

## Silmido / Silmido



### Synopsis

In 1968, a North Korean special unit infiltrated South Korea to assassinate South Korea president Park Chung-hee. The mission failed, but it shocked the South Korea government, which decided to set up a special unit (unit 684) consisting of outcasts and death/life criminals, training them on the island of Silmido, off the coast of Inch'ŏn, in order to make human killing machines with the mission of assassinating the North Korea leader, Kim Il-sung, for revenge. In October 1968, at the end of their training, they were dispatched on their mission to the North, but were recalled not long after their departure due to mysterious orders from above. The project was called off, and they returned to Silmido discouraged and frustrated. This frustration led two squad members to go AWOL and rape a female doctor who lived relatively nearby; they were discovered, surrounded by military, and realizing their fate, attempted mutual suicide. One man was killed in this, the other injured. The latter was then returned to the camp on Silmido and strung up, alive, as an example while his fellow squad members were beaten by the troops for the two men's betrayal. One member snapped, charging to the front and killing the strung-up man. Meanwhile efforts continued to negotiate peaceful reunification between the two Koreas, rendering the squad all but useless.

To keep the top-secret, dirty project unknown to the outside world, the South Korean intelligence agency decided to "eliminate" the squad. The squad realizes that they are to be killed, and lays a plan to fight back. They kill their trainers, and then after being told the truth of the mission - that they legally no longer exist, and thus would neither receive recognition for their mission if it succeeded, nor even be allowed to return to society - decide to escape from the island and make their story known. On August 23, 1971, the 20 remaining members of the squad captured a bus and commandeered it for Seoul. An official pronouncement is made through the media that 20 "armed communist agents" had infiltrated the country, and a state of emergency was declared. Eventually they are stopped by army roadblocks and fired on. Realizing their plight, the men proceed to engage in mutual suicide. Later, an investigation is carried out and the resulting report filed away, unread. Based on a true story.

(Source: KOFIC & Wikipedia)

## **Data sheet**

Director: KANG Woo-suk (강우석 / 康祐碩) (DOB 1960)

Main Cast: SEOL Kyung-gu(In-chan), AHN Sung-ki(Jae-hyun), HUH Joon-ho(Sergeant CHO), JUNG Jae-young(Sang-pil)

Release Date: DEC 24 2003

Genre: Action / War

Production: Hanmac Films , Cinema Service Co.Ltd.

Executive Producer: Jonathan Kim

Producer: LEE Min-ho

Screenplay: KIM Hee-jae. Original Story: BAEK Dong-ho

Cinematography: KIM Sung-bok

Editing: GOH Im-pyo

Lighting: SHIN Hak-sung

Music: CHO Young-wok, HAN Jae-kwon

Art Director: ART Service, Inc.

Production Budget: US\$8.6 M

Distribution: Cinema Service

135mm, 35mm, Color

Rate: Over 15

Box-office results: 11,074,000 nationwide (1st position on 65, including 2004 admissions).

## **Pictures**

