

# Ang KATIPUNAN

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San Francisco protest on Jan. 2 denounced the new U.S.-R.P. bases agreement. In numerous U.S. cities similar protests occurred. [AK photo]

\$1 Billion in U.S. Aid to Regime

## U.S.-R.P. Reach Accord on Bases

After more than three years of haggling, the Marcos regime and the U.S. government finally reached agreement on monetary and political "compensation" for the continuation of U.S. military bases in the Philippines last January 1.

**FLASH!**—Late reports from Manila revealed that the Executive Agreement on the U.S. bases was signed Sunday, Jan. 8, by President-Prime Minister Ferdinand E. Marcos, Foreign Minister Carlos P. Romulo and U.S. Ambassador Richard Murphy. Philippine Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile has announced that compensation will amount to "over \$1 billion." The U.S. State Department however, still maintains that the figure is \$500 million. This confirms AK speculation that the \$500 million represents only the "public" portion of the compensation.

A joint statement released in both Manila and Washington, D.C. revealed that the agreement includes:

- \$500 million in "military and economic assistance" to be paid to the Marcos regime as compensation;
- A Filipino base commander with authority extending throughout the base areas but with guarantees that U.S. military operations will continue unhampered;
- A reduction of the land area presently occupied by the bases; and
- A thorough review of the agreement every five years.

The revision of the bases treaty in the form of an executive agreement reveals sly calculation on the part of the Carter administration designed to circumvent full discussion in the U.S. Congress. A new treaty would have required a two-thirds vote in the Senate and a thorough review by the feisty Senate Foreign Relations Committee. With an executive agreement, Carter has to secure congressional approval only for the compensation package.

### EXISTENCE OF BASES—NEVER QUESTIONED

For the time the negotiations started in 1976, neither Carter nor Marcos has seriously questioned continuing to maintain the Philippine bases. A key assumption has been the importance of the bases as extensions of U.S. military power in the region and as springboards for intervention in the internal affairs of the Philippines and other countries. The only items at stake were the amount of money Marcos could wheedle out of the U.S., and the kinds of cosmetic changes that the U.S. might concede to strengthen Marcos' "nationalist" credentials with-

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### Nationwide Actions

## Protests Denounce Bases Treaty

By SAM CACAS  
AK Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Hundreds of activists across the country staged protest actions January 2 in a quick response to the December 31, 1978 announcement by Marcos and the State Department that an agreement had been reached concerning the retention of U.S. military facilities in the Philippines.

Militant pickets and leafleters signalled public outrage at the new agreement and Carter's pledge of \$500 million in aid to Marcos. These actions were held in front of federal buildings in Honolulu, Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Chicago, Boston, and Washington, D.C.

### COSMETIC SOVEREIGNTY

Speaking at a rally in front of the State Department in Washington, D.C., former political prisoner and leading critic of martial law Charito Planas described the changes in the agreement as "purely cosmetic."

"A Filipino base commander, Filipino soldiers providing security around the bases and the partial reduction of land area occupied," Planas added, "do not constitute Philippine sovereignty over these bases."

Echoing the demands of the Civil Liberties Union of the Philippines and the traditional opposition politicians including former Senator Benigno Aquino, Jr. for the bases removal, Planas continued, "The assertion by the U.S. and the Philippine governments that this agreement constitute a further recognition of Philippine sovereignty flies in face of the fact that genuine sovereignty can

not be achieved until the bases are dismantled and the U.S. military leave the Philippine."

In San Diego, veteran anti-war activist Kathy Gilbert denounced the plan to have Filipinos guard the perimeter area of the bases as "a modified version of the Nixon Doctrine." Elaborating on this point, Gilbert proceeded, "Philippine nationals do not want the bases there. Only the Pentagon and foreign multinational investments are served by their presence. So the plan to have Filipinos guard the bases is the same thing as Nixon's 'Vietnamization' plan—Asians will be defending foreign interests against the nationalist demands of their countrymen."

### \$500 MILLION FOR REPRESSION

The pledge of \$500 million to be paid over the next five years, was a special target of all the protests. In San Francisco, Rev. Lloyd Wake pointed out, "Congress must hold Carter accountable for making such a commitment of our tax money."

Connecting domestic and international human rights, the local community activist continued, "Prop. 13 hit social services hard enough, then Carter announced a multi-billion dollar cutback in domestic social programs and yet another increase in military spending. Now he promises a dictator half a billion of our hard-earned tax money, \$300 million of it in military aid. How many hospitals, schools, community centers, day-care centers, and low-income housing units would that buy? Are we going to finance further repression of the Filipino people by Marcos, or are we going to take care of human rights right here at home?"

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## U.S. BASES VS. PHILIPPINE SOVEREIGNTY

The recently concluded executive agreement between President Carter of the U.S. and Philippine President Marcos retaining the U.S. bases in the Philippines has aroused public protests over the undemocratic manner in which the negotiations were conducted which cleverly circumvented any open discussion of this controversial issue.

The popular opposition to the Marcos regime has also attacked the agreement because they rightfully see the \$1 billion "compensation" for the bases—much of it military monies and hardware—as a thinly disguised attempt to funnel more crucial U.S. aid to the isolated regime.

At the heart of the opposition to the agreement is the fact that the presence of 20 U.S. bases on Philippine soil is a blatant affront to Philippine sovereignty. Undoubtedly, there can be no mistaking the anti-Filipino character of these foreign installations that occupy prime Philippine land, are above Philippine laws and beyond any control of the Filipino people.

The outposts of U.S. imperialism have also increasingly proven to be an embarrassment to all but the most shameless Filipino leaders who have a hard time gaining any credible audience to their claims of Philippine neutrality while American wars of aggression against countries "unfriendly" to American investment are launched from Clark Air Force and Subic Naval Base.

The question of U.S. bases and Philippine sovereignty, however, is only one side of this question. The bases are certainly the most blatant and therefore the most odious stamp of American subjugation of the Philippines but they are not the only thing that make a mockery of Philippine independence. The compromis-

ing of the Philippine nation by U.S. imperialism goes deeper, and American interference in Philippine affairs goes beyond the physical boundaries of these bases.

U.S. imperialism penetrates all aspects of Philippine life—its politics, its economy, its culture. In fact, it is the extensive economic holdings by U.S. based multinational corporations that remains the main incentive for continuing U.S. involvement in the Philippines. Consequently, the struggle to defend Philippine national sovereignty is an all-sided political and economic struggle.

But the military bases do play a particular role in the entire scheme of U.S. domination. For they represent the military force and might which backs up and enforces the economic, political and social domination that imperialism has instituted. A brief review of how U.S. rule was first established in the Philippines through the brutal and savage Philippine-American War easily demonstrates this point. This is the history and context of U.S. military bases in the Philippines; established through force and aggression and continue to protect the U.S. investments which reap millions for multinational corporations.

The military bases are not the only form of the military force ready to back up U.S. interests in the Philippines, since the advanced technology of the U.S. war machine still maintains a capable striking force from bases in nearby Okinawa and from the 7th fleet. But the bases are the most direct and blatant source of military intimidation which holds the Philippines in foreign subjugation.

As such, they must be actively targeted and opposed by the Filipino people and all freedom loving people of the U.S. and of the world. And because the

bases are such a blatant holdover from direct colonial rule, there is even a good chance to win their eventual expulsion. The days when U.S. imperialism could commit blatant military aggression with impunity are over for good. From the most clear cut examples of U.S. defeat in Indochina to the countless ways Third World countries have risen to defend their sovereignty, the rising force in the world today is the assertion of independence and equality among all nations. The international atmosphere of public opinion no longer tolerates such blatant colonial holdovers as unwanted foreign bases on the soil of purportedly independent countries.

The Filipino people are rising once again to fight the continuing maintenance of these bases. But, as long as the country is dominated by economic and political control of U.S. imperialism, we must be prepared for the standing threat of U.S. military aggression with or without the bases. Therefore, our struggle to assert the real sovereignty of the Philippine nation must take up preparations to meet the threat of direct military intervention. The Philippines can only seriously assert its national sovereignty when it has its own people's army which is capable of defending its independence. This beginning is seen in the New People's Army which is now taking up the armed resistance against the puppet Marcos dictatorship, and is preparing itself to defend the country against the threat of U.S. aggression which is bound to pose itself when the people are toppling the protectors of U.S. investments and interests. In the long run this is the only method of making the defense of Philippine sovereignty more than just an empty phrase. □

## Weber Case: New Test for Anti-Racist Movement

Following closely on the heels of the Bakke decision, the U.S. Supreme Court has decided to take up the case of *Weber vs. Kaiser Aluminum*. The Weber case will be the second in what is expected to be a series of high court decisions on the raging controversy of affirmative action for minority people in the U.S. As in the Bakke case, the Weber decision will rule on the legality and constitutionality of affirmative action programs which are alleged to practice "reverse discrimination" against white people. The Supreme Court's decision on the Weber case can make "reverse discrimination" the law of the land, illegalizing or drastically reducing affirmative action programs throughout the country.

The Weber case takes on particular significance as it centers on the issue of equality in the workplace, the rights to job promotion and training. Although the Bakke case was able to draw a wide-based movement in protest of the first of these racist legal attacks, the Bakke case itself centered on the graduate admissions programs for law school and medical school. Whatever ruling the Supreme Court makes on the Weber case, it will have a more far reaching and direct effect on all working people in the U.S. The affirmative action program in the Kaiser plants was a "voluntary" one (not brought about by court injunction, but under pressure of loss of federal contracts if it lacked such a program), and an illegalization of this program could drastically limit what conditions these programs can be established under.

It all shapes up pretty clearly. If the Supreme Court upholds Weber's contention that he was discriminated against, thousands of minority workers will lose what limited access they had to better skills, higher pay, and a decent livelihood through these programs. More importantly, an adverse decision in the Weber case will further consolidate the trend against these programs as their legal basis was already seriously undercut in the Bakke decision.

By taking head on the issues of affirmative action and seniority in promotions and upgrading, the Weber case strikes once again at the nerve of the source of continuing racial oppression of minorities in the U.S. This source is the fierce competition for jobs,

competition rooted in the anarchy of capitalist production and the stratification of minority peoples into a "shock absorber" position of a permanent strata of unemployed and underemployed to bear the burden of the U.S. economic crisis.

It is indeed no wonder that the Bakke and Weber cases are emerging now when the Carter administration has not only acknowledged and accepted the conditions of the recession but has even encouraged "economic slowdown" as a solution to the woes of declining corporate profits. In a period of predicting wide scale layoffs, salary cuts, and a decline in the standard of living, the competition for what little economic opportunity and stability is available becomes fierce with all the worst in racism and national chauvinism heightened among American working people. It is this atmosphere of fierce competition and individual attempts to protect ones family against this crisis that motivates many white workers to identify their interests as lying with the Allan Bakke's and Brian Weber's.

But it is not only the worsening economic conditions which makes the current situation ripe for these racist legal assaults. Over the last decade, the powerful mass movements of minority communities have been set back considerably. It was these movements which forced the introduction of affirmative action programs in the 1960's, and only such movements are capable of defending them from attack today.

Through a skillful use of police terror and repression against the more radical groups and the buying out of selected community misleaders to preach contentment with the system, these movements fell into disarray over the past decade. And the ruling powers of this country are hopeful that all will stay quiet and passive in minority communities throughout the Weber case and that we will accept the "bottom of the ladder" as our permanent status. They are probably also quite hopeful that those who resist these racist attacks within the minority communities will direct their fire against the labor movement, each seeing their interests counterposed in a case like the Weber decision presents.

We think they will be disappointed. First, because

the Bakke case did not slip by unnoticed in minority communities in this country. It sparked the most widespread controversy and public educational movement directed towards any Supreme Court case in U.S. history. It will certainly not fold up and go home when challenged with a new insult like the Weber decision. Secondly, because this movement will more clearly define for minority communities who are their real leaders and who are not. Many of the more traditional civil rights leaders have been bought and paid for by the U.S. government and are only too willing to follow the shallow and undefensibly refusal of the Carter administration to defend these affirmative action programs.

A new crop of more militant, steadfast, and dedicated leaders in our communities are bound to emerge in the course of the fight against the "reverse discrimination" onslaught.

Finally, the ruling powers of capitalist America will undoubtedly be shaken that these movements in minority communities will not be misled to direct their attack at the labor movement of this country.

We are convinced that what racist attitudes and opinions are prevalent in the organized labor movement are not in the interests of the working people of this country. The genuine foundations of labor solidarity so crucial to the success of unionization, collective bargaining, and the improvement in workers conditions is the unity between minority and white workers. It is a unity which can only be established on the basis of equality and the labor movement's steadfast support for affirmative action and all measures to insure that equality. While there will undoubtedly be misleaders in the labor movement who will reject that contention just as there will be misleaders in the minority communities, we are convinced that the justice of our position and the real common interest of all working people have in upholding that position will win more and more people to our side in the anti-racist struggle. In this sense we can certainly look forward to the movement which will be built around the Weber case and to this next period as a new era for the anti-racist movement in the U.S. □

# BUOD NG MGA BALITA BUOD NG MGA BALITA BUOD NG MGA BALITA BUOD NG MGA BALITA

## Bus Operators Petition For Fare Hikes

Provincial bus operators have petitioned the Board of Transportation for a 50 per cent increase in minimum fares. The operators are asking for a 15 centavo increase from 30 to 45 centavos as minimum fare and ₱9 instead of ₱6.45 for a 100 kilometer ride.

