

# SPEAK OUT AGAINST THE MARCOS VISIT!

## No Aloha for Dictator



Marcos aims to reverse negative reputation. Whether he succeeds or not depends greatly on the ability of the anti-martial law movement to expose, oppose and frustrate his visit.

Everyone will soon know that Ferdinand Marcos is coming to Honolulu. This will be his first trip to the U.S. since 1966—six years before he declared martial law in the Philippines.

And in the meantime, his government has become notorious for its violations of basic democratic rights and remains in power only by military force.

Throughout Filipino communities in this country in 1966, Marcos received a hero's welcome. (In Honolulu for instance, school children were even bused to events in his honor.) Marcos will certainly hope for the same reception to his visit this month.

But should we Filipinos extend our welcome to a man who has ruled the Philippines as a dictator for the past eight years?

No, we should not!

Economic conditions have grown far worse under martial law. Every year, thousands of Filipinos leave their homes to seek better opportunities in other countries. The rate of inflation is over 25 percent, and employment is unstable. Most unions have been banned, so workers cannot bargain for higher wages.

The Philippines has the second highest rate of malnutrition in the world; 50 percent of the annual deaths are children under six years of age. Millions of Filipino peasants and farmers live in poverty, exploited with no mercy by big landowners.

Philippine agricultural workers make less than \$2.00 a day. (Even Dole has moved from Hawaii to the Philippines where pineapple workers are paid less than 30¢ an hour!) Marcos has allowed foreign businesses, especially from the U.S., to control Philippine natural resources and make use of the cheap labor. Marcos has clearly sided with Philippine landlords and foreign corporations

against the Filipino people. He has become the richest man in the country in the course of his dictatorship, and his interest is for himself; not for the Filipino working people.

While here, Marcos will tell the American people how good the new society is. He will tell them that we are all happy in the Philippines and that we all love Imelda and Ferdinand. He will say that all these stories of military abuses, government corruption, and family favoritism are untrue. But we all know better.

We Filipinos are very proud of our ethnic heritage. This includes pride in the Philippines. This pride is kept alive whether or not we have even seen the Philippines or have returned home in many, many years.

When Marcos visits, there will be those who say "Let's put politics aside... this is a time for us to unite and show respect for the President of the Philippines. Let's show our Pinoy spirit. It does not matter what kind of ruler he is..." But it does matter! To be proud of our Filipino heritage does not mean we have to be proud of Marcos.

Marcos will be honored with all kinds of receptions and publicity by his loyal supporters in the community, in the business world and by the U.S. government.

It is our duty to show the true feelings of the U.S. Filipino community against the Marcos dictatorship.

Friends, this is the time to speak out. Together we can show Marcos' real face. Together our voice should be heard by the people of the U.S. and the world so that they will not be fooled by Marcos.

Together our voice will be heard by our people in the homeland and will give them encouragement to continue the fight for a free Philippines. **AMLC** □



The past protest actions of the anti-martial law movement in the U.S., such as the one above, will assume greater importance in the upcoming period.

## Protests Grow: Militant Actions Readied

A sudden wave of protests hit the U.S. hosts of dictator Marcos' planned visit to Honolulu. The outpouring of objections from the Filipino community as well as human rights supporters among the U.S. and Canadian public is making Marcos' appearance at a convention set by the Association of Newspaper Publishers of America (ANPA) on April 21 highly controversial.

"We have been deluged by hundreds of telegrams from all over!" admitted Tom Fichter, ANPA vice-president and convention coordinator. Marcos is to speak at a luncheon hosted by ANPA member, the Associated Press (AP). His powerful hosts claim he is being invited as a "newsmaker and world leader." The telegrams on the other hand demanded that ANPA's invitation be withdrawn because it is an affront to the Filipino people who have suffered under Marcos' various crimes, including the destruction of press freedom. The torrent of protest-telegrams was confirmed by Rene Cruz, national coordinator of the AMLC which is organizing the protests along with the Friends of the Filipino People headed by Stephanie Brown.

At the same time, the U.S. State Department, which recently whitewashed Marcos' repressive rule in its annual human rights report, was besieged by telephone calls from com-

munity and church leaders, objecting to a reported plan to turn Marcos trip to Honolulu into an official state visit bringing him to Washington, D.C. and other cities in the U.S. mainland. At press time, scores of members of the Filipino community are sending telegrams to Jimmy Carter objecting to a state visit.

