance of invulnerability.

<http://www.incite-national.org/involve/military.html>

Studies published during the 1990s by Filipino, Australian, American, Vietnamese, and other scholars provide considerable documentation of the brutalities toward women that resulted from the large-scale, institutionalized prostitution that existed in the Philippines until 1991, when the U.S. vacated its largest military installation outside North America.

Between the Vietnam War era and 1991, Filipinas were subjected to many forms of dehumanization and violence at the hands of U.S. soldiers, including rape, battery, widespread abandonment of the Amerasian children they fathered, and a legacy of sexually-transmitted disease. At Olongapo and Angeles cities, the largest base cities, a popular form of entertainment for military men was “foxy boxing,” in which women participants were forced to fight each other until they drew blood or showed bruises. Without demonstrable injuries, they were not paid, according to a 1995 book, *Madonnas and Martyrs: Militarism and Violence in the Philippines*, by the Australian scholar Anne-Marie Hilsdon.

U.S. *cont. pg. 4*



## Awareness

### UN Haiti from pg. 2

The UN investigated allegations that three Pakistani soldiers raped a woman in Haiti while deployed on a UN mission. The Brazilian-led force was comprised of 6,000 troops from 20 nations and 1,400 civilian police from 34 nations.

[http://today.reuters.co.uk/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=worldNews&storyID=2005-02-23T200337Z\\_01\\_CHA372116\\_RTRUKOC\\_o\\_HAITI-UN.xml](http://today.reuters.co.uk/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=worldNews&storyID=2005-02-23T200337Z_01_CHA372116_RTRUKOC_o_HAITI-UN.xml)

### Dem. Rep. of Congo

In December 2004 a classified UN report reported that peacekeepers and staff had sexually abused or exploited war refugees in the D.R. Congo. The 150+ allegations of misconduct, some captured on videotape, included pedophilia, rape, gang rape and prostitution. The report stated abuse was "significant, wide-spread and ongoing." Some UN officials investigating abuse received anonymous death threats.

A French UN staff member was arrested on charges of rape and making pornographic videos of children. Tunisian and Uruguayan peacekeepers were also accused. UN personnel paid \$1-3. or bartered food or the promise of a job for sex. At times UN officials raped women and girls and then offered them food or money to make it look as if they had engaged in prostitution.

The UN Mission in Congo (MONUC) has no independent check on UN operations in refugee camps. No international agencies in the country have UN authority to protect the civil rights of internal refugees. In 2005 little seemed to have changed, although UN investigators completed inquiries into 221 complaints, repatriated 88 soldiers, including six commanders; and fired 10 civilian staffers.

A 13-year-old Bunian girl recounted, "One day, in May 2004, my grandmother had to attend a funeral and I was left alone at home to look after my brothers and sisters. That night, around 8 p.m., one of the [UN Congo mission's] soldiers came into the house. He raped me. My brothers and sisters were in the house at the time."

The UN Office of Internal Oversight cited 68 allegations of sexual misconduct against UN military personnel and four against civilians in Bunia between May and September 2004. At least one senior official in charge of security in Bunia was implicated in the scandal, and UN peacekeepers allegedly threatened investigators with retaliation. UNICEF staff treated 2,000 victims of sexual violence during that period.

In 2002 a UN High Commissioner for Refugees Report showed scores of refugee children in **Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone** were subjected to sexual abuse in exchange for humanitarian aid. Sexual abuse by peacekeepers occurred in **Burundi and Liberia**.

In 2005 UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan announced "non-fraternization" regulations that banned peacekeepers in the Congo from having sex or socializing with the local population. "I have long made it clear that my attitude to sexual exploitation and abuse is one of zero tolerance, without exception, and I am determined to implement this policy in the most transparent manner," Annan said.

Despite having new policies instituted, rape and sexual exploitation continue in UN outposts around the world, according to a report released in fall of 2005 by the Washington-based advocacy organization, *Refugees International*.

A "hyper-masculine" culture and tradition of silence makes it difficult to halt UN soldiers' sexual exploitation of the people they are charged

with protecting. Instead, the soldiers protect one another, provide alibis for their fellow troops and make death threats against investigators, the report said.