The bus operators cited the projected oil price hike and the increase in operational expenses as reasons for the proposed fare increases.

Earlier, the Metro Manila Bus Operators petitioned for fare increases making exemptions however, for student rates.

Although the BOT is holding off in granting the fare hikes, the cost of public transportation is still expected to rise. Pres. Marcos recently announced possibility in view of another OPEC price hike. The oil bill is expected to jump from \$112 million to \$159 million and is anticipated to set off another round of price increases of all basic commodities. □

## Flood Victims Sue National Power Co.

Sixteen victims of the October 27, 1978 floods in Central Luzon have sued for ₱13 million in damages against the National Power Corporation (NPC) and demanded the prosecution of Gabriel Itchon (NPC president) and Benjamin Chavez (Angat Dam superintendent). Separate complaints were filed with the provincial fiscal of Bulacan.

Survivors claim that the floods were not caused by Typhoon Kading, but resulted from a careless move by dam authorities who opened the floodgates of the Angat-Pantabagan Dam, releasing tons of water, without warning the people in time. As a result, hundreds died and property worth millions were washed away and destroyed.

Among those filing complaints were Angel Torres who lost his wife, three children, a granddaughter, and a daughter-in-law to the floods; and Francisco Reyes who lost his wife, six children, two grandchildren, and a nephew. Both are from Norzagaray, Bulacan near the dam site. □

## Miners Demand: 'Lift Martial Law!'

The Federation of Miners in the Philippines recently joined the throng of groups and individuals who have asked for the lifting of martial law. Composed of several unions in the mining industry, the Federation at its last meeting issued a series of demands, among them: the restoration of the right to strike; a general wage increase; and the right to unionize both the government-owned and private corporations. □

## Military Demolishes Homes in Southern R.P.

Seventeen civilians were killed and twenty-three others wounded when Philippine Air Force planes bombed two populated barrios in Mindanao. According to UPI sources, the bombs were dropped over the barrios of Malingao and Damatog in Northern Cotabato Province, on November 14 in a random attempt by the Air Force to track down Muslim fighters.

A spokesman for the National Defense Ministry denied any knowledge of the incident.

A similar atrocity was committed by a joint constabulary and police team who demolished the homes of 86 families in Pio Duran, Albay. Three children were killed in the process, and an estimated ₱300,000 worth in property was destroyed.

When victims of the demolition pursued an investigation of the incident, all they learned from Barangay chairman Quirico Romano was that the military team acted on a court order. □

## Forced Sterilization Bared

A review committee headed by Armand Fabella (Reorganization Commission chairman), admitted that there are "coercive features" in the implementation of the government-funded family planning program.

A blatant technique used by the clinics was routine sterilization of people who use the clinics. It began when graduating medical students were pressured to sterilize a number of individuals monthly if they wanted access to medical equipment for vasectomy and tubal ligation. The quota later became a requirement for the family planning clinics. People often underwent sterilization without their full understanding and there have been several complaints from the clients.

A case was cited of a woman upon whom a tubal ligation was performed after delivering her baby, in spite of unclarity about whether she had given prior consent. □

## BMA Deals Heavy Blows on AFP

In what could be the largest government losses for a single campaign, a staggering 1,191 troops were killed including the Chief of Staff of the Southern Command, and 1,232 were wounded during a two-week period by Moro rebels last fall in Lanao del Sur battles.

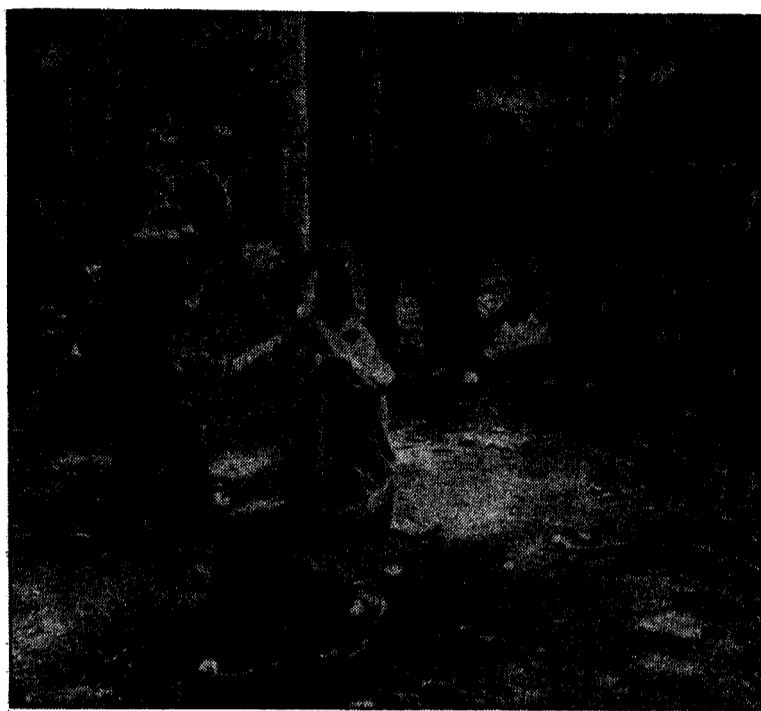
The government casualties were reported in a recent issue of *Mahardika*, organ of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). Reporting on a series of some of the biggest military encounters of the Mindanao War, *Mahardika* covered activities of the Bangsa Moro Army (BMA) between August 27 and Sept. 8 of last year when the government losses occurred.

The BMA meanwhile lost only 38 killed and 71 wounded. Among the losses suffered by the Marcos troops was Col. Alvaro Andaya, Chief of Staff of the Southern Command (Southcom).

A review of the controlled Marcos newspapers for the month of September 1978, however, reveals not a mention of the conflict. The only references to Mindanao at all involve archeological discoveries, government "development" programs, and discussions of the "weakness" and "division" among Moro fighters.

### GOV'T OBJECTIVE: 'WIPE OUT'

In fact, on Aug. 27, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) launched a major military offensive aimed at wiping out the BMA build-up in the Lanao del Sur area. Two battalions of the Philippine Army (PA) backed by units of the Integrated National Police (INP) and Civil Home Defense Force (CHDF) and supported by jet bombers, helicopters, tanks, howitzers, and mortars began operations at Barrio Bato-Bato, Maguing, Lanao del Sur. A single platoon of BMA fighters held them at



BMA fighters dance to celebrate a victory on the battlefield.

bay for several hours until reinforcements arrived. After more than 12 hours, the AFP forces withdrew leaving behind 96 killed. The BMA, on the other hand, lost only one fighter.

As the offensive wore on, the AFP continued to commit more and more troops to longer and longer battles only to meet with ever greater defeats. By the fourth encounter on Aug. 30, 1200 AFP troops engaged 570 BMA forces in a 27-hour battle in which the Marcos military lost 120 killed and over 300 wounded. The BMA lost three killed and 15 wounded.

By Sept. 1, the seriously demoralized Marcos troops turned their frustration on the civilian population of Maguing. Suspected BMA sympathizers were liquidated while others were harassed and intimidated. Houses and crops were burned.

### THREE-DAY BATTLE

The decisive battle occurred on Sept. 4 as six PA battalions, one composite battalion, two PC companies and units of the INP and CHDF with a combined strength of 3840

men faced 860 BMA. After three days of bitter fighting, the AFP troops were forced to break through a BMA encirclement in order to retreat. The government had lost 346 killed and 400 wounded.

The triumphant BMA continued for several days thereafter to ambush the retreating AFP forces. A government offensive had not only been thwarted, it had been turned into an overwhelming victory for the BMA.

The controlled Philippine media breathed not a word of this crushing defeat. Other minor encounters were mentioned by the Manila-based foreign press along with references to "ceasefire violations" by Moro troops.

But the Marcos military machine allowed its Lanao disaster to remain a dark secret. Col. Andaya of Southcom received a quiet burial. As usual, the facts of the southern conflict were obscured and distorted as another major chapter in the regime's war against the Moro people opened, ran its course, and closed with devastating effects on the Marcos regime. □

## CLUP DEMANDS REMOVAL OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

The Civil Liberties Union of the Philippines (CLUP) last Nov. 30 demanded that the United States withdraw nuclear weapons from its bases in the Philippines. The Union claimed that high-powered nuclear weapons are stored on the bases, particularly Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base. They urged President Ferdinand E. Marcos to insist that they be removed.

The Union further asked Marcos to initiate a nationwide information campaign to alert Filipinos to the dangers arising from possible accidents at the bases, or enemy retaliation in a nuclear war.

This statement coincided with an International Day of Protest against the nuclear reactor being built by the Philippine government in Morong, Rizal. Protests against the export of the \$1.1 billion reactor took place in Japan, Australia, Europe, and various cities within the U.S.

The American Embassy in Manila declined any comment on the CLUP protest. The United States has consistently denied the existence of nuclear arsenals in the bases since the Vietnam war, but the CLUP says there is solid evidence to the contrary.

The CLUP has repeatedly

blamed the United States for complicity in the imposition of martial law in the Philippines. An earlier statement:

"Essentially, the real enemy of Philippine democracy is not President Marcos and his martial law. They are merely passing incidents in the history of this nation.

"The real enemy of democracy in this country is U.S. imperialism, without which martial law could never have been installed. This is the one single lesson that is burned into the consciousness of every Filipino who is for his freedom." □

# ABC Special: RP, Chile, Iran Documenting U.S. Support for Torture

By VICTORIA LUNA

Is a "concern for human rights" in Third World countries incompatible with U.S. economic and security interests? This is the question asked by ABC's one-hour News Closeup special, "The Politics of Torture," aired last December nationwide.

In an attempt to answer the question, ABC investigates the domestic policies of three U.S. allies with notorious human rights records: the Philippines, Chile and Iran. The choice of allies rather than adversaries was a deliberate one, explains news correspondent John Martin, "Because with them, we have more leverage and the best chance to succeed," in promoting human rights.

Dividing the hour-long program into 15 jam-packed minutes on each country, followed by a final section on human rights policies as seen in Washington, ABC amasses enough powerful evidence, visual and verbal, to convince the American public that the U.S. supports the most brutal of Third World dictators. This in itself is a major contribution. The American public has long been sheltered from these harsh realities by an "objective" U.S. press ever concerned with balance in its reporting on Third World countries: balance between repression — torture, murder and kidnapping, etc. and "development" — road-building, industrialization, and raising of gross national products.

## THE EVIDENCE

But torture remains torture no matter how many

## Army Colonel Testifies at Torturer's Trial

An airforce colonel testified at the court martial of two army intelligence officials and one Metrocom constable accused of torturing six political prisoners, including his daughter and son-in-law, last May. [See related story this page.]

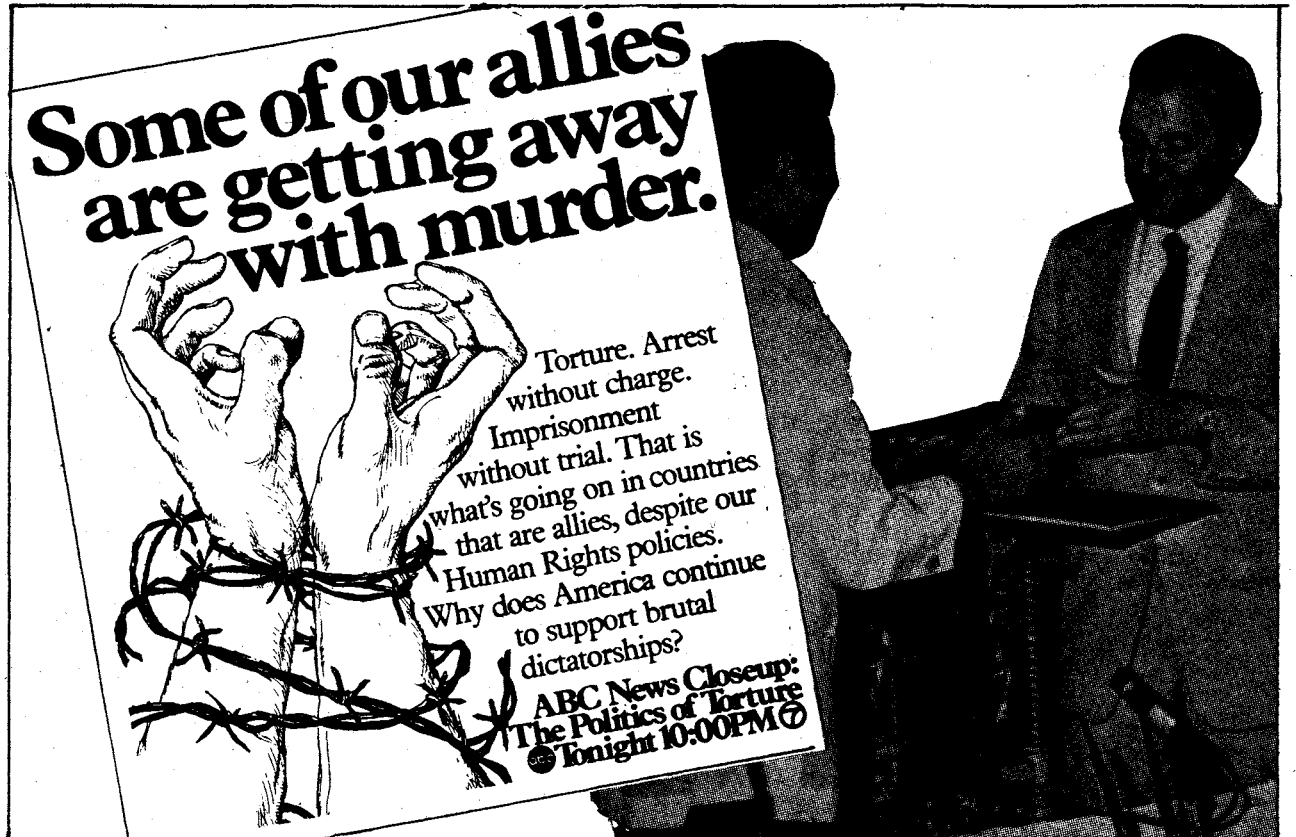
In his testimony, Lt. Col. Wilfredo Mendez told the court he did not immediately file charges because he "did not want to smear the image of Armed Forces of the Philippines." He also added that he feared the lives of his daughter Melvin Mendez-Cayabyab and son-in-law Mario Cayabyab.