The anti-martial law movement's protests were bolstered by the support given by various unions of journalists. For example, Bill Morrissey, acting president of the Wire Service Guild (which includes AP employees) is set to release a statement of support for the movement's objections to Marcos' presence at the press convention. Betsy Wade of the New York Newspaper Guild also expressed support and gave the protest organizers contacts in the various Newspaper Guilds in North America.

Marcos' hosts, the ANPA and the AP, were themselves directly confronted by a delegation organized by the AMLC and composed of the following: Aimee Cruz, *Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino*; Sr. Caridad Guidote, N.Y. AMLA; Ruth Prudente, World Council of Churches; John Moyer, United Church of Christ Board of Homeland Ministries; Fr. Jerome McKenna, Church Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines; Romy Capulong, ex-

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## KDP Commentary:

# UNITE IN THE BATTLE AGAINST MARCOS

The upcoming Marcos visit to the U.S. to attend the ANPA Convention in Honolulu, poses a major challenge to the anti-martial law movement in this country. The question is, will the various parties in the movement put their differences aside and unite to work together in the face of the dictator's visit?

At stake is our ability to respond effectively to the visit, Marcos' trip here represents a major public relations effort by the regime to reverse an unfavorable public image in the U.S., an image which is largely the result of efforts by the U.S. anti-martial law movement to expose the true nature of the dictatorship. The visit also signified the formalization of a new stage in U.S.-R.P. relations marked by open U.S. endorsement of, and associations with the dictatorship. By coming to the U.S. Marcos is "entering into battle" with the anti-martial law movement in this country. Will the movement be able to turn the dictator's visit into a defeat by mounting a huge militant protest to expose the regime and its U.S. ties? The potential is there, because this is the biggest event

facing the movement since the declaration of martial law, in 1972. Given the general anti-martial law sentiment in the Filipino community, and critical view of Marcos in the broader American public, thousands of people can be potentially mobilized to participate in the protests. But in order to maximize our success, it will take a united effort by all anti-martial law organizations and individuals.

The KDP realized that building this unity will be a struggle—given the differences that have historically divided the movement. Nonetheless, we must wage this struggle successfully if we are to confront the dictator with a united force. Over the past weeks, an encouraging trend has developed in the broad effort to target Marcos' hosts, the ANPA. Various groups and individuals have participated in telegram campaigns, delegations and other protest actions demanding that ANPA withdraw the invitation to Marcos and make clear its position on the regime's record on human rights. These successful efforts just show the importance of unity and

the potential of the anti-martial law movement if this unity is further strengthened.

Of course, in the struggle to build unity, there will be some who will falter. Others may fail the test altogether, adopting the sectarian stance of staunchly refusing to put differences aside for the common good. The consequences of such a failure will be serious, as Marcos stands ready to seize upon any divisions to discredit the movement and to divert attention from himself. What Marcos really fears is a united movement. He will stop at nothing to prevent this by splitting and wrecking and encouraging those who do.

Under the "battlefield conditions" that the movement is entering we must resolutely get rid of all sectarianism in order to marshall our forces against the common enemy. To put it bluntly, Marcos is poised to strike. Whether the anti-martial law movement is able to elude, parry and return this blow, depends on our ability to unite. Unity is our only defense and offense. Our individual and collective interests depend on this

unity.

This is not to suggest that there are no important differences within the movement. The question is whether the movement can handle these differences in a mature way so as not to jeopardize joint action.

Historically, the real ideological differences that exist have been used by certain groups to divide the movement mainly through the use of anti-communism. These differences have been used to justify refusal to take any joint action. This harms the whole movement in preparing for battle, the maturity and commitment of each group to fight against narrow sectarianism and unite to face the dictator is being put to the test. Our success in meeting this test will be an important breakthrough for the whole movement, not just in an immediate sense, but for the long-range struggle against the dictatorship as well. □

*KDP National Executive Board*

## PROTESTERS MEET WITH AP AND ANPA



The New York delegation included Raul Daza, Armin Alforque, Aimee Cruz, Fr. Jerome McKenna, Rev. John Moyer, Sr. Caridad Guidote, Romeo Capulong, and Ruth Prudente.