Sarah Martin, author of the report, said that during trips to 11 countries, she heard comments from UN troops: 'It's not rape if the woman is a prostitute.' 'The women pound on our doors and solicit us.' 'The women can use their bodies how they want. Why ruin someone's career just for having sex? Boys will be boys.' These revealed how entrenched attitudes were and how difficult they will be to change.

"People need to understand why it is important not to take advantage of a population traumatized by conflict," Martin said. Until then, "the zero-tolerance policy makes no sense to them and the problems will go on."

Louise Arbour, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights described the use of prostitutes by UN's military and civilian peacekeeping personnel as sexual exploitation. "The inequality of bargaining power and the breach of trust that is attached to peacekeepers coming in to prey on a vulnerable population that has no capacity to strike an equal bargain in the sale of sexual services," Arbour told reporters in Helsinki. "in my view, amounts to sexual exploitation and is not acceptable."

"UN peacekeepers unfortunately seem to be doing the same thing that other militaries do," an Amnesty International spokesperson stated. "Even the guardians have to be guarded."

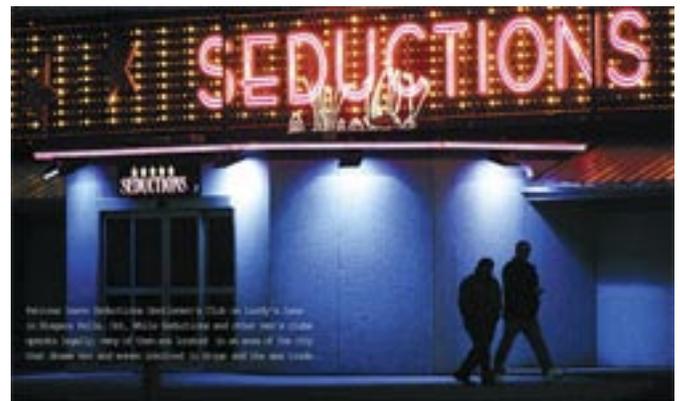


Photo: Kay Chernush for the U.S. State Dept.

The sexual abuses committed, or ignored, by UN personnel violate the institution's *Convention on the Rights of the Child*, the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women*, and the principles enshrined in the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. A 2002 UN report characterized the sexual exploitation issue as "a betrayal of trust as well as a catastrophic failure of protection." Sources: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A15363-2004Nov26.html>; Article by Joseph Loconte in the Weekly Standard Volume 010, Issue 16 (01.03.2005); <<Agence France-Presse English Wire -- 12/02/04>>



## Awareness

### U.S. *from pg. 2*

While not all women involved in prostitution or the mail-order bride industry are helpless victims, Philippine women's rights advocates maintain that poor women of developing countries do not choose prostitution but, with no other option for economic survival, are forced into it. Once caught up in prostitution, women exercise almost no control over the poor pay, abusive conditions, social stigma, and other risks they face.

Finally in 1991, the Philippine Senate voted against renewal of their leases. The U.S. subsequently proposed a *Visiting Forces Agreement* (VFA) to cover situations when U.S. troops are in the Philippines for joint exercises or shore leave. The VFA gives access to Philippine ports and airports on all the main islands for refueling, supplies, repairs, and rest & recreation - 'R & R'). This is actually potentially far greater access than before, but under the guise of commercial arrangements and without the expense of maintaining permanent workforces and facilities. The VFA was ratified by the Philippine Senate in May 1999. A clause in the VFA makes it impossible to hold US troops accountable to a foreign country for crimes committed on its soil, including violence against women. (Ed. See accompanying article, col 3.)

In 2003, the US also required and received assurances from 43 nations, including the Philippines, that its military personnel were exempt from prosecution under the *International Criminal Court*, which recognizes sexual abuse, forced prostitution, and rape as war crimes.

After September 11th President Bush

declared the Philippines "America's second front" in the war against terrorism. Several thousand U.S. troops were deployed, resulting in an increase in the domestic and cross-border sale of Filipinas. For example, in Zamboanga City, where most military personnel are based, local rights activists estimate that by 2003 2,000 women were caught in prostitution, in contrast to almost none before the new deployment. Estimates from the *International Organization of Migration* indicate that between 2002-2003, the rate of recruitment for prostitution rose six-fold, if the domestic transport of women is included with the trafficking of Filipinas to Okinawa and South Korea to serve U.S. troops.