Earlier the couple testified against 1st Lt. Dencio Laurico, CIC Pat Ordon and a Sgt. Clirco. Mario, 30, a former engineering student at the Feati University, narrated how he was apprehended, interrogated, and tortured by a team of the Military Intelligence and Security Group headed by Lt. Laurico.

Suspected of membership in the Communist Party, Mario was repeatedly pounded with fist blows on his stomach, chest and ribs. For every negative answer he gave to the interrogating team, Mario was subjected to more beatings, electric shock treatment and water cure.

His wife, who was two months pregnant at the time, nearly suffered a miscarriage from the electric shock treatment and other sexual indignities heaped on her by Laurico and seven others. Although the officers are being investigated for the incident, it seems unlikely that they will be convicted. Laurico and Ordon have figured in many torture cases in the past and are among 80 or more officers recommended by Amnesty International for punishment.

The only other court martial of a ranking officer accused of torture, involved that of Lt. Eduardo Matillano, arresting officer of tortured community leader Trinidad Herrera. After several hearings, Matillano and his co-accused Lt. Rodolfo Aguinaldo were acquitted. □



Marcos of the Philippines is one of the three U.S. allies whose murderous practices are targeted by ABC-TV's "Politics of Torture."

roads a dictator builds. The details by which ABC makes its point, piled thick one on top of the other, are stunning. For the Philippines, interviews with political prisoners, each of them narrating the details of their torture are followed by photographs of the bodies of "salvage" victims.

For Chile, ABC provides a poignant interview with the widow of people's singer Victor Jara, who was killed shortly after the 1973 coup. Her description of the morgue in which she located her husband's mutilated body ("It was fortunate that the other half of it was in a bag or it would have been all over.") sends shivers down one's spine.

Correspondents in Iran interview hooded victims of the Shah's secret police who recounted their torture experiences. One student tells of the guards stationed in every university classroom. "They all carry clubs," he says. "Several times I have seen people taken out and beaten."

## DICTATORS EXPOSED

These horrors are effectively combined with a thorough exposure of the three dictators. Much of this is accomplished through visual techniques, quick cutting and juxtaposition. In the case of the Philippines, that fabulous duo, Ferdinand and Imelda, are shown warbling "Dahil Sa Iyo" during the April election campaign as the camera cuts to images of political prisoners.

And what has been the U.S. government's relationship with these dictators? President Carter is shown repeatedly uttering such comments as, "The soul of our foreign policy is human rights." Yet ABC proves that his actions toward the three dictators reveal anything but such a concern. A narrator underscores the corruption of last April's Philippine elections, noting that six opposition candidates and 400 supporters were arrested following the clean sweep by the Marcos slate. Yet, one month later, Carter dispatched Vice-President Walter Mondale on a visit to the country.

"In private, Mondale reportedly mentioned election abuses," says Martin. But the film of Marcos and Mondale signing an agreement for \$41 million in U.S. aid is ample proof of their contention that the trip was, on the whole, a show of support.

## U.S. INTERESTS

Most importantly, ABC asks the question, "Why?" "Why does the U.S. continue to support blatant human rights violators?" And repeatedly the answer comes back, "Because of American economic and security interests."

This is least clear in the case of Chile, which has little strategic value to the U.S. and to which Congress has cut off aid. This, however, has not stopped U.S. banks from providing profitable loans to Pinochet which directly boost his regime. In the case of Iran, economic interests are supplemented by strong military interests. ABC cites both the vast profits from arms sales to the Shah and the importance Carter — and seven presidents before him — have attached to Iran as a buffer against the Soviet Union.

As numerous scenes of key U.S. bases Clark and Subic reveal, the same strategic interests apply to the Philippines. At the same time, ABC shows ample footage of U.S. economic activity in various sectors. Deputy Secretary of State Warren Chris-

topher epitomizes the Carter administration's position when he emphasizes the need to "balance" security interests with human rights considerations. It is possible, he insists, to "achieve both objectives and harmonize our goals."

## "USING OUR LEVERAGE"

ABC repeatedly emphasizes that the U.S. has clout with these allies, clout which, in ABC's eyes, has not been used. "The Philippines," says Cornell Professor George McT. Kahin to his interviewer, "is a very clear-cut example of the Carter Administration's failure to live up to its commitment to human rights. We have leverage and it is not being used."

ABC plays up and back between Carter's human rights protestations and his support for repressive regimes. Finally it asks, "Is this hypocrisy? Or hard realities?"

Though the question is not answered, the news special points clearly to the former as the answer implying that Jimmy Carter is a hypocrite. And yet, ABC itself, has shown that the problem is bigger than a particular self-righteous gentleman from Georgia. After all, Carter is following in the footsteps of seven presidents before him in his Iran policy.

## CARTER: AN EASY TARGET

What ABC does not and cannot say is that U.S. foreign policy under imperialism is dictated by concerns that have little to do with anyone's human rights. The principal right guaranteed by the U.S. government is the right of U.S. monopoly capital to make a profit both at home and abroad. In the Third World, where monopoly capital realizes six to 10 percent more than it realizes at home, profit is contingent upon a large pool of cheap labor. For Dole or Del Monte to reap twice as much profit in the Philippines as they realize in the U.S., wages need to be kept at a subhuman level. How can people be made to accept a subhuman standard of living without coercion?

And how can unpopular dictators willing to cooperate in the exploitation of their labor force remain indefinitely in power without powerful militaries of their own and allies whose military capacity are visible and highly flexible? Sen. Tom Harkin, when asked what the role of U.S. bases in the Philippines is, promptly replies, "To protect U.S. business interests."

"Is concern for human rights in the Third World incompatible with U.S. economic and security interests?" That question can only be answered, "Under imperialism, yes." The U.S.' dismal record on human rights did not originate with Jimmy Carter. Carter may be a hypocrite but his concept of U.S. interests is no different from other presidents. Nixon and Johnson, with their Vietnam policies, were probably worse.

The difference is that Jimmy Carter has opened himself to attack by proclaiming himself a human rights activist. But even ABC, with its desire to blame the problem on this easy born-again target, is incapable of altogether obscuring the fact that the interests of U.S. imperialism are fundamentally opposed to the cause of human rights in the world today. □

## Profile of the PKP

# Supporting Dictatorship in the Name of Revolution

Last November, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Nikolai Firyubin visited the Philippines. He and President Ferdinand E. Marcos spent three days engaged in discussion though no details of the talks were ever made public. Firyubin is the highest ranking Soviet official yet to visit the country.

Speculation at the time suggested that Marcos was using the Soviet talks to pressure the United States to grant him certain concessions. The Soviets, however, were seen as seriously attempting to gain economic leverage in a traditionally U.S.-dominated area.

Ang Katipunan pointed out at the time, "In their efforts to gain influence within the Philippines, the Soviets are aided by a small but determined domestic clique, the remnants of the Partido Komunista ng Pilipinas (PKP)." Last issue, AK exposed the series of arguments which the PKP—abjectly following the Soviet diktat on cooperation with local elites, yet calling itself revolutionary—uses to justify its support for the Marcos regime.

Riddled with contradictions, these focus principally on what the PKP defines as Marcos' "nationalism." While revealing a pattern of continuous cooperation with U.S. economic interests, the PKP repeatedly stresses Marcos' vaguely nationalist utterings as proof that he is, at heart, anti-imperialist. We conclude the PKP discussion in this issue. —the Editor.

It is important to establish here just who the PKP is.

At one time this organization had a sizeable mass base among the peasants of Central Luzon, with a respectable following in Metro-Manila and scattered supporters in the Visayas. Prior to the declaration of martial law, however, this following was significantly reduced due to a series of political errors in addition to the conflict between the PKP and the rectified and reestablished Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) which raged from the founding of the CPP in 1968 on.

Immediately following the declaration of martial law in September, 1972 by President Ferdinand E. Marcos, PKP leaders condemned the move as repressive. At an academic conference, the PKP's most enthusiastic supporter outside the country, London-based William Pomeroy, concurred. When asked why his opinion of Marcos diverged sharply from that of the Soviet Union—which had already praised Marcos as "nationalist"—Pomeroy insisted that Soviet leaders were simply "misinformed."

Several months after the declaration of martial law, according to informed sources, the PKP Central Committee met and decided to endorse the measure and support Marcos. At approximately the same time, Pomeroy in London began to praise Ferdinand Marcos, the "nationalist." The abruptness of the switchover and the coincidence of its occurrence in both the Philippines and London led many to conclude that the change was a response to a directive from the Soviet Union.

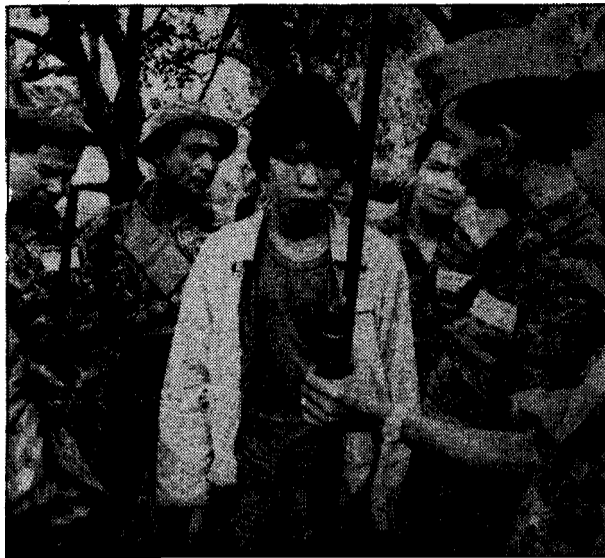
When PKP leaders began to discuss cooperation

## Marcos Regime Releases Anti-Shah Protestors

On Nov. 25, 1978 the Marcos regime released 89 Iranian students who led an anti-Shah demonstration in Manila after 1,000 supporters threatened to go on a hunger strike. The 89 students themselves went on a hunger strike in prison after their Nov. 17 arrest.

A major factor in the government decision to release the students was a report that Iranian hospital workers in Tehran threatened to throw out Filipino doctors and nurses working in government hospitals if the arrested students were not released.

The release of the 89 students was a significant victory for anti-Shah forces in the Philippines and Iran. The Marcos government, as an expression of sympathy for the Shah, had initiated deportation proceedings against the 89 students, a move that would have meant imprisonment, torture and possible death for them back in Iran. In a speech delivered in Los Angeles, Philippine Foreign Minister Carlos P. Romulo recently said that his government "fully understands" the measures recently taken by the Shah. Condoning the murder of tens of thousands of anti-Shah forces, Romulo said that the Shah's moves were no different from those of Marcos when he declared martial law in 1972. □



Members of MASAKA, a peasant front organization, captured by the Philippine military. MASAKA later capitulated to the Marcos regime along with the PKP.

[AK file photo]

with the Marcos regime, a small group of youth followers from Metro-Manila and Central Luzon calling itself the Marxist-Leninist (M-L) Group broke away in disgust.

In 1974, when the PKP formally surrendered to Marcos, its entire following in Pampanga, one of its strongest areas, refused to follow its bankrupt leadership. According to M-L Group sources, when PKP leaders went to Pampanga to meet with local cadres, they were greeted by barrio children chanting, "Nakakahiya! Nakakahiya! (Shame! Shame!) Within a few years, many cadres in Pampanga had moved to the CPP and its military arm, the New People's Army (NPA).

Even Nueva Ecija, home province of many PKP leaders and the last bastion of its support in Central Luzon, has seen more and more genuine revolutionaries move to the CPP and the NPA. This has left a small following in the countryside, whose cooperation with the government has meant, among other things, informing on the NPA and CPP.