Prominent Filipino oppositionists and American church officials met with Associated Press and American Newspaper Publishers Association executives at two separate meetings to clarify who was responsible for the invitation to Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos to address the AP luncheon at the ANPA convention on April 21 in Honolulu. The delegations demanded that the invitation be revoked and expressed their disbelief at "the decision to have a person with such a disgraceful record grace the event of an institution which has an avowed aim of defending the ideals of democracy."

While neither the AP nor the ANPA disagreed with the truth about Marcos' record, each made conflicting statements regarding who had made the decision and who had the authority to revoke it. No one was willing to claim responsibility, including UPI, which according to ANPA vice-president Tom Fichter, had taken part in the process.

AP vice-president Stan Swinton met with the Anti-Martial Law Coalition delegation composed of: Romeo Capulong, former Philippine constitutional convention delegate and former Deputy

Secretary-General of LABAN (People's Power) Opposition Party; Aimee Cruz, Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino; Raul Daza, former Philippine congressman (Samar); Sister Caridad Guidote, OFM, Franciscan Missionaries of Mary and AMLC member; Ruth Prudente, Governing Board Member of the National Council of Churches; Father Jerome McKenna, Chairperson of the Church Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines; Rev. John Moyer, Minister, United Church of Christ; and Armin Alforque, Anti-Martial Law Alliance, New York. The meeting took place on April 1 in the AP national headquarters in New York.

After delegation members presented a thorough expose of Marcos' press freedom violations, Swinton even added to and elaborated on the subject, indicating AP was fully aware of the facts previous to the issuance of the invitation. Swinton emphasized that Marcos had been invited just as a newsmaker "whether in the good sense or notorious sense." He added that AP does not condone Marcos' repressive rule and that the convention was a good opportunity to grill him.

Fr. McKenna replied that "No matter even if you grill him, Marcos is highly skilled in turning the tables...under AP's and ANPA's auspices, using both's prestige to make it appear that he is accepted and has some legitimacy...this is how he distorted Mother Teresa's and Cesar Chavez's visits to the Philippines."

Swinton stated that all decisions, preparations and technical details were ANPA's responsibility; and that if there were to be any changes, it was in ANPA's hands. This confirmed a statement AP president Keith Fuller had made earlier to an AK correspondent that "ANPA invited Marcos and assigned him to the AP luncheon" and that AP had nothing to do with Marcos' being invited.

Swinton agreed to issue formal statements from the AP, clarifying that the invitation did not constitute an endorsement of the regime or its policies. He also promised that spokespersons of the anti-martial law movement could be present at the convention. A subsequent wire story by AP, however, did not accurately reflect the New York meeting. The letter of response issued by Swinton after the meeting was not from the AP

Board of Directors as he had promised, and did not make the direct statements to which he had agreed.

The day after the AP meeting, April 2, a delegation met with ANPA in its Reston, VA headquarters. At first unavailable to protest organizers who had been trying to arrange a meeting for several days, ANPA convention coordinator Tom Fichter suddenly contacted the Friends of the Filipino People national office in Washington, DC and called for a meeting. Steve Wake of FFP national office, Jonathan Melegrito of the DC Anti-Martial Law Alliance, Raul Daza, Romeo Capulong, and Aimee Cruz had a lengthy one and one-half hour discussion with Fichter and public affairs manager Bill Schabacker.

Fichter stated that the AP, UPI, and ANPA made a collective decision to invite Marcos. (When contacted, UPI president H.L. Stevenson had "nothing to say for publication" and would neither confirm nor deny Fichter's statement.) When asked who actually issued the invitation, Fichter replied that his "first instinct is to protect those responsible." He added that the authority to withdraw the invitation lay with the AP, and that the AP had control and had invited Marcos. This was in direct contradiction to Swinton's statements.

Both Fichter and Schabacker expressed sympathy with the delegation's concerns and even revealed that some ANPA Board members had raised objections to Marcos' invitation. They promised to make a public clarification that ANPA does not condone Marcos' repressive rule. In addition, they also promised to make available to convention delegates materials and documentation prepared by the Anti-Martial Law Coalition.