Sexual activity of foreign-based U.S. military personnel has had very serious effects on women's health, precipitating HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, unwanted pregnancies, unsafe abortions, drug and alcohol dependency, and mental illness.

In Korea, Japan, and the Philippines, Amerasian children born to women impregnated by U.S. troops are a particularly stigmatized group. They are often abandoned by their military fathers and raised by single Asian mothers. They live with severe prejudice and suffer discrimination in education and employment due to their physical appearance and their mothers' low status. Those with African-American fathers face even worse treatment than those having white fathers. No government takes responsibility for the dire situation of these children, who have no legal standing in the United States. Sources: <http://geeklog.tenaganita.net/article.php?story=20050509230701366&mode=print>; <http://www.incite-national.org/involve/military.html>; <http://www.cceia.org/viewMedia.php/prmID/1071>

### Opinion in Manila Times

Fr. Shay Cullen, Nov. 27, 2005

The Philippine media prominently covered the plight of a 22-year-old college graduate, who accused six US Marines of raping her on Nov. 1st in a van inside the former US naval base at Subic Bay Olongapo City.

Ironically, the preliminary investigation of the 'Subic Six' took place a day after the 13th anniversary of the departure of the last US Marine ship, the *Belleau Wood*, from Subic Bay on November 22, 1992. The Subic Bay naval base, along with the sex industry that had serviced the sailors for almost a hundred years, shut down.

That historical event, which I witnessed, marked the end of a spectacularly successful 10-year campaign begun in 1982 by the Preda Charity and other organizations to end the exploitation of women and children.

This was spurred by the shocking revelations ... that children, as young as four years old, were trafficked for sexual abuse and prostitution. The identified pimps and traffickers were never prosecuted.

Olongapo City officials denied wrongdoing, claiming the reports were isolated incidents and exaggerated. Yet, Navy records, obtained through the *Freedom of Information Act*, revealed grave systematic child abuse.

The campaign to remove the bases was started when thousands of throw-away Filipino-American children were left in poverty. Countless aborted babies, a drug culture and a spreading pandemic of HIV-AIDS are what Filipinos remember most about the presence of US bases here.

Shay *cont. pg. 7*

One chaplain asked an ECPAT member how to train his men to tell the difference between adult and child prostitutes so that his men could be 'protected' from 1994 laws that would allow courts to prosecute U.S. citizens for paying for sex with minors overseas. Rather than tackling sexual exploitation as a crime and human rights violation to be eradicated, the U.S. military tends to try to regulate its excesses, claim impotence to address the issue, or blame the problem solely on the host country. <http://www.cceia.org/viewMedia.php/prmID/1072>



## Awareness

*“These young U.S. troops go out into the field all day and are trained to be aggressive and to kill.... They may change out of uniform and into a T-shirt and jeans, but their attitude does not change.”*

Member ‘Okinawa Women Act Against Military Violence’

# Attempts to Stop U.S. Military Abuse

In March 2002, Cleveland, OH Fox Affiliate WJW-TV aired an investigative report indicating that U.S. troops in South Korea were patronizing bars and other establishments where women from the Philippines and former Soviet states were trafficked and forced to prostitute themselves. The report, filmed with a hidden camera, showed U.S. military patrols standing watch as servicemen socialized with women in bars outside a military camp north of Seoul.

In response to the report, Helsinki Commission Chairman Rep. Christopher H. Smith (R-NJ) and a dozen other Members of Congress wrote to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld requesting an immediate investigation into the veracity of the allegations as well as the appropriateness of the U.S. military’s policies and response to prostitution and human trafficking worldwide.

Department of Defense (DoD) Inspector Gen. Joseph Schmitz subsequently conducted investigations in South Korea, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Kosovo. He issued two reports assessing the U.S. military’s policies and practices with respect to activities that fuel sex trafficking and prostitution.

