

One Hundred Ninth Congress

**Congress of the United States**

**Committee on International Relations**

**House of Representatives**

**Washington, DC 20515**

(202) 225-5021

[http://www.house.gov/international\\_relations/](http://www.house.gov/international_relations/)

January 28, 2005

His Excellency Pak Gil Yon  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's  
Republic of Korea to the United Nations  
515 East 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, 38-F  
New York, NY 10021

Dear Ambassador Pak:

This letter is to inform you and your government of the distress with which the undersigned Members of the Illinois Congressional Delegation received the finding from the Seoul Central District Prosecutor's Office on December 14, 2004 that South Korean citizen and U.S. permanent resident Reverend Kim Dong-Shik had been abducted by agents of your government in northeast China in January 2000 and taken forcibly into North Korea. Your government, regrettably, has, by its own admission, been involved in the abductions of a number of Japanese citizens, as well as an even greater number of South Korean citizens.

Reverend Kim Dong-Shik, as you may be aware, is the spouse of Mrs. Young Hwa Kim of Chicago, Illinois, and is the parent of U.S. citizens, one of whom is currently residing in Skokie, Illinois. Citizens from a Korean-American church in the Chicago area have also raised this matter as an issue of grave concern and have requested Congressional assistance in ascertaining the facts behind the disappearance and current whereabouts of Reverend Kim. In pursuit of these issues, Mrs. Kim and a delegation from Illinois will be visiting Capitol Hill in the near future.

The successful resolution of this case, therefore, is of critical importance to us, both because of the constituent interests involved as well as because it is a case involving the most fundamental of human rights. Reverend Kim, in his selfless efforts to assist refugees escaping in an underground network to third countries, brings to mind two great heroes held in high esteem in the United States. The first is Ms. Harriet Tubman, who established an underground railroad.

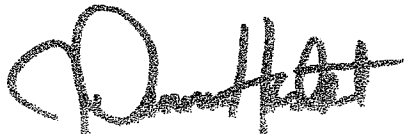
His Excellency Pak Gil Yon

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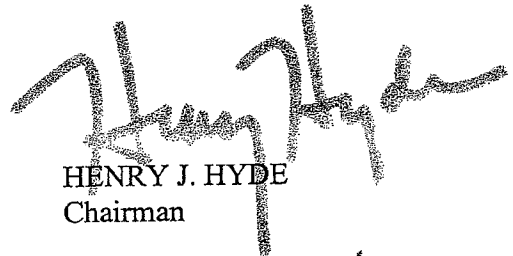
allowing for the escape from slavery of those held in bondage before President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation; the second is the Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg who, during the dark days of the world conflict against fascism in the Second World War, rescued Jewish refugees trapped in Hungary. We view Reverend Kim Dong-Shik as also being a hero who assisted with the escape of the powerless and forgotten.

We, therefore, wish to inform the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) that we will NOT support the removal of your government from the State Department list of State Sponsors of Terrorism until such time, among other reasons, as a full accounting is provided to the Kim family regarding the fate of the Reverend Kim Dong-Shik following his abduction into North Korea five years ago.

Sincerely,



J. DENNIS HASTERT  
Speaker of the House of Representatives



HENRY J. HYDE  
Chairman



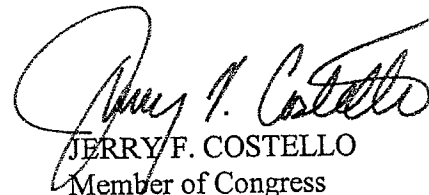
RICHARD J. DURBIN  
United States Senator



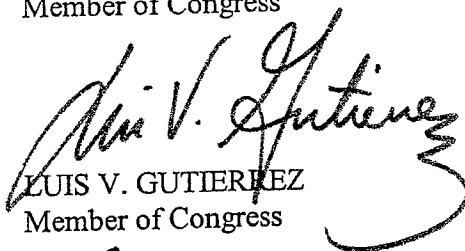
BARACK OBAMA  
United States Senator




LANE EVANS  
Member of Congress



JERRY F. COSTELLO  
Member of Congress



LUIS V. GUTIERREZ  
Member of Congress



DONALD A. MANZULLO  
Members of Congress

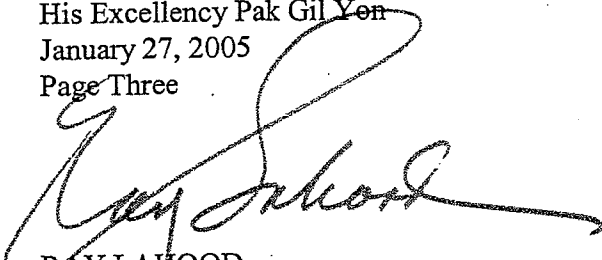


BOBBY L. RUSH  
Member of Congress

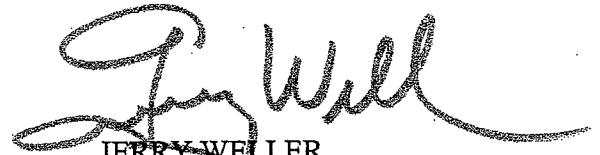


JESSE L. JACKSON  
Member of Congress


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RAY LAHOOD  
Member of Congress



JERRY WELLER  
Member of Congress




DANNY DAVIS  
Member of Congress




JOHN SHIMKUS  
Member of Congress




JUDY BIGGERT  
Member of Congress




JAN D. SCHAKOWSKY  
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TIMOTHY JOHNSON  
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RAHM EMANUEL  
Member of Congress



MELISSA L. BEAN  
Member of Congress



DANIEL LIPINSKI  
Member of Congress

HJH:dh/es/jec