The AP and ANPA meetings took place in the wake of their national headquarters' being besieged by hundreds of telegrams and dozens of phone calls, a result of the wave of indignation sweeping Filipino communities and human rights groups. Protest organizers, Rene Cruz of the Anti-Martial Law Coalition and Stephanie Brown of the FFP estimated 600 telegrams alone were produced by their national networks in the U.S. and Canada. Fichter was quoted as saying that he was "impressed" with the protests' "sophistication," and was surprised at the response to the announcement of Marcos' invitation. □



# U.S. POLICY OF CONCILIATION EMBOLDENS MARCOS

For the first time in many years, dictator Ferdinand Marcos will step on American soil to address the "free world" as guest speaker of the American Newspaper Publishers Association (ANPA) convention in Hawaii this month. Long desirous, yet reluctant to pay his mentors a visit because of U.S.-R.P. relations, the dictator has finally mustered the courage to "test the waters."

## WHAT'S BEHIND THE VISIT?

Now what made Marcos jump at the opportunity to pay even just an unofficial visit to "the home of the brave and the land of the free?" Self-respecting heads of states usually dislike making unofficial public appearances in another country, especially "the most powerful country in the world." That would be like accepting a dinner invitation on the condition that one eats in the kitchen. How unbecoming! But Marcos is willing to swallow his pride. While secretly hankering for an unofficial invitation from the U.S. government, this political animal will eagerly grab for crumbs with one hand, and leave his other free to grope for the bread. Not uncommon behavior for the servile puppet that he is!

For Marcos, the chance to "eat in the kitchen" holds immediate and long-range benefits, which any self-serving and desperate dictator can't miss.

First Marcos is eager to reverse the negative image of his regime abroad because of critical foreign press coverage. What better occasion to broadcast his deception to the world than to seize the platform offered by ANPA. Secondly, the visit is well-timed to do some heavy public relations work for the Philippine economy. A recent spate of articles forecasting a gloomy horizon for foreign investments in the Philippines has made it imperative for the regime to buoy business confidence in the flagging Philippine economy.

Finally, and most important, the visit is meant to cement further the friendly turn in relations between Marcos and the U.S. Symbolically, it represents the U.S.' unwillingness to be more bold in openly associating with an embarrassed ally whose well-known mischief, like violating human rights had caused quarrels in the past. Determined not to make "trivial" issues, such as respect for human rights, come between puppet and master, the two are making amends and being more open with their partnership. The Marcos visit is a big stride in this direction.

## U.S.-R.P. RELATIONS IN THE EIGHTEENS: FROM SOUR TO SWEET

Indeed, the visit of Marcos couldn't have taken place under more favorable conditions. With the political climate veering to the right and the Cold War mongering of the Carter administration reaching a feverish pitch, the water is just right for Marcos to take a dip. Now that the human rights rhetoric and consciousness has receded to an all time low, the U.S. hopes that the public will tolerate the presence of a dictator in some "harmless" newspaper convention.

Furthermore, in terms of U.S.-R.P. relations, the groundwork for such a visit to occur has been laid.

The steady march towards closer cooperative relations was clinched with the signing of the U.S.-R.P. Military Bases Agreement, pledging \$5 billion in military assistance to the Philippines last December 1978. The finalization of the treaty ended a relatively tense period in U.S.-R.P. relations when the U.S. used the human rights issue as a bargaining chip and the Philippines used

the bases as a trump card, in the bases negotiations. Since that time, the U.S. has conveniently ignored Marcos' continued violations of human rights. Especially now, in light of renewed threats to its imperialist hegemony, the Carter administration has made it very clear that such considerations as human rights, democracy, etc., take a back seat to the protection of American global interests.

Marcos on his part has returned to his original form of puppetry. He now echoes U.S. sabre-rattling at the Soviet Union. Like a dutiful puppet, Marcos has been at the helm of efforts to transform the mutual aid society of Southeast Asian dictators, ASEAN, into a military alliance. He has also been in the forefront of attempts to revive the infamous Manila Pact, SEATO, the NATO counterpart in Asia.