## Supreme Court Halts Political Trial



The Supreme Court's decision represents at least a temporary set-back to the Marcos government's attempt to convict political prisoners by kangaroo military courts.

Thirty two political prisoners successfully petitioned the Supreme Court to order the halting of their trial late last month. The prisoners, respondents in the Karagatan-Andrea case, have been on trial since Nov. 9 on charges of subversion and rebellion.

In acting on their petition for habeas corpus, the High Tribunal ordered Military Commission No. 1, its trial counsel and Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile to "produce" before the court the accused political prisoners.

Among the detainees ordered present before the high court were Jose Luneta, Peter Mutuc, Manuel Chiongson, Edgar Pilapil, Hermenegildo Garcia, Domingo Luneta, Satur Ocampo, Fidel Agcaoili, and Rosario Agcaoili.

Through their defense counsel Jose W. Diokno, the prisoners claimed they were denied their right to a speedy trial. Most of them have been in detention since 1974 yet it was not until Nov. 9 that they were brought to trial.

Petitioning the high court to order their release, the prisoners cited Marcos' directive on Jan. 7, 1977 ordering "the release of any person against whom no charges have been filed."

This directive was repeated on June 3, 1977 before the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines and on August 22, 1977 before the

A somewhat more consolidated grouping of supporters remains in Metro-Manila. These cluster around a leadership dominated by bureaucrats comfortably occupying high government positions in the name of "revolution."

But does the PKP use these government positions to work for the interests of the Filipino people? A striking example provides a clear-cut answer to the question.

The case concerns a PKP cadre who, in 1975, was appointed to the Department of Labor. One of his first acts as a bureaucrat was to write a paper exposing Church support for the growing strike movement, naming names, and offering a list of suggestions for government control of the workers' movement. Out of this document, following the highly successful strike at La Tondena distillery, came Presidential Decree 823 extending the strike ban to non-vital industries. This is hardly the handiwork of a cadre dedicated to the welfare and development of the working class.

Clearly the comforts and power that accrue to such "revolutionaries" are part of their stake in supporting the Marcos regime. The fact that most of these leaders are middle-aged or older and have lost all desire to fight has reinforced their wish to distort reality so as to justify cooperation.

But the PKP stake in warping reality, in balancing surface vs. substance, the superficial vs. the profound, and ruling each time in favor of the superficial is more than mere justification for the self-advancement of its leading cadres. The PKP can continue to ignore fundamental aspects of Philippine society under martial law because it has no interest—for all its claim to be "revolutionary" in fundamental change.

The PKP is afraid of revolution and true independence for the Philippines. Its goal is not the creation of a democratic and self-reliant state, but a mere shifting of loyalties. Having accurately assessed Ferdinand Marcos as a good puppet, the PKP naively hopes to see him somehow switch masters and join it as another puppet of the Soviet Union. □

World Peace Through Law Conference in Manila.

Most of those on trial are still being investigated to determine if formal charges can be filed against them.

Furthermore, the detainees cited Marcos' recent order to transfer criminal cases from military courts to civilian courts in line with its announced policy of normalization.

### TEMPORARY RELEASE

The recent ruling of the Supreme Court is expected to favorably affect other detainees on trial. Apart from the 32 petitioners, 60 others are respondents in the Karagatan-Andrea case. In another case, R.P. vs. Jose Ma. Sison, 11 face charges. These prisoners are likely to follow the lead of the 32 detainees in petitioning the High Court to restrain the proceedings.

Throughout the course of these trials numerous violations of legal procedure and even military law were cited by defense counsel as grounds to challenge the jurisdiction and competence of the military courts to try political prisoners. Yet these did not deter the pace of the commissions in their bid to hastily try, convict and sentence the accused.

Although it is too early to predict whether the Supreme Court move will permanently put an end to the trials, its action provides a temporary respite for the accused. □

# Anti-Martial Law Front

Over \$7,000 Raised for Bukluran

## AMLC Caroling Drive Reaches 400 Families



A San Diego caroling team.

[AK file photo]

By EDDIE ESCULTURA  
AK Correspondent

*In homes these Christmas '78 songs greet  
Pera for Bukluran for them to defeat  
Marcos' repression on workers' rights  
Freedom and justice come only with a fight  
From New York to Guam the overseas  
kababayans*

*Feed the bright flames of Kalayaan . . .*

In these poetic verses a singer with a caroling team of the Anti-Martial Law Coalition summed up the 1978 caroling campaign.

The caroling, launched for the fourth time by the

AMLC last December, successfully gathered over \$7,000 for the *Bukluran ng mga Manggagawang Pilipino (BMP)*.

The Chicago Anti-Martial Law Alliance which nationally coordinated this campaign stated that this amount was only a partial accounting as other cities have not turned in their reports yet. Eleven cities in the U.S.—Oakland, Sacramento, San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Seattle, Philadelphia, New York, Hawaii, Chicago, and Washington, D.C.; and two in Canada—Montreal and Toronto—participated in the caroling project.

In all these cities the AMLC's "Voices for the

Bukluran Workers" sang for some 400 families or over 2,000 individuals. These figures, however, do not include the thousands of people reached by the East Bay-California caroling team which performed on a local television program.

For the hundreds of families who opened their homes to the workers' voices, the caroling was both meaningful and educational. One host expressed, "I am glad that my family is able to share the spirit of Christmas with our less fortunate kababayans back home. I will be happy to welcome you back next year to carol in my home."

Another Filipina expressed regret that her house was missed by the caroling. She said that she hoped next year the carolers would sing Christmas tidings to her family.

### BOOST TO AMLC

Aside from the material support that the caroling has been able to extend to the BMP, it has also helped expand the Coalition nationwide. More than 100 new people joined the singing teams, a significant boost to the AMLC membership and its supporters. Among those who participated, twenty have stepped forward to join the core of the AMLC which means they are now part of the leading members of the coalition.

The campaign likewise expanded the coalition's pool of supporters.

The caroling project culminated in varied forms of community activities last Jan. 6. Some areas held ecumenical services, others ended it with potluck dinners, while the rest held post-holiday parties.

Whatever form the closing of the campaign takes, the AMLC, its carolers and their hosts are confident that the workers in the Bukluran will be grateful for the overwhelming and generous support extended them by their kababayans abroad. □

### AMLC INVESTIGATING TEAM

## U.S. Group Reveals Crisis in R.P.

### PRESS RELEASE

Anti-Martial Law Coalition [Philippines]

A nine-member investigating team returned from the Philippines recently with first-hand reports of a fast-spreading revolutionary ferment currently stirring the rural areas of the archipelago.

The U.S.-based team also came back with reports of hunger, homelessness and destitution existing among the refugees created by the government's military campaigns, "economic development programs" and "beautification drives."

Composed of five women and four men, the investigating team entered the Philippines unannounced. Sent to the Philippines by the Anti-Martial Law Coalition (AMLC), the team looked directly into the conditions of people driven from their homes and lands by the policies and practices of the martial law government. The trip to the Philippines was spurred by the AMLC's initial research findings that up to four million Filipinos are already living the lives of refugees. With the help of private donors and AMLC's supporters from U.S. church groups, the team was sent to "help expose a refugee crisis that has been well-hidden by the regime," an AMLC announcement said.

Members of the investigating team were:

- Rodger Dillon — labor organizer for Local 87 of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) in San Francisco and member of the San Francisco Labor Council.
- Abraham Aig — news director of the New York public radio station WBAI.
- Christine Araneta — co-director, AMLC National Resource Center on Philippine Political Prisoners.
- Robin Jurs — former co-director of the Northern California Inter-Faith Committee on Corporate Responsibility.
- Aijaz Ahmed — professor of Social Sciences at Rutgers University in New Jersey.
- Dean Alegado — Ethnic Studies instructor at the University of Hawaii, member of the Katipunan

### INTERVIEWS

Members of the AMLC Refugee Investigating Team are available for interviews by Filipino community newspapers. They can be contacted at the following addresses and phone numbers:

Rodger Dillon: (415) 885-0087; c/o Local 87, 240 Golden Gate, San Francisco, CA. 94102

Jan Fowler: (312) 275-9117; 1520 Sunnyside, Chicago, IL. 60640

Geline Avila: (415) 527-0491; c/o IAFF, P.O. Box 24737, Oakland, CA. 94602

Dean Alegado: (808) 847-0901; 715 Uni St., Honolulu, HI. 96817

Elaine Ko: (206) 722-3982; 5136 So. Graham, Seattle, WA. 98118

Robin Jurs: (415) 843-1703; 2323 Grant St., Berkeley, CA. 94703

Christine Araneta: (415) 527-0491; c/o NRCPPP, P.O. Box 24737, Oakland, CA. 94602

Abraham Aig: (516) 432-2566; c/o WBAI, 505 8th Avenue, NYC, NY

Aijaz Ahmed: Aijaz is still out of the U.S. and will be available only as he goes through a speaking tour of the U.S. East Coast beginning Feb. 16 in New York.

ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino (KDP), and member of the Honolulu-based Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines.

• Elaine Ko — Housing activist in the International District of Seattle and KDP member.

• Jan Fowler — member of the Friends of the Filipino People (FFP) in Chicago.

• Geline Avila — former coordinator of the Chicago Anti-Martial Law Alliance and now member of the International Association of Filipino Patriots (IAFP).

### EXTENSIVE AREAS VISITED

The team stayed in the Philippines one month

with a few members staying on for up to three months. It is the first foreign-based investigating mission to successfully penetrate extensive areas of the Philippine countryside under conditions of martial law.

The team managed to cover practically all key community struggles in the country including: Mindanao — Cagayan de Oro, Agusan Sur and Norte, Iligan, Marawi, Pagadian, Cotabato, Zamboanga, Basilan, Jolo, Davao City, Davao Oriental and Norte; Visayas — Calbayog, Catamaran, San Jose de Buan, Calbiga, Dolores in Eastern Samar, Bacolod, Negros Occidental, Iloilo, Aklan; Luzon — Greater Manila, Mountain Province, Ilocos-Montana Province, Cagayan Valley and Central Luzon.

Direct investigation revealed that refugee communities are indeed large and growing, with people barely eeking out a living from odd jobs and irregular government handouts. The continuous growth of the number of refugees is attributed to ongoing military "encirclement-and-suppression campaigns" against anti-government guerrillas and forcible evacuation and landgrabbing techniques used to pave the way for the construction of government projects or government-backed business ventures.

Investigating team members also had a close look at the "vigorous" organizing activities for armed revolution being undertaken in the rural areas. Some team members were invited by organizers and fighters of the New People's Army for interviews and tours of base areas. Others lived with squads of the Moro National Liberation Front for a few days and held numerous interviews.

The AMLC is setting up a speaking tour for team members to begin in mid-February. They will speak in Filipino communities in 15 cities in the U.S. and Canada as well as in campuses and churches. A pamphlet documenting their findings is being prepared for public distribution. Team members are also gearing up to testify in U.S. congressional hearings on U.S. aid to Marcos scheduled to begin early next year. □

## HONOLULU'S CHINATOWN 4-A HOTEL RESIDENTS FIGHT EVICTION THREAT

By CATHI TACTAQUIN  
AK Correspondent

HONOLULU — Residents of the old 4-A Hotel in the heart of Chinatown are beginning their new year by preparing a full-scale defense against a pending eviction. Last year, the building's landlord set Dec. 1, 1978 as the deadline for the tenants to move.

Previous attempts to evict the tenants failed because, as one resident pointed out, "There is no other permanent, low-income relocation housing for us in Chinatown . . . we will stay here until the City takes care of this matter."

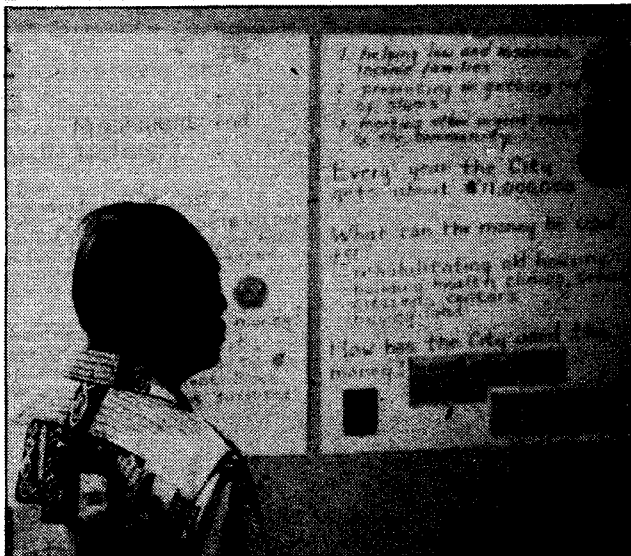
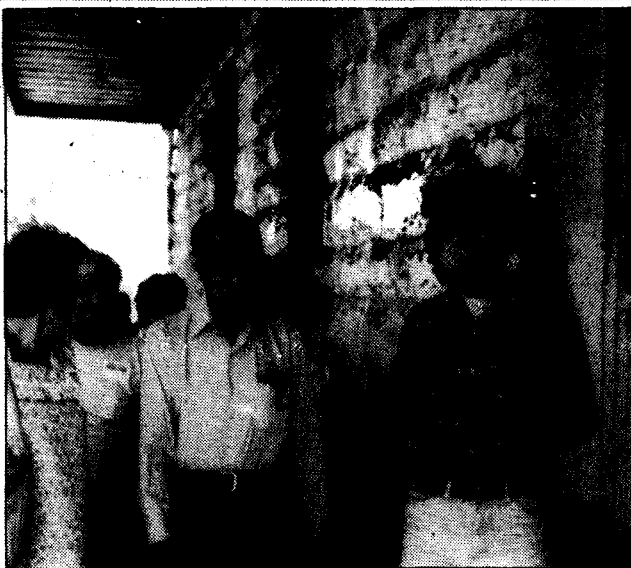
Once rid of the residents, landlord Robert Gerell, representing the SLAP Corporation, intends to turn the second-floor rooms into a number of "historically restored" commercial office spaces.