- In South Korea, which plays host to several American bases, “*Courtesy Patrols*” (military police or MPs) were found to be “friendly” with bar owners, employees and patrons, giving the impression that there was “official sanction” of activities in the clubs, including US military personnel paying “bar fines” so they could take out girls for a night.
- The report on Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo found that “*Because there is no military standard that*

*directly addresses patronization of prostitutes and other activities associated with human trafficking, criminal prosecution of these activities under military law is rendered more difficult. We believe that correcting these weaknesses is consistent with the ‘abolitionist approach to trafficking in persons’ or ‘zero-tolerance’ policy with respect to US government employees and contractor personnel stationed abroad, who engage in trafficking in persons set forth in the 2003 National Security Presidential Directive 22, which further states, ‘the United States Government opposes prostitution and any related activities.’”*

The reports contained numerous recommendations for action by DoD, including recommending a new Department policy on trafficking. In January 2004, Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz issued a policy directive in accordance with a National Security Presidential Directive (NSPD-22) on “*Trafficking in Persons*” issued by President Bush in December 2002. Wolfowitz’ directive stated in part:

*“(I)t is the policy of the Department of Defense that trafficking in persons will not be facilitated in any way by the activities of our Service members, civilian employees, indirect hires, or DoD contract personnel. Following the policy set by the Commander-in-Chief, DoD opposes prostitution and any related activities that may contribute to the phenomenon of trafficking in persons as inherently harmful and dehumanizing.”*

Wolfowitz’s policy directive outlined specific objectives, including anti-trafficking education requirements for all service members and DoD civilians serving overseas and the incorporation of language into DoD contracts for services overseas reflecting such

trafficking-related prohibitions.

In September 2004 the United States Helsinki Commission and the House Committee on Armed Services jointly convened an *Issue Forum* on trafficking in persons and how the U.S. military was doing in implementing the ‘zero-tolerance’ directives.

The United States Helsinki Commission, an independent federal agency, by law monitors and encourages progress in implementing provisions of the Helsinki Accords. The Commission, created in 1976, is composed of nine Senators, nine Representatives and one official each from the Departments of State, Defense and Commerce. Issue Forums are designed to provide members of the House Armed Services Committee with the opportunity to discuss current matters of relevance with government officials, selected experts, scholars and opinion makers in an informal setting.

Among those testifying were Gen. Leon J. LaPorte, Commander, U.S. Forces Korea and Amb. John R. Miller, Director, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Department of State. “*Demand drives sex trafficking,*” Miller said. “*And it is the demand side of the issue that is coming under closer scrutiny.*” Historically, he said, “*national forces going from one country to another lead to increased prostitution and an increased number of trafficking victims. National forces include the military as well as peacekeepers, contractors and aid workers.*” To this end, DoD has taken many steps to stem U.S. national forces’ participation in prostitution and human trafficking, Miller said. “*The DoD has declared a ‘zero tolerance’ policy and is employing training to achieve that objective.*”

Laporte said the four-pronged strategy of “*awareness, identification, reduction and enforcement -- along*

Military cont. pg.6



## Awareness

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### Military *from pg. 5*

with continued interaction with the Korean government -- has produced measurable results in eliminating prostitution and human trafficking adjacent to U.S. installations.”

“The conduct of our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines as well as the Department of Defense civilians and invited contractors and their family members is of paramount importance to our command,” LaPorte said. “These Americans are our nation’s ambassadors, and how they behave is as much a reflection of our own national character as it is a statement of our military readiness and discipline.”

On October 14, 2005 U.S. President George W. Bush signed Executive Order 13387, amending the “Manual for Courts-Martial” to specifically list “patronizing a prostitute” and “pandering” as violations of the *Uniform Code of Military Justice* (UCMJ). The UCMJ imposes a maximum punishment of one year of confinement, forfeiture of pay, and a dishonorable discharge for anyone convicted of paying a prostitute for sex. Specifically US military personnel will have committed an offense if they “compelled, induced, enticed or procured (a) person to engage in an act of sexual intercourse in exchange for monetary or other compensation.” The charge is applicable even in countries where prostitution is legal.

Lt. Col. Ellen Krenke said, “Our policy is based on an abolitionist approach to trafficking in persons, and our efforts must involve a comprehensive attack on such trafficking, which is a modern day of slavery. In this regard, the U.S. Government opposes

prostitution and any related activities, including pimping, pandering, or maintaining brothels as contributing to the phenomenon of trafficking in persons. The policy teaches that you don’t have to be a professional criminal to contribute to the trafficking industry. You aid and encourage trafficking in persons without engaging in it directly, by hiring a prostitute.”