The U.S. in turn has responded generously, not only promising more assistance but acting as an apologist for the regime as well. The 1980 State Department report on the Philippines reversed its earlier critical assessment of the Marcos regime and asserted that, in the main, the Philippine government is moving towards a "positive direction." The State Department might as well have congratulated Marcos for torture, salvaging, mass arrests, indefinite detention, etc.

## ANPA INVITATION: CASUAL OR CALCULATED?

The ANPA invitation therefore, has to be placed in the context of the shifting U.S.-R.P. relations if it is to be properly understood. Because the U.S. has thrown its weight behind Marcos for the moment, it will strive to develop the latter's legitimacy and acceptance among the American people. Naturally, ANPA will deny any conscious role in such a scheme. In fact, it is trying to pass off the invitation to Marcos as some casual event. But the inescapable truth is, the ANPA has provided a discredited dictator a public forum. Hard as they may try to portray the invitation to Marcos as an apolitical gesture, we maintain that such an occurrence would not have been possible without the tacit approval or encouragement of the U.S. government.

Marcos is a U.S. puppet and a despicable dictator with a passionate hatred for press freedom and public opinion. He is not, as ANPA would have us believe, a mere personality representing the free world, slated to address an Associated Press luncheon. If the ANPA were merely after "interesting personalities" and speakers to fill the conference's agenda, they might as well have hired the services of an entertainer. The delegates could certainly use more comic relief than more lies to break the conference tedium.

Furthermore, for ANPA to gloss over Marcos' record on press freedom and yet project itself as "the guardian of the free press," is a glaring contradiction. There is no way to explain this apparent irony unless one views the ANPA invitation as a political act. The ANPA invitation obscures the fact that Marcos' freedom to speak and be heard is built upon the destruction of the Filipino people's freedom to speak and be heard! This does not serve journalistic "objectivity." Instead, it objectively serves Marcos' and the U.S. government's ignoble political goals. Furthermore, the ANPA invitation certainly raises doubts about the much vaunted journalistic ethics of objectivity and neutrality. Historically, the press has been used as a powerful instrument to shape public opinion in support of U.S. foreign policies. Quite a few cases of CIA bribery of correspondents, government pressure on publishers and



editors, and monopoly control of the media is enough proof to dispell the myth that the press is a "neutral forum," a paragon of objectivity standing above society.

ANPA's invitation to Marcos, in sum, is a manifestation of the overall changed attitude of the U.S. policy towards the Marcos dictatorship.

## OPPOSE THE MARCOS VISIT

And what does the "mere invitation" to Marcos mean for the Filipino people? It means that with the legitimization and acceptance of the regime by the press, and by extension, the American public,

Marcos and his masters can confidently ride roughshod over the people's rights. No longer fettered by such constraints as "adverse public opinion" (which is being diverted anyway into popular hatred for the Russians), the U.S.-Marcos dictatorship can plunder with greater ease the national wealth and labor of the Philippines. This is the ultimate implication of the ANPA's "mere invitation!"

For these reasons, all freedom loving peoples must effectively oppose the impending visit of the dictator Marcos. Not an inch of legitimacy must be conceded to this criminal. □

## Militant Actions . . .

*Continued from page 1*

Secretary-General of LABAN Party; and Raul Daza, ex-Congressman from Samar. AP officer Stan Swinton was forced to make a clarification that AP does not condone Marcos' repressive rule. Similarly, ANPA's Fichter, who at first refused to meet the delegation but was eventually forced to by the pressure of the protest, clarified that they did not support Marcos either and that their invitation was "non-political." Both AP and ANPA promised that they would make their clarifications public, invite spokespeople from the anti-martial law movement to the convention, and distribute the movement's literature among the participants. AP and ANPA pointed fingers at each other, claiming each one was not responsible for the invitation.

Meanwhile, in Honolulu, the Committee to Oppose the Marcos Visit has been launched by the Committee of Human Rights in the Philippines (an AMLC affiliate) and the FFP. The group has been circulating a protest statement to be

signed by members of the state legislature and has distributed streams of anti-Marcos materials to the community and the media. As a result, local TV, radio and newspapers have been giving extensive coverage to the protests. In other words, Marcos' visit is already a well-known controversy in Honolulu, and it will be even more controversial when he actually arrives.