The 4-A residents are but a small portion of Chinatown residents who are affected by similar redevelopment. Private landlords and city planners have colluded on an "unofficial" plan to "bring back life . . . and profits" to the decaying Chinatown. Redevelopment would renovate old buildings for commercial business use, erect expensive condominiums, parking lots, and possibly establish the city's mass transit center in the middle of Chinatown.

### EMPTY PROMISES

However, these plans have been widely criticized for leaving out one "small" detail . . . an adequate housing plan for the more than 1,300 Chinatown residents. Private and city landlords have already allowed buildings to steadily decay, so that they are generally unsafe and unhealthy.

Many residents have already been forced to move because of rent hikes and demolition of buildings. Some residents who have moved were eligible for a \$4,000 relocation allowance from the city. However, this could not answer their housing needs. In Honolulu, decent low-income housing is a city-wide problem; even public housing has an extremely long waiting list. Most affected are



4-A residents have been busy meeting and organizing to stop the latest eviction threat.

[AK file photo]

Chinatown's elderly, over 65 percent of whom are elderly Filipinos. These persons subsist on fixed incomes, along with the immigrant workers with their families who are often unemployed or have low-paying jobs.

The city's limited housing plans for Chinatown, the Pauahi Project, would provide only a fraction of the area's residents with housing, but with no guaranteed rent level. In addition, city developers say that in order to erect any new housing, they must first evict current tenants and demolish the old buildings.

Residents have protested such moves, as they have not been promised permanent relocation housing, and have no guarantee they will be included in the new housing. Several of these

cases are at various legal stages to be considered in the next few months.

In the meantime, 4-A residents along with PACE, People Against Chinatown Evictions, are planning to file a legal appeal against the eviction writ when it is awarded to the landlord.

PACE is also pursuing a proposal to the city council to rehabilitate two Chinatown hotels which could be used as low-income housing, especially as relocation for evictees. This proposal is expected to meet serious opposition from city planners, who would have to alter current plans.

However, because of the continued community support, residents and PACE are optimistic that they can weather the major housing battles expected in 1979. □

### Forum Hits Medicaid Scandal

## Filipinos Outraged over Florendo Case



By EDDIE ESCULTURA  
AK Correspondent

CHICAGO — How has the Dr. Florendo case affected this city's Filipino community?

This question and others were addressed in a lively and spirited forum sponsored by the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP), last Dec. 29.

Some 20 participants who braved Chicago's winter chill came prepared to listen, as well as offer

their observations on this nationally exposed Medicaid abortion scandal.

The evening started out with a presentation by Mayee Asidao, member of the KDP, who pointed out that the Florendo case was not simply a legal matter, but a highly political case.

According to Ms. Asidao, "Whether or not Florendo avoids penalties through legal maneuvers, the fact remains that the Filipino community has been dragged into this Medicaid abortion scandal."

She went further to state that, "Dr. Florendo through his corrupt practice has abused his profession for the sake of profits. Will the citizens of Chicago from this time on look upon all Filipinos who work in the medical profession with a cautious eye?"

One member of the audience stood up and stated: "Florendo is no ordinary member of the Filipino community . . . he is very well known being the President of the Philippine Medical Association. His actions will surely have repercussions on all of us."

Aside from the case's direct impact on the community, certain other observations were drawn out. The question of whose side the judicial system is on, as highlighted in the case, drew a sharp response from the audience. One man stated that the victims of the injustice were ordinary people, while the real culprits represented wealth and power — Dr. Florendo, the Illinois Dept. of Health

and the Dept. of Registration and Education.

Indeed, some state officials had criticized the Dept. of Health in its enforcing of health regulations. "It is not so surprising," as one woman stated. "Florendo himself claimed the Illinois Dept. of Health had regularly inspected his abortion clinic. And each and every time, they gave him a clean bill of health."

As members in the audience actively discussed the case, another question was raised from the floor of how to deal with the attitudes among co-workers, particularly in view of the Florendo case, that Filipinos came to this country, simply to earn a 'buck'."

In response to this, Ms. Asidao stated, "While there is some basis for this attitude to exist, it is important to place this particular case in its context. Dr. Florendo, like any other profit-hungry person, exemplifies the worst of any race or nationality. As far as equating all Filipinos who came here with the likes of Dr. Florendo . . . that cannot be done."

Ms. Asidao then suggested that the general question why Filipinos came to the United States be taken up in another forum, similar to this one.

Concretely, it was suggested and adopted by all that night that people talk with their co-workers about the case or write newspapers to disassociate the Filipino community from any wrong doing by denouncing those who have profited in Medicaid abortion abuses. □

## Nurses Win INS Extension Halting Deportations



Commissioner Lionel Castillo of INS.

Immigrant Filipino nurses won an extension from the Immigration and Naturalization Services removing the threat of deportation for hundreds of nurses.

On Dec. 16, Immigration and Naturalization Services authorities granted the NAFL-FNG's request for an extension of the application period for a deferred voluntary departure status for nurses on H-1 visas.

After meeting with Commissioner Lionel Castillo in New York, Ms. Aimee Cruz, National Coordinator of the NAFL-FNG, announced that the prior expiration date of December 31, 1978, has been moved to June 30, 1979. Prior to this agreement, nurses on H-1 visas who failed the State Board Test Pool Examination for Nursing, would lose their jobs and their lawful visa status, thus becoming subject to deportation.

This situation has been the object of campaigns by the NAFL-FNG. The NAFL-FNG has maintained that aside from many factors which create poor testing conditions for FNGs in the State Board Licensure examination, the threat of deportation is a major source of pressure on FNGs who are trying to pass the SBTPE in order to practice nursing in the U.S.

Linked to this extension of the application period is an agreement between the INS and the NAFL-FNG to work jointly on a plan which would halt the deceptive recruitment of FNGs into the U.S. While not aiming to end entry of FNGs through the H-1 visas, the NAFL and the INS are keen on eliminating false promises, deceptive terms and conditions, and all the onerous relations of recruiting individuals and agencies with foreign nurses.

Ms. Cruz expressed satisfaction at this decision taken by the INS and praised its continued sensitivity to the plight and needs of the FNGs in the U.S.

For further questions and informations on this extension, call (212) 458-6369 evenings. □

## NAFL SUPPORT GROUP FORMED

SAN DIEGO — A support committee for the National Alliance for Fair Licensure for Foreign Nurse Graduates (NAFL-FNG), was recently formed in this city following a successful two-week petition drive coordinated by the NAFL-FNG.

The petition drive, which gathered over 300 signatures, was directed at the Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW), calling for the implementation of licensure review classes for foreign nurse graduates.

The national petition drive came as a result of a Medical Workshop resolution passed at the 1978 Filipino Peoples Far West Convention held last Labor Day at U.C.L.A.

Since their formation, the Support Committee has defined their goal as being a local contact and distribution center for the NAFL-FNG.

The San Diego Support Committee is made up of former members of the San Diego Narcisco/Perez Support Committee, Filipino Nurses Association, the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP), and other concerned individuals.

For further information regarding future activities and events, please contact co-coordinators: Kathy Abriam, R.N. (214) 280-4136 or Roselyn Ibanez (214) 477-5225. □

## DISCRIMINATORY REQUIREMENT DROPPED FILIPINO MED-TECHS SCORE VICTORY



Nonie Espiritu of Filipino Med Techs of America, confronted members of Laboratory Field Services and Clinical Lab Technical Committee.

By DAVID POLAND  
AK Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO — Organized members of the Filipino Medical Technologists of America (FMTA) recently scored a big victory, overturning a new regulation which would have imposed a flagrantly discriminatory ruling against foreign medical technology graduates.

A proposed new standard for licensure by the Laboratory Field Services (LFS), and the Clinical Laboratory Technology Advisory Committee would have made a one-year training period mandatory for foreign-trained med techs in California before they would be allowed to take their exam. This was the second time in one year that the LFS has tried to implement a similar type ruling.

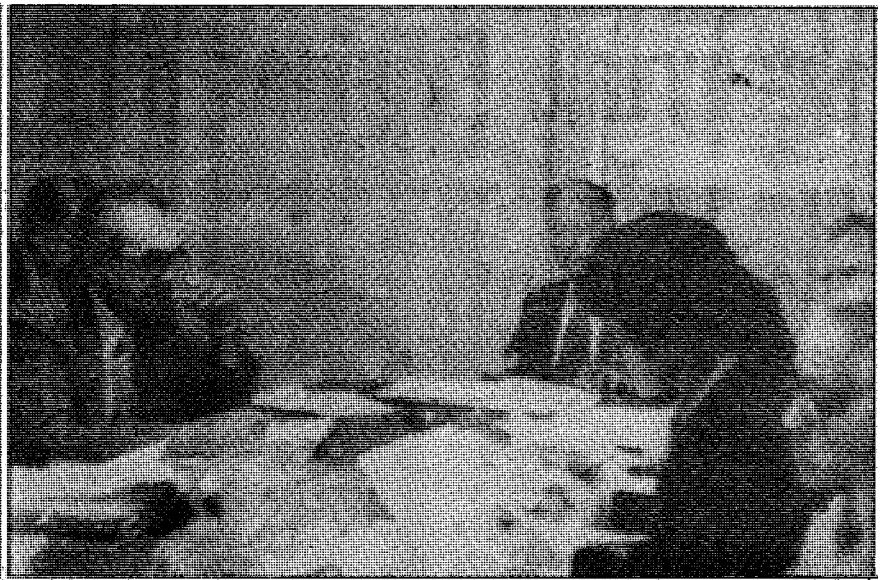
This one-year practical training period was cited as being discriminatory to the foreign-born because such training was already taken in the Philippines. Furthermore, many Filipino med techs in the U.S. already had years of professional practice before immigrating to this country.

Noni Espiritu, president of the FMTA stated, "The basic problem with this ruling is that there are only 600 training slots available in California presently. Last year alone, there were 2,500 applicants statewide. If this regulation were implemented, we would have two to three thousand people fighting over 600 positions!"

The FMTA also charged that possible moves by the LFS to implement such a regulation stemmed from an effort to create a large pool of unlicensed, but highly skilled med techs. "This, in effect," stated Ms. Espiritu, "would only benefit the many new laboratories looking for cheap labor, not to mention private practitioners who hire the unlicensed med techs and pay them a meager \$500 a month."

### FMTA CONFRONTS FIELD SERVICES

At an emotionally charged meeting with Labora-



tory Field Service representatives, Cylla Marquez, FMTA board member said, "We had noble dreams of practicing our profession when we came here to the U.S. Are we now to end up as clerks, and in other low-paying jobs because we cannot get our license? Even if you pass this regulation, do you want us to fight over 600 slots? Are you trying to divide us from one another or attempting to create divisions between the foreign-born and local grads?"

Backing up Ms. Marquez' presentation were hundreds of letters of support from the San Francisco Bay Area community organizations including a sister organization, the FMTA of Los Angeles.

A strong legal rebuttal against the new ruling was presented by William Tamayo, member of the Asian Law Caucus of the Bay Area. Tamayo in his statement charged that the LFS was effecting not just a "simple" policy, but a regulation procedure; one that requires a public hearing. He then warned the LFS that if the regulation was passed, they would probably face a series of legal battles over its legality.

Visibly shaken by the angry response of the FMTA and their supporters, the LFS and the Clinical Laboratory Technology Advisory Committee moved to abandon the one-year mandatory ruling for now. However, the LFS noted that they still intend to pursue that matter legally by presenting the new regulation in the State Legislature when it convenes in February.

Regrouping outside, Ms. Marquez addressed the supporters: "Today we have won a victory. We have learned a valuable lesson that we must always be on guard to defend our rights . . . for they [LFS] will be finding more ways to bring the issue up again. We must continue to struggle and be alert of the changing developments. That is the only way that we can insure that our victory is a lasting one." □

## FILIPINO AGENCY FIGHTS CUTBACKS

BY DAVID POLAND  
AK Correspondent

OAKLAND — "Our agency services the needs of all Filipinos whether they be immigrant or non-immigrant. Instead of creating more of these services, the county is cutting them back," stated Carmelita Rickman, chairperson of the Board of Filipinos for Affirmative Action (FAA).

The FAA, fiscal agent for the Filipino Immigrant Services (FIS), has been leading a campaign to educate the community of the proposed cutbacks of FIS.

