Separated families from S. Korea, DPRK reunite

Photo released by Korean Central News Agency on Nov. 3, 2010 shows family members from the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) and South Korea meet each other at the Mount Kumgang resort in the DPRK on Nov. 3, 2010. Families from South Korea and the DPRK, torn asunder by a civil war decades ago, reunited Wednesday in what marks the second round of such an event.

SOEUL, — Families from South Korea and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, torn asunder by a civil war decades ago, reunited Wednesday in what marks the second round of such an event.

The demonstrators gathered in front of the former U.S. embassy in Tehran, now referred to as the “Dineh of Espionage”, carrying flags, banners, chanted slogans against the U.S. and Iran. They chanted slogans of “Death to the U.S.” and “Down with Zionism”, and vowed to follow the path of the late founder of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Khomeini.

The demonstrators condemned the western governments’ imposed sanctions against the country and said that they still consider the U.S. as Iran’s main enemy and the great Satan. There were more than 50,000 persons at the demonstration who expressed their anger and disappointment at the United States and Western powers for their conduct against the Islamic Republic.

A woman holds a poster of the late founder of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Khomeini during a rally marking the 31st anniversary of the seizure of the U.S. Embassy outside the former U.S. embassy in downtown Tehran, capital of Iran, Nov. 4, 2010. Iranians on Thursday marked the anniversary of the seizure of the U.S. embassy in Tehran by Iranian students 31 years ago. The United States broke off diplomatic relations with Iran on April 7, 1980 after a group of Iranian students seized the U.S. embassy in Tehran and captured some 60 U.S. diplomats in 1979, with 52 of them being in captivity for 444 days in the hostage crisis.

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First Chinese-American congresswoman succeeds in elections

UNITED NATIONS, — UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Valerie Amos is scheduled to arrive in Khartoum, Sudan on Thursday, to meet with representatives from the Sudanese government, donors and aid agencies, it was announced by her office here Wednesday. During her week-long visit, slated to end on Nov. 10, “Amos will visit South Sudan, Darfur and Khartoum,” a press statement from the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said.

It will be the first visit to Sudan by Amos, who is also the UN emergency relief coordinator, since she was appointed the UN chief in July.

The top UN official will kick off her Sudan tour as violence and severe floods continue to affect people throughout the country. Seasonal flooding and heavy rain has affected 80,000 people, reported OCHA. Meanwhile, tribal clashes and fighting between government and rebel forces ahead of a referendum on self-determination in southern Sudan, have also caused thousands to be displaced.

On Jan. 9, 2011, inhabitants of the south will vote on whether to secede from Sudan or remain united with the rest of the country. On the same day, residents of Abyei, located in the center of the country, will vote separately on whether to retain Abyei’s special administrative status in the north or become part of Bahel el-Ghazal state in the south.

As the final phase of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), the Referendum concludes 39 years of war between the northern-based government and the southern-based government in the hostage crisis. (Xinhua)

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