The Pentagon is working to make UCMJ changes to address human trafficking, both for sex and forced labor. Changes could include disciplinary action against someone who fails to report suspected trafficking and jail time and a dishonorable discharge for partaking in such acts. Pentagon officials are working to get the wording correct in order that the Pentagon could take away contracts from companies whose employees are caught engaging in such acts. [www.estripes.com/article.asp?section=104&article=24507](http://www.estripes.com/article.asp?section=104&article=24507); [www.defenselink.mil/news/Sep2004/n09212004\\_2004092109.html](http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Sep2004/n09212004_2004092109.html)

## US Military Protest: Germany

Military personnel stationed at Germany’s Rhein Main Air Base, near one of the largest red light districts in the world, protested the change in the *Uniform Code of Military Justice* (UCMJ), saying Germany is not the place to enforce a ‘zero-tolerance’ law against visiting prostitutes.

In Germany prostitution is legal. There are licensed brothels, called Eros Centers, where prostitutes can rent their own rooms for the day. There are no madames. Web sites assert, “German women choose prostitution as a profession and are taxed as regular workers.”

When asked if troops should be punished by one-year confinement and a dishonorable discharge if convicted for paying for sex, one of the soldiers of the 464th Replacement Detachment from Rhein-Main replied, “Where are we talking about? Anti-prostitution laws would be unfair to troops in Germany, because it is legal here.”

European edition, September 26, 2004  
<http://www.estripes.com/article.asp?section=104&article=24576>

## US Military Abuse Continues

In April 2006 a Filipina bar worker won a judgment against a South Korean nightclub owner “for forcing her to have sex with US soldiers,” a US military newspaper reported. Commenting on this situation, an ‘Equality Now’ spokesperson stated, “The US military has not responded to repeated inquiries regarding any disciplinary action taken against US military personnel involving solicitation of prostitution.” The failure of the US military to effectively enforce the law has been corroborated by women’s organizations in South Korea.

[http://news.inq7.net/opinion/index.php?index=2&story\\_id=71267](http://news.inq7.net/opinion/index.php?index=2&story_id=71267)



## Advocacy

# 7 Help to Those Endangered

Members of *JOLT (Justice Organizers, Leadership, Treasurers) — A Catholic Coalition for Responsible Investing* are beginning a letter-writing campaign to corporations that produce feminine hygiene products. The Coalition comprises 19 religious congregations.

JOLT is asking them to include the 24/7 hotline number 888-3737-888 in their product labeling and packaging. The hotline offers help to actual/potential victims or to citizens who want to report suspicious incidences that might indicate trafficking. As more people learn how to react against trafficking, more victims will be helped.

By spreading the crisis line information via the labeling on their products, these companies would make a significant contribution toward bringing information and resources to teen women and other women who are trying to escape a trafficking situation.

If you would like more information about how to get involved in this campaign, write Diane Clyne RSM at: [Justiceclynecarey@pacbell.net](mailto:Justiceclynecarey@pacbell.net)

## New Website to Combat Trafficking

In April 2006 the 'Inter-American Center against Disappearances, Exploitation and Trafficking of Persons' (CIDETT) along with 'Save the Children Sweden' and the 'Organization of American States' launched a new website for reporting human trafficking.

Any person may file a report, which goes directly to the national police of nine countries: Peru, Chile, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Belize, Puerto Rico, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Mexico. This guarantees rapid responses to cases. CIDETT will supervise and monitor the proper use of the site.

The countries involved in the 'Latin American Network for the Disappeared' (RLD), another CIDETT initiative, have received a total of 12,508 reported disappearances through their web site. From these reports 8,012 persons were located, 205 brothels were exposed as using children, and 46 cases of child pornography were discovered.

## World Cup Campaign Update

The petition 'Buying sex is not a sport' will be closed for signatures on May 20th. Until then you may still sign on at: <http://catwpetition.ouvaton.org>

CATW received more than 50,000 signatures from 125 countries.

## Shay from pg. 4

I made the unthinkable proposal that all the bases in the Philippines be closed and converted to economic zones to provide work with dignity and sustainability for the Filipino people. The eruption of Mount Pinatubo, and the common-sense of the Filipino people, doomed Clark and closed Subic Bay.