The FIS is a five-year old community-based agency faced with a \$65,000 cutback in revenue sharing monies from the county of Alameda. Pending a series of hearings, the final decision will fall in late January.

### A VICTIM OF PROP. 13

In order to orient the community on the status of the present funding of FIS, the FAA held a community Christmas dinner last Dec. 9, in Oakland. The dinner was supported by over 250 people.

At the dinner, the FAA issued a warning that the cutbacks facing FIS is but part of the overall bad effects of California's Prop. 13, Jarvis-Gann

Initiative.

Ms. Rickman addressed the audience warning, "Prop. 13 is being used as a tool to attack working people and minorities, much like the Bakke decision is presently doing. Our agency isn't the only one affected . . . the elderly, the handicapped and women are the ones who suffer when these vital services are cut off."

"It's not the little man, but the big man that makes out. Look at the State Legislature, they just voted themselves a 10 percent salary increase while community agencies like FIS are getting cut!"

The FAA has issued an appeal for community support. Merlita Bautista, Vice-President of the FAA stated, "We need unity now. If the funding stops, everyone suffers. Actually, we should be demanding more funding for better services . . . as taxpayers that's our right!"

Immediate plans of the FAA include sending delegations to monitor hearings of the Board of Supervisors. The FAA also intends to launch a petition, letter-writing and telegram campaign targetting the Supervisors with indiscriminately cutting back funds from needed community agencies.

The FAA has also asked the community to write letters of support to the United Way, a private funding agency that is presently in the process of reviewing their grant for the fiscal year 1979-80. □



## CONFLICT OF INTEREST: GROWTH AND PROGRESS FOR WHOM?

## Seattle Community Pressure Stops Union Station

In a surprising move by the Port of Seattle plans to build the Union Station Transportation Terminal have been dropped as a direct result of mounting political pressure against the proposed site.

The Port had planned a 17 million dollar complex which would house Greyhound, Trailways, Airport Bus Service, Greyline Tours and Amtrak.

For seven months, hundreds of residents, community workers and activists of Seattle's International District (I.D.) had been opposing the transportation center of grounds that this supposed 'face lift' would contribute to drastically altering the predominately residential working-class character of the area; turning it into a busy hub of the inner city servicing commuters and the growing tourist industry.

In addition, community forces charged that the many hotels and small businesses that would border the Union Station Terminal would more than likely fall prey to the 'skid row' syndrome, as witnessed in major cities like New York, San Francisco and Chicago where the immediate surroundings of such "terminals" are filled with dilapidated buildings, pimps and hustlers galore, and the stench of liquor permeating every street corner.

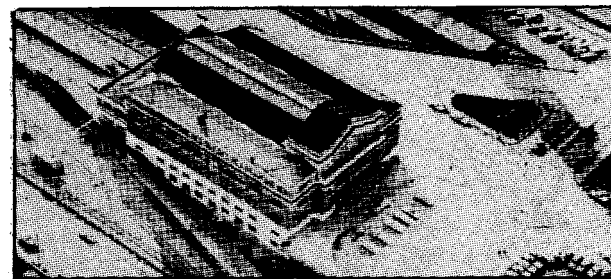
In an effort to put a halt to the Port Authority's

plans, over 600 local residents signed a petition, over 300 established businesses signed an opposition letter, and scores of other letters were sent to the Mayor and Council-members from citizens throughout the city.

At one point, a pressured Port of Seattle postponed a 'special' City Council hearing that would have decided whether to match \$25,000 to the project, when word was received that I.D. folks were ready to pack the meeting with hundreds of people angrily opposing the transportation center. Already opposition forces had gained enough votes on the council to block the allocation of funds.

On December 15, a visibly embarrassed Planning Director James Dwyer made the former announcement that Greyhound Co., a major participant in the terminal center had backed out, claiming that the Union Station was 'unacceptable.' It was noted that the facility would not be feasible without Greyhound's participation since it would carry 60 per cent of all passengers.

A week and a half later, on Dec. 27, the Port Authority dreams lay wasted when standing before the nine-member City Council they officially withdrew their application for city funds for the terminal. In response to one question, whether plans would ever be brought up again in the future, Port officials sullenly replied, "Very unlikely." □



Union Station.

there has been a 39% decrease in small businesses in the downtown area since 1960. Meanwhile, the city is staggering with only a 1% vacancy rate in inner city housing. Over 15,000 elderly and low income people have been displaced since 1960. The waiting list for a downtown low income hotel is several hundred names long.

As the city of Seattle grows, the role and power of Big Business grows with it. The conflict of interests between the working people and big capitalists is bound to continue and deepen as Seattle begins to experience more and more of the common problems plaguing other big U.S. cities. However, since the city is still in "transition," the political balance of forces is not so "cut and dry." Big Business still comes up against the remnants of a political power base which resides in many of the working class neighborhoods. As a result, the political situation seems more fluid compared to cities like Chicago or New York. For example, the recent upset City Council victory of Norm Rice, a progressive black, over Wayne Larkin, a conservative, who was heavily backed and financed by Big Business interests. This political characteristic of Seattle is a good thing for the people's movement. It helps explain how we were able to mount the political pressure strong enough to block the Union Station project from further destroying the ID.

## THE PROBLEM IS BASIC TO CAPITALISM

However, more important is the answer to the question—what lies ahead for us? And for this, we must look squarely at the nature and power of the forces we are up against. Since the growth and development plans of the city are determined by big capitalist interests, the working class people will continue to fight to protect our neighborhoods from destruction; continue to fight for low income housing, for decent schools, etc.

Many of the "liberal" politicians and city officials refuse to see or admit to this class conflict which underlies most of the "controversies" in city politics. For example, Community Development Director, Darel Grothaus, can call the older apartment buildings "our downtown treasures," then turn around in the same breath and say that redevelopment in the downtown area should strive for the "highest and best uses" (i.e. the most profitable!). The two things are opposite to each other. Yet, the liberal illusion is that somehow these two conflicting class interests can be reconciled, that the city can experience "growth" without the kind of conflict and struggle which recently surrounded the Union Station plans. Our liberal mayor, Royer, is no exception. His political rationalization for supporting the Union Station was that he could see no contradiction between it being built and his pledge to preserve the present resi-

[continued on back page]

By ELAINE KO  
COMMENTARY

An organized force of "small" ordinary working people have managed to stop in its tracks the ambitious plans of some "big" and powerful business interests! It sounds a bit like a fairy tale which does not occur too often these days in U.S. cities. But although there is an atmosphere of victory felt among the residents and community activists in the ID, there is lurking in the background the question—what will they hit us with next?

How were we able to stop the plans for the Transportation Terminal and what can we expect in the future? To even begin to answer these questions requires a deeper analysis of the contending political forces in Seattle and a broader look at the workings of capitalism in American cities today.

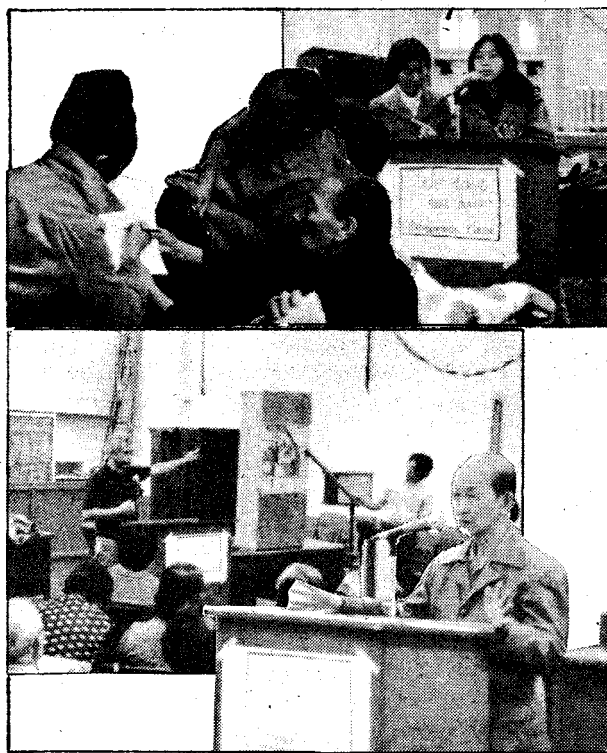
Seattle is a city in *transition*. It is fast developing from one of America's "middle-size" cities into the "big leagues." Already it is one of the country's largest ports and fastest growing cities, yet Seattle hasn't developed much of the urban blight, ghettos, pollution, financial bankruptcy, etc. which is becoming synonymous with America's big cities. In fact, Seattle still retains much of the charm and benefits of a medium-sized city and prides itself on being rated the "most liveable city in the U.S."

Of course, Seattle has never been a "paradise" for the nameless laborers, the poor, the unemployed, upon whose backs the city was built. But in spite of this, Seattle, compared to most other cities, is in relatively good shape. The housing tends to be fairly sturdy; people still have yards around their homes with space for small gardens. Quite unlike the dreary images of decaying tenements associated with parts of New York or East St. Louis. In Seattle the air is relatively clean and you can still see the sky; unlike the orange hue which hangs over L.A. And people can still actually swim in the lakes which circle Seattle!

But beyond the horizon the storm clouds are forming. It is becoming clearer each passing day that the city will not escape the ills associated with other big cities in the U.S. Already the strains and conflicting interests are evident. Will the city spend money to expand its port facilities or shore up the sagging school district? Must freeways expand and expand, displacing and chopping up neighborhoods? Closer to home, does Seattle need a new transportation terminal or additional low income housing for the city's elderly? These are just a few of the conflicting priorities which are part of the "growing pains" of Seattle.

## PROGRESS—FOR WHOM?

But the real problem does not rest in "growth and progress" in and of itself. The conflict is in the definition of growth and progress—in whose interest is the growth and progress? And here is where the deeper class conflict comes to the surface. The city's growth is mainly determined by the big capitalist interests which reside in Seattle—the directors of the Port of



Scenes from the struggle against Union Station.

Seattle, Reiner Bank, Boeing, Weyerhaeuser, etc. Their basic criteria for "growth and progress" reduces itself to *profitability*. Obviously, the all-sided and possibly negative, effects of this "growth" on the working class population of Seattle is not a "top priority" or consideration for them.

Nearly 7 million tons of foreign cargo presently passes through Seattle's waterfront. Port revenue has jumped from 4.5 million in 1960 to 65 million in 1977. And the Port's 1979 budget is 182 million. Port Commissioner Nerle Adlum, beaming with visionary delight, recently said, "We are going to be the 'hub' of the North American continent this year. We passed all but New York . . . and we may get there yet!" Seattle has earned the title "Gateway to the Orient." This position will undoubtedly be further strengthened by the increased trade with People's China expected in the wake of U.S. diplomatic recognition. (Seattle is the closest mainland port to China.)

The Port is also one of Seattle's biggest corporate landlords, owning the Seattle-Tacoma Airport, 18 commerce terminals, and most of the waterfront land west of downtown Seattle. Indeed, the Port of Seattle's presence dominates the city. It has been termed the "invisible government," enjoying tremendous economic and political clout without any real accountability to the public. In addition, other large capitalist interests are buying up every inch of the inner city.

Their present development is invading the downtown area where land values are the highest. Once there were thousands of low rental hotels and apartments, barber shops and; now standing are towering offices and bank buildings, the Dome Stadium, etc. In recent years there has been a 65% increase in office space and a 120% increase in parking lots. In turn,

**FLASH!—Filipino-Americans for Reform and Progress [FARP] took a sweeping victory in this year's Filipino Community of Seattle, Inc. [FCSI] elections.**

FARP formed as a result of the community's growing frustration and demoralization with the present administration's lack of accountability. Their main platform is to make FCSI more accountable to Seattle's growing Filipino community.

This year, a voter registration drive opened up the doors to new members, officially registering 2,500 people. This figure was the highest ever recorded in FCSI's history.

The following are a list of the major offices [\* indicate FARP candidates]: \* Vincent Lawsin, Pres.; \* Adelina Domingo, 1st Vice Pres.; Ricardo Beltran, 2nd Vice Pres.; \*David Della, 1st Sec.; \*Angelita Pizarro, 2nd Sec.; Rose Beltran, 1st Treas.; Irene Descargar, 2nd Treas.

THE STORY OF FCSI'S ELECTION NEXT ISSUE.

## Washington Ends 30-year Anti-China Policy

# U.S.-China Establish Diplomatic Ties

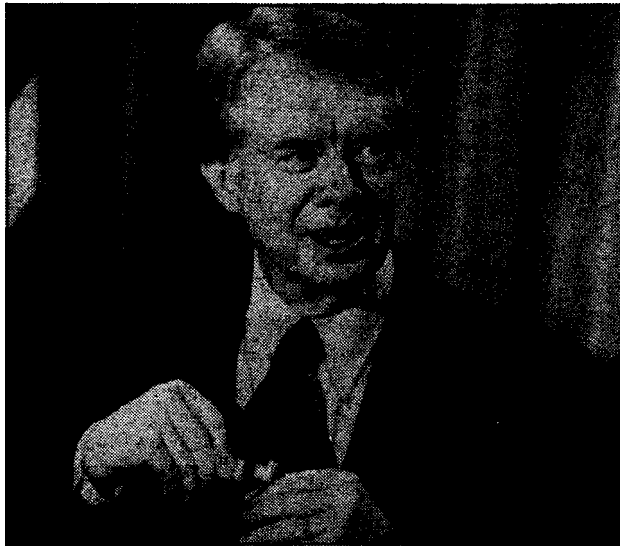
January 1, 1979 marked a new era in relations between the United States of America and the People's Republic of China.