All of these actions were unfolded nationwide in a little more than a week, principally through the lightning mobilization of the AMLC's network of support. Emergency mass meetings activated an extensive network which in turn generated hundreds of telegrams, phone calls and other forms of support in a few days at the mere news of Marcos' planned visit; quite a few people stepped forwards to volunteer their efforts to the protest. While the outpouring of protests has not stopped Marcos' plans, it shows that the Filipino community and their U.S. and Canadian supporters are ready to make every step of Marcos' visit very difficult for him. □

# Gov't., Media Collusion Revealed



Tom Fichter, vice-president of ANPA and convention coordinator.

The apparent collusion between the powerful American Newspaper Publishers Association (ANPA) and the U.S. government was recently revealed by a spokesperson for the Friends of the Filipino People.

Steve Wake, who also works on the Anti-Martial Law Coalition's Congress Task Force (CTF), related a series of incidents which implied active U.S. government encouragement for the ANPA's efforts to bring Marcos to the U.S. Prominent among the revelations was the involvement of U.S. intelligence agencies which provided information to the ANPA, a relationship highly questionable for a self-proclaimed "free press." Wake related the following incidents to the *Ang Katipunan*:

- At the April 1 meeting where representatives of the anti-martial law movement met with Associated Press vice-president Stan Swinton, it was revealed that Swinton possessed a U.S. State Department intelligence report detailing the activities of the different anti-martial law groups in the U.S.

- At a similar meeting with ANPA vice president Tom Fichter in Virginia, Fichter revealed that he also possessed an intelligence report on anti-martial law groups provided by Hawaii's governor Ariyoshi.

Wake pointed out that while the ANPA had tried to maintain an almost casual attitude towards the visit of Marcos, the fact that U.S. governmental and intelli-

gence bodies worked with the publishers' association indicated "a carefully calculated political move to improve the image of the Marcos regime which has been 'too critical' in its reports over the past year."

The FFP spokesperson also emphasized that such cozy relations between the press and government were not uncommon, belying the many claims of the U.S. press towards "objectivity and neutrality." Wake related the case of Henry Hartzenbusch, a former Associated Press (AP) executive who was hired by the Marcos regime in August 1979 to conduct an extensive public relations effort for the dictatorship.

Hartzenbusch signed a contract with the government-owned Philippine Central Bank, requiring him to "publish factual favorable articles and items on the Philippines in American newspapers . . . and other media by recruiting responsible writers, reporters, columnists, editors, publishers, broadcast journalists and to undertake such publication." Furthermore, Hartzenbusch was to "invite influential press associations including . . . ANPA . . . to hold conventions, meetings and seminars in Manila. . . ."

Wake pointed out that the ANPA's power in forming public opinion was indicated by the fact that 91 percent of U.S. daily newspapers are owned by ANPA members. Thus governmental policy makers have a high interest in working with the ANPA in shaping U.S. opinion on foreign and domestic policies.

"The ANPA's invitation to Marcos," Wake concluded, "should not really come at all that surprising." Wake pointed out that the ANPA has a reputation among its most prominent workers union, the Newspaper Guild, as being anti-union, successfully breaking the *Washington Post* strike three years ago and maintaining an anti-union "scab school." Such domestic policies, concluded Wake, "would find common ground with the Marcos dictatorship." □

# Hawaii Plans Two Kinds of "Welcome"

The Philippine Consulate in Hawaii is feverishly preparing for the expected arrival of Ferdinand Marcos. Pro-Marcos Filipino media has announced that free bus transportation is available for any group willing to greet Marcos when he arrives. A well-orchestrated reception is expected to welcome him at a military airport on Saturday, April 19.

Governor George Ariyoshi, whose wife and Imelda are well-known shopping partners, has announced that Marcos will receive no less than a "full welcome." The governor is expected to host a gala dinner for Marcos and other state and Filipino dignitaries.

"Another welcome" is being planned by the Committee to Oppose the Marcos Visit. This local coalition, initiated by the Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines, said that it intends to vocally protest Marcos and martial law everywhere the dictator goes.

The CHRP has taken up the ambitious task of getting one of its flyers into every Filipino household on the island of Oahu. CHRP estimates that some 50,000 flyers will be distributed at churches, bus stops, workplaces, schools, and neighborhoods.

