Doro-Chiba Newsletter

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International Labor Solidarity Committee of Doro-Chiba (National Railway Motive Power Union of Chiba)

Doro-Chiba Earthquake Report No.8

An urgent call on electric power workers: Refuse dangerous work under the radioactive exposure! Let's fight together to stop all the nuclear plants!

April 3, 2011

Doro-Chiba International Labor Solidarity Committee

On March 31, 150 people made a protest demonstration to the headquarters of TEPCO (Tokyo Electric Power Company) and Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency.



Protesters in front of TEPCO head office 2 minutes before the arrest



TEPCO security personnel and the plain clothes police collect personal information and intimidate protesters

When the demonstration started from the adjoining Hibiya Park, TEPCO's security personnel were already fully set to intimidate the protesters, taking photos of the participants of the demonstration, in close cooperation with police. The moment the demonstration arrived at the front of TEPCO building, security police suddenly rushed at three students and arrested them: ODA Yosuke, president of Zengakuren in the rank of the demonstration, SAKANO Yohei, acting president of Zengakuren, who was leading the call of protest with megaphone and SAITO Ikuma, president of the Federation of Cultural Clubs of Hosei University at the head of the demonstration. Police violently took away the megaphone to prevent the demonstrator from appealing to the passers-by.

TEPCO even refused the visits of the representatives of the demonstrators to its office to convey the protest. The security personnel of TEPCO shamelessly pointed out the camera reporter accompanying the demonstration, and asked the security police to arrest him.

A farmer coming from the disaster-stricken Ibaragi prefecture to join the protest demonstration furiously shouted at the TEPCO personnel: "Our farmland is contaminated by the nuclear disaster and we can't even plant vegetables. Bring the president here to apologize to us!" He represented the boiling anger of farmers. [Please look at the attached appeal of Fukushima farmers.]

Shameless attitude of TEPCO is fully exposed: the company flatly refused to apologize for causing catastrophic nuclear plant accidents and instead resorted to repressive measures on protest action and even asked police to arrest demonstrators.



Workers not given even a waterproof boots use thin plastic bag to protect their feet; water with strong radioactive materials immerses to the feet of at least one of them

Recently serious and horrible reality of the workplace of Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant has been revealed, breaking through the information control of TEPCO to conceal the

forced slave labor without protection from the deadly radiation exposure: they sleep not in bed but on the floor barely covered by thin blankets in the office inside the building on the site, still filled with radiation; biscuits and vegetable juice are their breakfast and canned food with retort rice is their dinner. These are their rest time with two meals only after working hard under heavy radiation exposure! Did the labor union say anything about this terrible situation of workers? No. not a word. of Neither the labor union TEPCO. Denryoku-Soren (Confederation of Electric Power Related Industry Workers' Unions of Trade Union Rengo (Japan Japan) or Confederation) is keeping complete silence in total negligence of their union members and fellow workers. Those corrupt labor leaders are in fact tools of capitalist class.

This is what TEPCO really is. These shameless people outrageously dared to set up such a disastrous and devastating instrument as nuclear plant and cold-bloodedly continued its operation. Still now, they feel no need of expressing their regret or even of pretending to be sorry. facts, that the workers, the employees of TEPCO and sub-contract workers, who are devotedly engaged in preventing further expansion of the nuclear disaster, have been

It is to be noted that Japan is no exception as far as the electric power company and the government are concerned. As is indicated by the recent visit of French president Sarkozy, those governments who are pushing forward aggressive nuclear policy are expressing their attitude that their policy should not be influenced by the Fukushima accident and they are determined to continue their nuclear policy.

Let's frontally face rapidly developing reality, stay resolutely in the midst of the horrible adversity and strengthen unity and solidarity with the suffering friends in the stricken areas, who are courageously fighting the catastrophic disaster caused by the neo-liberalist policy of neglecting and abandoning local communities which was exposed by huge earthquake and tsunami.

"Fukushima warns us" has become the common slogan of the worldwide anti-nuke movement headed by German and British people.

We call on working class and people all over the world to gather our power in unity to stop all nuclear plants of the world!

Report from Farmers in Fukushima

SUZUKI Koichiro, Farmer of Fukushima

At an Anti-War and Anti-Nuke Rally on March 27 sponsored by the Sanrizuka-Shibayama United Opposition League against the Airport Construction



March 27 Rally

After March 11, every day late in the afternoon, I go to my meadow to throw out all milk taken from my cows. It is very frustrating and I feel deep regret for my cows too. All milk produced from Fukushima prefecture should be thrown out in fear of radioactive contamination by the nuclear plant accident.

Things are all the same in neighboring Ibaraki prefecture. The government has ordered a shipment ban on almost all kinds of vegetables grown in these areas. Is it our fault? Have we, farmers, done anything wrong? No, we have done nothing wrong! Farmers have no responsibility for all that!

The nuclear plant accident, which occurred subsequent to the mega earthquake and the huge tsunamis of March 11, brought to the people of Fukushima a devastating aftermath, comparable with the disasters of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The inhabitants of the bayside areas such as Futaba-cho and Ohkuma-cho were forced to evacuate from Fukushima to prefectures with only the barest other necessities. Radiation contamination has spread in tap water even in the remote areas like Tokyo and Chiba. Once again and in an ultimate way, we are forced to face disastrous consequences of nuclear plant accidents. We cannot coexist with nuclear power plants. The incompatible relationship of human beings and atomic energy is just the same as the Sanrizuka farmers and Narita Airport. And all recent developments have revealed a complete collapse of the atomic energy policy, which Liberal Democratic Party had long been promoted as a national project.

The myth of "clean and safe" energy has been completely destroyed. When the TEPCO vice president visited the evacuation shelters to apologize, the farmers of the stricken Soma and Futaba districts questioned calmly to him with suppressed fury; "When are we expected to go back to our home town?" "What is your prospect?" "We have left our cows there. They are like our family members." I couldn't listen to their words without tears of indignation and sorrow.

Kan administration of Democratic Party who walks along with greedy economic magnates and giant monopolistic capitalists is showing its incapability in coping with the ongoing devastating catastrophe. We must resolutely continue condemning Kan administration with all the affected people.

We, the Fukushima people, are fighting every day our common struggle arm in arm with the people in all affected areas including Miyagi and Iwate. We should make a cool-headed effort to turn our boiling indignation into an active spirit to create our future. We are eager to learn from the soul of Sanrizuka farmers who have been fighting for more than forty years for their own cause. We pledge to share your tough spirit and keep fighting.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your warmest and ungrudging support and encouragement. I thank you every one of you throughout the world.