Ending almost 30 years of a belligerent — and increasingly archaic — anti-China foreign policy, the Carter Administration formally severed all diplomatic ties with the Nationalist Kuomintang Government on Taiwan and gave full recognition to the Chinese mainland, headed by the Chinese Communist Party.

The historic occasion was observed in the capitals of both countries. In China, Vice-premier Teng Hsiao-ping toasted with U.S. Envoy Leonard Woodcock at the U.S. Liaison Office in Peking. In Washington, D.C., China's Ambassador-to-be Chai Tse-Ming and Vice-President Walter Mondale attended a reception at the Chinese Liaison Office. These simple ceremonies marked the beginning of a wide spectrum of business, scientific, cultural and educational exchanges that will have important ramifications for both countries in the coming years.

The announcement that both countries intended to establish diplomatic relations came in a surprise Dec. 15 address by President Jimmy Carter in Washington and Chinese Communist Party Chairman Hua Kuo-feng in Peking. Formal ceremonies, with the exchange of ambassadors and the opening of embassies, will occur March 1. Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping will also make an unprecedented visit to the U.S. Jan. 29, the first such visit for a high-ranking official from the People's Republic.

Paving the way for the diplomatic breakthrough were U.S. concessions to three demands of the People's Republic: the withdrawal of U.S. recognition of the Taiwan regime; ending of the joint U.S.-Taiwan mutual defense treaty; and removal of all U.S. military personnel from the island. The Chinese people have consistently held these points as key towards normalization of relations. By finally conceding on these issues, the United States government was taking an important step in ending almost 30 years of intervention in China's internal affairs.



Pres. Carter after announcement of new U.S.-China ties. [UPI]

### TAIWAN QUESTION: NOT FOR THE U.S. TO RESOLVE

While celebrations of thousands in numerous U.S. cities greeted the new relations, excess attention by U.S. news media focused on the question of Taiwan and the charge that Washington was "abandoning" its former ally. Arch conservative Senator Barry Goldwater attacked normalization as "one of the most cowardly acts ever performed by a President of the U.S." and vowed to take Pres. Carter to the courts over the cancellation of the U.S.-Taiwan Mutual Defense Treaty.

In the prevailing "abandonment" controversy, much of the history of the Chinese revolution and the Nationalist government on Taiwan has been obscured by 30 years of Washington's anti-communist policy in Asia. Like the great debate over "who lost China" when Mao and the Chinese Communist Party rose to power in 1949, the "abandonment" question is a creation of anti-communist thinking. Just as China was never ours to lose, Taiwan is not "ours" to abandon.

In reality, if the U.S. had not intervened militarily in 1949, there would be no Taiwan question today. The Nationalist Chinese forces, whose moral and ethical make-up was very similar to the corrupt and decadent Thieu forces in South Vietnam, were on the run from troops of the Chinese Red Army during the final year of that country's historic civil war. During the anti-Japanese war which China fought in the early 1940's, there had been an uneasy alliance between the Communists and the Nationalists. But when the Japanese were defeated, the Nationalists turned their guns on the Communists, provoking the bloody civil war. After several years of fighting, the Red Army which had won widespread respect from the Chinese masses during the anti-Japanese war, gained the upperhand on the Nationalists. Chiang Kai-Shek, leader of the Nationalists, faced utter defeat by the Red Army in 1949 when he fled the mainland with remnants of his army to the island of Taiwan.

It was on that island that the Nationalists came to stay as the U.S. maneuvered the powerful 7th Fleet between the mainland and Taiwan, in a clear warning to the Red Army not to pursue. Chiang, who originally planned only a brief stop-over on the island before heading to the U.S., ended up a permanent resident, establishing his government there and with it the myth that the Nationalists would one day return to the mainland a triumphant power.

The U.S. aided that myth over the years, at a cost of millions in military and economic aid. U.S. foreign policy then followed the cold-war, anti-communist dictates of advisors such as John Foster Dulles and Dean Acheson as an aggressively hostile and arrogant Washington enacted a policy aimed at "containing and isolating" communism in Asia. The U.S. provoked a war in Korea and began to aggressively take over French interests in Indo-China. Efforts were even made to militarily harass and threaten China, as in the ill-fated efforts of Gen. Douglas MacArthur during the Korean War

*continued on page 11*

## Labor's Bakke Decision

# Supreme Court hears Weber Case

By BILL TAMAYO  
AK Correspondent

Just as the Bakke case was a test for affirmative action in education, the Weber case, now before the U.S. Supreme Court will have a major test of minority rights in employment.

The Supreme Court, in deciding to hear the controversial case Dec. 12, will decide the possible fate of hundreds of affirmative-action job-training and promotion programs. Like the high court's ruling in the Bakke case, where the "reverse discrimination" charge was upheld effecting a sizeable drop in minority enrollment at professional schools, a similar judgement will have a chilling effect on voluntary affirmative action programs in employment.

In the Weber case, a voluntary affirmative action program enacted by the Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Company in Gramercy, La., is under attack. Brian Weber, a white worker at the steel plant, charged that the program discriminated against him because of his race when he was denied admission to a company job training program. Weber charged that black workers with less seniority were chosen in an unfair and discriminatory procedure.

Bringing his suit to court, the 5th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals upheld Weber in November 1977. However the facts surrounding the case point out the unfairness of the ruling, especially in the steel industry where there has been a long history of discrimination against minority and women workers.

Like many other industries, the steel industry has historically been dominated by white workers. Black and other minority workers were generally denied employment in the craft fields of the

industry, and the U.S. government determined in 1974 that the United Steelworkers Union and the nine major U.S. steel producers were guilty of a severe pattern of discrimination.

For the Gramercy plant in Louisiana, the discrimination against the black workers was also longstanding. Opened in 1958, the Gramercy plant was located in a community whose minority population was 43 percent. At the plant in 1969, only 4.8 percent of the work force were minorities and this rose to 14.8 percent by 1974. Prior to 1974, only five of the approximately 290 craft jobs were held by blacks.

### COURT SAYS KAISER NEVER DISCRIMINATED

Because of these conditions, the Office of Federal Contracts Compliance, the agency in charge of implementing Executive Order 11246 which demands affirmative action, called for an end to the disparity, and the collective bargaining agreement was consequently reached between the United Steelworkers and Kaiser.

This agreement with Kaiser was to govern the company's 15 plants nationwide. The 1974 Labor Agreement removed the need for prior craft experience of on-the-job training and established a ratio of one minority to one white worker for the programs until approximate percentages of the minority populations in the areas surrounding each plant were met.

Seniority was still a factor in the selection process, however there were two seniority lists as one black and one white worker would be chosen on the basis of seniority within their racial groups. Because of Kaiser's history of discrimination, blacks admitted to the training program often lacked the seniority of their white counterparts. This disparity is the basis for Weber's court challenge.

During Weber's lower court challenge to the affirmative-action program, the court accepted the testimony of Kaiser officials that the company had never discriminated against blacks. Since there was no finding of discrimination by Kaiser, the Court of Appeals held that use of race as a basis for giving preference to black workers while denying white workers job opportunities violated Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

The poor handling of the Weber case in court by Kaiser and the union was noted by dissenting Judge Wisdom. He noted that neither group offered any evidence of past discrimination by Kaiser and that the "defendants (Kaiser and the union) could well have realized that a victory at the cost of admitting past discrimination would be a Pyrrhic victory at best. In the district court no one represented the separate interests of the minority employees of Kaiser, the only people potentially interested in showing past discrimination."

Judge Wisdom noted that even statistical evidence of past discrimination, figures which by themselves could prove a prima facie case of discrimination, were never introduced by the defense.

As in the Bakke case, the defendants in the Weber case are not wholeheartedly committed to fighting for the affirmative action program, and have shown so in the lower court proceedings. A number of civil rights groups have introduced to the Supreme Court additional briefs to bolster the case of the defense. However as numerous other "reverse discrimination" suits have been filed across the country, the rights of minorities to enrollment in professional schools and even to jobs are being eroded. A decision by the Supreme Court on the latest attack on minority rights is expected by this coming June. □

# Shah on Verge of Collapse

With economic strikes paralyzing the country, protests involving hundreds of thousands of citizens and the government unable to stem the crisis, the Shah of Iran is on the verge of collapse.

Government repression has grown more massive and bloody in an effort to halt protests which have increasingly attacked the repressive state apparatus—the police, army and the Gestapo-like SAVAK secret police—for their support of the Shah. Opposition leaders reported that in the city of Mashad, government troops mowed down hundreds of Iranians with machinegun fire in retaliation for the deaths of seven military and police officers. Estimates of the dead ranged as high as two thousand in the bloodiest incident of repression by Iranian troops loyal to the Shah.

According to press accounts, anti-Shah protesters enacted impromptu "people's courts" to try military and police officers accused of ties to the dreaded SAVAK secret police. The SAVAK has been one of the main instruments for Shah Reza Mohammed Pahlavi to maintain power. The residence of an accused SAVAK senior official was raided by opponents of the Shah. Reporters touring

those attempting to exit have been stranded at the airport.

Indicative of the growing crisis for the Shah was the arrival in the U.S. of the Imperial Majesty's mother, who fled Iran Dec. 30. Staying at the home of the Shah's sister in the exclusive Beverly Hills estate in southern California, Queen Pahlavi could not escape enraged Iranians as some 2,000 protested outside her residence Jan. 2. During the protest, police attacked the demonstrators with clubs and firehose, and several police cars even drove into the crowd, injuring a score of protesters. Enraged demonstrators showered the police and residence of the Shah's sister with stones and chants calling for the Shah's overthrow.

(In the wake of the Jan. 2 Beverly Hills protest, Pres. Carter ordered Attorney General Griffin Bell to press legal charges against foreign students who take part in demonstrations. "All participants will be deported from this country, to the extent that the law permits or requires," stated the Attorney General. In another move aimed at intimidating foreign students from taking part in political acts, Bell said that the U.S. will review files of all



Iranian masses continue to press for the Shah's removal, despite maneuvers to install a pro-West, pro-Shah civilian government. Above, troops crack down on anti-Shah protest in Tehran. [Newsweek]

the house were shown numerous instruments of torture in addition to the grisly sight of severed human limbs in underground chambers. The people's rage against the accused SAVAK agents was vented out when the officers were hung on nearby trees.

In retaliation, government troops went on a rampage, firing on unarmed civilians. Troops clashed head on with a march of 400,000 who had gathered to protest the anniversary of the first deaths in the current campaign to topple the Shah.

As street protests in Mashad were met by government gunfire, striking oil workers completely stopped the flow of oil. Walkouts by over 90 percent of the oilfield workers caused Iran, the second largest exporter of oil in the world, to import petroleum from neighboring Kuwait. Losses in oil revenues are estimated as high as \$65 million a day.

In addition to striking oil workers, striking airline and transportation workers caused a logjam of foreign personnel attempting to flee Tehran. Americans have been urged by the U.S. consulate to leave the country due to the turmoil, yet many of

foreigners on student visas in the U.S. Demonstrations of Iranians in the U.S., many participants of whom are students, have greatly embarrassed the Carter administration, especially last year when violent protests erupted near the White House as the president hosted the Shah. Tear gas from the protest marred the outdoor ceremonies.)

Attempting to rideout the latest turmoil, the Shah appointed Shahpur Bakhtiar as Premier to head up a civilian government. Bakhtiar, at one time a member of the National Front opposition, is considered pro-Western who wants to retain the Shah but with curtailed powers. The National Front, upon hearing of Bakhtiar's stand towards the Shah, immediately expelled him from the front and continued to call for complete removal of the monarchy.

Bakhtiar has promised a reform government, one which would vigorously prosecute the worst perpetrators of government abuse and corruption. Many observers feel that the move toward a civilian government under Bakhtiar is too little, too late. Besides retaining the monarchy, Bakhtiar also wants to retain the hated SAVAK. □

objections, and the opening of diplomatic ties with numerous Western and Third World governments only underscored the outdated policies of successive Washington administrations.

Coupled with China's diplomatic offensive is the country's plan to modernize and industrialize by the year 2000. Seeking advanced technology, science and massive amounts of capital, China has embarked on an ambitious and historic effort. In the eyes of the U.S.; especially since Chinese leaders have announced that countries with diplomatic ties would receive favored treatment in any economic dealings, normalization of relations was more than "recognizing simple reality," as Pres. Carter alluded to. The economic benefits, given China's vast resources and population, are immense and Washington undoubtedly felt a growing anxiety over other Western countries, and most recently Japan, concluding economic agreements with the People's Republic of China.