The flyer has been sympathetically received in the Filipino community. Many people have taken additional copies to give to friends and relatives. Entitled, "No Aloha for Marcos," the flyer appeals to the community not to be blinded by the fanfare given a visiting head of state or by the appeals for national or regional pride. The flyer points out that Marcos is responsible for the significant deterioration of the people's standard of living and the suppression of democratic rights.

Some Hawaii state legislators have also written to the governor that no special welcome should be extended to Marcos. In their letters they said that anything beyond minimal protocol could be seen as an endorsement of the military regime.

The Committee plans to hold a press conference and a mass picket at noon on April 21st prior to Marcos' scheduled appearance at the AP luncheon. A press conference will also follow Marcos' presentation. "Our main concern," said one committee representative, "is to see that the opinion of the majority of our community, although inhibited by fear, has a chance to be heard." □

## Marcos Prepares "Grand Welcome" For Himself

Marcos' eagerness to take advantage of the publicity offered by one of the world's largest press groups is already showing. The Philippine Consulate in Honolulu is busy trying to organize a "spontaneous welcome" for the dictator. It has sent word out that Marcos is willing to meet with the activists if no protest is held that could disrupt the banquet they are planning. Of course the AMLC replied that it would not meet with Marcos unless he shows signs of good faith—such as releasing all political prisoners. The consulate is also spending lots of money to organize "community support for Marcos." It is planning to bus members of the Filipino Catholic Clubs of Hawaii and the Moncadistas to the airport to welcome Marcos. The consulate has also enlisted the services of the United Filipino Council of Hawaii which is now trying to arrange

a grand welcome by the state legislature. Of course Marcos can count on the support of his good friends Governor Ariyoshi and Senator Inouye, both strong backers of the regime.

Should Marcos come to other cities in the mainland, he will rely on the same tactics to show "community support." His network of consulates will sign up conservative regional organizations as well as pro-Marcos groups such as the CONPUSO in L.A. to hold festivities that will attract the unwary. As with the previous secret Imelda visit to West Coast cities, these events will be billed by the Marcos-controlled Philippine media as "proof of the regime's popularity among Filipinos abroad." The dictator has certainly learned a lot of tricks from his good friend the deposed Shah of Iran. □

## DEMONSTRATE ON APRIL 21st!

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Jon Melegrito  
(301) 933-5239  
or  
Steve Wake  
(202) 296-2707

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12:00 noon  
Philippine Consulate  
449 Sutter Street  
Helen Toribio  
(415) 239-5449

### SACRAMENTO

Contact:  
Sonny Alforque  
(916) 428-4415

### CHICAGO

12:00 noon  
Philippine Consulate  
30 N. Michigan Street  
Eddie Escultura  
(312) 989-4566

### SEATTLE

Philippine Consulate  
810 - 3rd Avenue between Marian and Columbia  
Mila de Guzman  
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11:30 a.m.  
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cor. Wilshire and Virgil  
Allan Constantino  
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Vicky Estrella  
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## Not Only Jimmy:

## Endorsement from Jeff Too

According to the March 17 issue of the *Manila Journal*, Jeff Carter, son of the U.S. president, said that "All I've read about the Philippines in the Western press is bad. But we're used to bad press." Carter "told newsmen that he would try to write American newspapers about the true situation in the Philippines created by the twisted reports published abroad."

According to the same report, Jeff also commented that Imelda "reminds me of my mother." Now if the senior Carter doesn't rebuke his son for his comments, maybe Rosalyn will. But given the politics behind Marcos' pending April 21 visit, younger Carter's comments fit in with the larger domestic campaign to build support for the Philippine dictatorship.

### EDITOR'S NOTE

#### TO OUR READERS

Due to the importance of the upcoming April 21 visit of Philippine dictator Ferdinand Marcos to Hawaii, and the news and media blackout surrounding this event, the *Ang Katipunan* has devoted the entirety of this edition to the pending visit. In an effort to reach a wide audience, we have limited the regular number of pages so that the paper can get out to four times as many as our regular readership. We strongly urge all our readers to follow the upcoming events closely, and to take part in local protest actions. With the next issue, the *Ang Katipunan* will return to its regular format.  
—Editor

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