Working together with many organizations, patriotic senators and church people, that goal was achieved in 1992, ending the era of US military occupation. The economic zones are now a

reality, but so is a revived sex industry, thanks to gutless and greedy politicians.

The *Visiting Forces Agreement* allowed US troops and ships to return for training and exercises. (Ed. See article, pg. 2 col. 3.) Once again, we have sex-starved sailors roaming about, looking for women and, in some cases such as the 'Subic Six', trouble. <http://www.manilatimes.net/national/2005/nov/27/yehey/opinion/20051127opi2.html>

## Corporate Stance

Religious congregations that have taken a formal corporate stance against human trafficking include:

- o Dominican Sisters of San Rafael, CA
- o Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
- o Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (Cabrini Srs.)/Stella Maris Prov.
- o Religious of the Good Shepherd
- o School Sisters of Notre Dame
- o Sisters of the Divine Savior
- o Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary
- o Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, CA
- o Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia, KS
- o Springfield Dominicans

**Stop Trafficking hopes to maintain an up-to-date list. Please contact: [jeansds2000@yahoo.com](mailto:jeansds2000@yahoo.com)**



Action

## Emergency Hotline: World Cup 2006

From April through July 2006 an emergency hotline operated in Russian -- Romanian -- Polish -- French -- Spanish -- Ukrainian -- Bulgarian will operate 24/7 out of Berlin, Germany. Three Sisters are working during each of the three shifts. All the Sisters speak German as well. They were trained by the NGO, *Solidarity with Women in Distress* (SOLWODI).

Training involved 20 days of education in problem orientation. They learned how women are forced into prostitution and kept there. They worked in a women's shelter or in a counselling center for women, who have been victims of trafficking.

They learned to distinguish victims of trafficking, clients of prostituted women, the police, or journalists from crank callers. They were trained to help draw out needed information as to location and endangerment and how to quickly connect callers to other emergency response contacts.

A congregation of sisters in Berlin is providing for the volunteers' room and board, the training, and the emergency switchboard. A member of the SOLWODI counselling team is present 24/7 as well. *S. Benedikta Böckelmann*

**Toll-Free Hotline:  
(Trafficking Information  
and Referral)  
1.888.3737.888**

# Help Stop Military Abuse

Write to *U.S. President George W. Bush* and *Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld* urging them to strictly enforce Article 134 of the *Uniform Code of Military Justice* (Executive Order 13387) throughout the world. Since 'patronizing prostitution' feeds the global demand for sex trafficking, only enforcement of a 'zero-tolerance' policy by all U.S. military forces will safeguard innocent women and children.

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Also write to South Korean President Roh Moo-Hyun and Minister of Justice Jung-Bae Chun, thanking them for their efforts to create a legal framework that recognizes and protects victims of prostitution, while holding those who exploit them accountable. Urge them to ensure that their anti-prostitution laws are strictly enforced.

*Equality Now* reports that since the South Korean laws were implemented the number of commercial sex establishments has decreased by 36.8 percent, according to figures provided by the *Korean National Police Agency*.

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Please keep 'Equality Now'  
updated on your efforts.

## Informative Web Sites: (Each contains information related to human trafficking)

### **CIDETT**

<http://www.denuncialatrata.org>

### **RLD**

<http://www.latinamericanoendesaparados.org/index.html>

### **Solidarity With Women In Distress SOLWODI**

<http://www.solwodi.de>

### **Related:**

<http://www.kfd-bundesverband.de/aktuell/zwangsprostitution.php?navid=39>  
[www.kirche-am-ball.de](http://www.kirche-am-ball.de)

### **Helsinki Commission House Armed Services Committee's Issue Forum**

<http://www.csce.gov>

### **Stop Trafficking!**

is dedicated exclusively to fostering an exchange of information among religious congregations, their friends and collaborating organizations, working to eliminate all forms of trafficking of human beings.

Use the following web address to access back issues of

### **Stop Trafficking!**

<http://homepage.mac.com/srjeanschafer/sds/stoptraffic/index.html>

To contribute information, or make requests to be on the mailing list, please use this e-mail address:  
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