Diplomatic recognition and normalization of relations now mean a new era in U.S.-China relations. An important step has been made in ending U.S. interference in China's affairs, yet Washington will continue to supply the Taiwan regime with "defensive" military supplies, and even this form of intervention must eventually end. On this question, China continues to be firm and vows that reunification of Taiwan and the mainland is an internal matter to be solved by the Chinese people. □

# Eritreans Suffer Military Setbacks

Eritrean guerrillas, now in their 17th year of armed struggle for national liberation, have met serious reversals in the battlefield against forces of the Ethiopian Dergue.

Over the past two months, Eritrean rebels have enacted a tactical retreat from such key cities as Keren, in addition to ceding control of the important Asmara-Massawa road which links the Red Sea port of Massawa to the Eritrean capital of Asmara. Crucial to the serious battlefield reversals has been the large-scale involvement of the Soviet Union.

Large-scale Soviet intervention in the latest Ethiopian drive to crush the Eritrean rebels included the use of MIG-23 jets, dropping of napalm and incendiary bombs on Eritrean civilian populations, in addition to the use of huge numbers of tanks and armored personnel carriers in armed confrontations between Ethiopian and Eritrean troops. Guerrillas of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) charged that Soviet advisors directed the Ethiopian offensive and that it was this high-level participation which has changed the character of the Eritrean war.

As opposed to earlier Ethiopian offensives, where the Dergue mobilized armies of peasants to attack Eritrean positions in unsuccessful human-wave frontal assaults, the Soviets helped plan a complex Ethiopian drive on five different fronts beginning Nov. 17-18. Large military weaponry, bearing an awesome firepower, were concentrated on Eritrean positions with increased accuracy. Soviet MIG-23 jets, long-range rockets and 122mm and 160mm artillery pounded EPLF positions, forcing the withdrawal of Eritrean guerrillas northward from Asmara and eastward from Agordat.

The important Asmara-Massawa road fell to the joint Ethiopian-Soviet drive Nov. 21 and on Nov. 23, the evacuation of the town of Keren began. EPLF guerrillas, mobilizing the civilian population for the move, retreated to their base areas in the northern Sahel mountains and began to prepare for a return to guerrilla warfare. With the fall of Keren, Ethiopian and Soviet forces are now mobilizing for the capture of the cities of Afabet, Nacfa and Karora.

"The face of the war has changed," said EPLF leader Issayas Afewerki to the U.S.-based Guardian newspaper. "We are not fighting the Dergue any more. Now it is the Soviet Union."

Soviet escalation of their involvement backing the Ethiopian Dergue is part of a larger effort to extend their influence in northern Africa, especially in the important Horn of Africa. This latest offensive is consistent with other Soviet moves to gain hegemonic control of strategic military and economic areas of the world. The EPLF has charged that Soviet involvement includes over 200 military experts, 13 ranking officers and 1,000 troops operating the hundreds of Soviet tanks, fighter plans, helicopters, and heavy weapons.

According to an EPLF statement, the latest offensive comes at the critical harvest time in Eritrea, and Soviet bombing of villages, including night raids with the use of infra-red lighting, has created over 100,000 refugees. The statement also noted that the Soviets, despite their stated position that the Eritrean question should be settled peacefully, "have been and continue to fully back the Dergue militarily, economically and politically."

Eritrean guerrillas view their retreat as only a temporary setback in a long war for independence. their withdrawals were viewed as necessary maneuvers to preserve their future fighting capacity, and even with the retreats, serious losses have been inflicted on advancing Ethiopian-Soviet forces by the battle-seasoned guerrillas.

Until the recent Soviet intervention, Eritrean forces appeared to be on the verge of final victory in their 17-year war which was started against then-Emperor Haile Selassie. Independence for this former Italian colony has been the main goal of the Eritrean rebels, and even with the recent battlefield reverses, the goal of national liberation has not been abandoned. "We are willing," said EPLF leader Ali Sayed, "to continue no matter how long it takes and no matter what the zigzags of progress, because we are assured of our final victory and we will settle for nothing less." □

## U.S.-CHINA TIES...

continued from page 10

and later by numerous armed attacks made by puppet troops in Taiwan.

The Chiang regime in Taiwan, just like Sygmann Rhee's in South Korea and Diem's in South Vietnam, was a creation of direct U.S. interference in another country's internal affairs. While originally conceived to "contain" communism, however, U.S. maintenance of the Chiang regime has only isolated Washington. For while China marked numerous achievements in the building of socialism, the once-supremely arrogant rulers of U.S. finance capital have seen three decades of economic unrest, stagnation and decline.

### NORMALIZATION LONG OVERDUE

Mao Tsetung speaking to the U.S. on diplomatic relations in 1957 noted that "The longer you stall, the more you will be in the wrong and the more isolated you will become in your own country and before the world opinion . . . One day the United States will have to establish diplomatic relations with us."

Twenty years later, it seems Washington finally got the message. China's numerous diplomatic victories in recent years—the gaining of its rightful seat to the United Nations in 1971 despite U.S.

\$1 Billion in U.S. Aid to Regime

# U.S.-R.P. Bases Accord

continued from front page

in the Philippines and in the non-aligned movement.

The key U.S. base in the Philippines are Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base. Clark is manned by 18,000 U.S. servicemen and is the headquarters of the 13th Air Force whose "area of responsibility" extends from Guam to Africa. The extensive facilities of Clark, Subic, Cubi Point, and Mactan Island, constitute the hub of U.S. contingency planning for intervention in Asia, the Middle East and Africa. A recent example of Clark's strategic importance was a two-week long aerial exercise last December dubbed "Cope Thunder" with North Korea as an "imaginary enemy."

Subic is the main repair, fueling, and "rest and recreation" center for the 175 ships, 700 aircraft and 75,000 men of the U.S. Seventh Fleet. Its importance is exemplified in the departure last December 29 of a naval task force led by the nuclear-capable carrier *Constellation* for the Indian Ocean, a move widely reported as a show of force to bolster the floundering Shah of Iran.

## ARMING MARCOS' MILITARY

The use of the bases in internal Philippine matters has assumed greater significance with the new agreement. The \$500 million compensation is deceptively billed as military and economic assistance, but in fact, all but \$25 million has been allotted for military aid. Under the agreement, Marcos will receive a total of \$125 million under various U.S. defense aid programs annually for the next three years. Added to the \$37.5 million annually allotted as defense aid, this will mean \$162.5 million a year for defense, an increase of more than 300 percent.

At first glance, it appears as if Marcos has been shortchanged in the agreement. In November 1976, he rejected an offer of \$1 billion in military and economic aid from the outgoing Ford administration. Reports from Washington, D.C., however, indicate that \$500 million may represent only the "public" portion of the compensation agreement. Additional amounts of economic aid are likely to be coursed through such U.S. government entities as the Export-Import Bank, U.S. AID and U.S.-controlled multilateral lending institutions.

An additional benefit to the Marcos regime will be increased use of base facilities for the Philippine military. In 1972, the Philippine Air Force's squadron of F-5's conducted raids against the NPA in Isabela out of Clark. This, however, was done surreptitiously. Now, with the bases supposedly under Philippine control, open use of the bases for counterinsurgency becomes possible.



The recent Executive Agreement makes much more likely direct U.S. military intervention in Philippine affairs. Above, U.S. tank on maneuvers in R.P.

[AK file photo]

## "FLAG SOVEREIGNTY"

It is clear that Marcos and his military will benefit from the new agreement. For the Philippines and its people, it means increased oppression and a far more tangible threat of U.S. intervention in their affairs. Installation of a Filipino base commander and Filipino guards, the surrender of some base lands do not in any way complete Philippine sovereignty over these areas. At best, these provisions lend themselves to "flag sovereignty," for the U.S. military will continue to have unhampered use of the bases.

Despite the careful tailoring of the agreement to circumvent possible Congressional opposition, it is still expected to encounter some rough Congressional buffeting on a number of issues. Constitutionalist in Congress are likely to call Carter on a pattern of foreign policy decision-making reminiscent of the Nixon years' "imperial presidency." For Marcos' part, he should not forget that the letter protesting his April 1978 electoral fraud included 114 Congresspeople. Nor should he forget that there are organized Filipinos and Americans in this country who are going to do everything they can to make sure that the joint Carter-Marcos attempt at deception is roundly defeated. □

"We have not fooled ourselves into thinking that the bases will be removed without a long struggle," asserted Kathy Keller of the Seattle Friends of the Filipino People. Keller gave a sober assessment of the movement to remove the bases.

"But neither have we been discouraged into thinking that we are powerless in the face of opposition from Carter," Keller said. She claimed that Carter's use of undemocratic executive agreement to conclude the negotiations was in response to the strength of the anti-bases and pro-human rights movement, and that Carter's personal pledge of money to Marcos was designed to circumvent any Congressional discussions on the issue.

"All that Congress can do now," Keller added, "is to refuse to give money which Carter has already pledged. It's up to us to make sure that Congress doesn't give that money."

## FURTHER ACTIONS

Meanwhile, Steve Wake promises bigger protest actions within a month when the agreements are formalized and later on in the year as rent is discussed in Congress.

Underscoring this point, he stated, "I'm sure Carter expected a fight when he made the promise of rent to Marcos and we're going to give it to him. Thousands of people need to raise the demand that we will not pay any rent for useless bases; that, in fact, the bases should be removed both out of respect for genuine Philippine sovereignty and to prevent the use of those bases to stage another Vietnam." □

# Human Rights Conference Hits R.P. Violations

"Various anti-martial law groups in North America should set aside their ideological differences and unite in their common struggle against the Marcos regime." This was the major theme developed by Charito Planas during the recently concluded conference of the Church Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines held at the Cardinal Spellman Retreat Center in Riverside, New York.

Charito Planas, a leading critic of martial law and a political exile, cited the National Democratic Front (NDF) in the Philippines as a good example of working unity among various groups in the Philippines. The anti-martial law movement in North America, she added, can work more effectively by emulating and supporting the NDF.

Another conference participant who had just returned from the Philippines recounted his task with the Christians for National Liberation (CNL), a member of the NDF. The CNL is a group of lay religious workers and members of the clergy who are opposed to martial law.

Planas also gave an update on the human rights situation in the Philippines which she described as worsening. The general concept of human rights, she suggested, should be broadened to include basic economic rights. "The violence of poverty," as Planas phrased it, "is not generally included in human rights concerns." The right to work and to adequate wages for a decent life are the most common violations of basic human rights in the Philippines.

Though she herself was a political prisoner, Planas urged the conference participants to look beyond the issues of torture and political prisoners. She asked that some attention be focused on the worsening economic conditions in the country as another dimension of human rights violations.

Planas also decried the selective expression of concern over human rights violations which she stressed should extend to all victims regardless of their political beliefs and commitments.

The current debate within the religious community centers on the role of the church in society. One faction would limit the institutional church to mere spiritual concerns such as performing religious ceremonies and attending the religious needs of their parishioners. The other factions, Planas added, views the church as a vehicle for social change and an advocate for a more active role in the community.

The Church Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines is an umbrella organization for over 120 Catholic and Protestant denominations and individuals concerned about human rights situation in the country. The same conference was attended by representatives of the Congress Education Project of the Friends of the Filipino People and the Anti-Martial Law Coalition and the Campaign for the Removal of U.S. Bases from the Philippines. □

# Bases Protest ...

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The connection between runaway shops, labor repression and the U.S. bases was made clear by Philip Vera Cruz, former member of the executive board of the United Farm Workers. Vera Cruz spoke at the Washington, D.C. protest: "Marcos' labor repression draws multinationals away from the U.S. to the Philippines, putting U.S. workers out of jobs and forcing Filipinos who cannot even strike legally, to work for starvation wages."

## NO MORE VIETNAMS

Solidarity speeches by Iranian student representatives and African liberation support groups underscored the demand that these bases be removed before they are again used to launch an intervention, not necessarily in Asia but possibly in the Middle East and Africa. Especially targetted was the Dec. 29 dispatch of the nuclear-capable aircraft carrier *Constellation* from Subic Bay to a position closer to Iran.

Steve Wake, staff person of the Campaign to Remove U.S. Bases from the Philippines, claimed that this was "an excellent propaganda move by the Carter administration. What better way to show the right-wing the interventionist value of these bases than using them to make a show of military force towards Iran? Carter was hoping that they will now be willing to pay the exorbitant rent that he promised."

# Seattle Commentary...

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dential and small business character of the ID! Needless to say, his vision is clouded by his desire to see the city's tax revenues rise at the expense of the ID residents.

But the struggle of the residents of the ID is only another form of the basic and irreconcilable conflict between labor and capital. Of course, on the job this class conflict is easier to see—the workers want decent wages and working conditions, the capitalist wants profits and more profits. However, after work hours (or after retirement, as is the case of many of the ID residents), the worker is once again confronted with the conflicting interests of the capitalist class, but now more disguised and harder to see. The workers want better schools for their children, but the capitalists want the taxes to go to expanding Seattle's port facilities—or the retired workers need more and improved low income housing, but the capitalists want the area developed into a Transportation Terminal!

This is the basic nature of what the struggle in the ID is all about. Harsh as it may be, the truth is better than 1000 illusions, because it allows us to know the class forces we are up against and to prepare and organize ourselves accordingly. So although we have achieved a victory in stopping the Union Station—to the question, what lies ahead? . . . Lots of difficult battles—Let's organize and prepare for struggle! □