

## Actions Mark 7th Year of Dictatorship

# Protests Denounce Martial Law!



Nationwide pickets, rallies and motorcades marked the seventh year of martial law in the Philippines. Above, effigies of Marcos and Carter were part of a Los Angeles picket. (AMLA)

On the 7th Anniversary of the Marcos Dictatorship, Filipino communities in 13 cities in the U.S. and Canada witnessed militant protest actions condemning the intensified atrocities committed by the Marcos regime. Anti-Martial Law motorcades paraded through Filipino neighborhoods, pickets were staged in front of Philippine Consulates and pro-Marcos institutions, effigies of Marcos were burned, hanged and beaten, rallies and forums were held in Filipino neighborhoods. . . the call was loud and clear, "Denounce U.S. aid to Marcos," "Down with the Marcos Dictatorship."

The Anti-Martial Law Coalition who spearheaded the nationwide protests claim that the success of the protest actions lay in the preparation and the build-up work of the AMLA's in the different areas. As a result, many "new faces" turned up for the events. AMLC national coordinator, Rene Cruz, commented that "This year's protest action saw more and more Filipinos shedding away their fears to participate actively in denouncing the dictatorship. This is a good sign. It tells us that the Filipino communities

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## Filipina Wins Compensation Award

When Mrs. Rosalina Fajardo sought the assistance of the Asian Law Caucus in March 1978, she did not expect that she would be collecting \$27,500 from the Workers' Compensation Fund. She just wanted the Asian Law Caucus to look into the possibility of reopening her 1973 complaint with the Fair Employment Practices Commission (FEPC) against Fremont Unified School District.

Mrs. Fajardo was placed at the Mission-San Jose High School in January 1978, after waiting as a substitute teacher for four years. She found the atmosphere hostile. The school superintendent discouraged her from accepting that job. But the FEPC told her that if she did not accept the offer, there wouldn't be any offer for the next school year.

She found the students disliked the idea that she had taken the job of their former teacher, who was laid off as a result of Mrs. Fajardo's settlement agreement. That was understandable, she said. However, she felt she did not have a choice either but to accept the offer because that was what she demanded—a regular teaching job—when the FEPC found she had been

(continued on page 8)

## Alona Case Nears Trial



Story Page 7

Petitions calling for the dropping of charges against Dr. Alona were recently presented to the Ventura County District Attorney's office. The Alona Defense Committee has charged the DA's office with racism in its prosecution of the Filipino doctor. (Alona Defense Committee)

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# Marcos' Woe: It's Not The Flu, It's The Economy

By AIMEE CRUZ

After being injected with \$500 million in U.S. aid in exchange for the bases, Marcos' muscles should be in perfect tone. With his repressive sinews so-imagined, he should have no trouble staying in control, and today, he is firmly in control—in no danger of being knocked out tomorrow.

However, for one who is securely wrapped in Uncle Sam's protective mantle, Marcos has been showing curious signs of the chills lately. Even while celebrating his seventh year of martial rule, his usual arrogance had a noticeable hollow ring to it. He claims he's just had a touch of the flu, nothing more serious than that. But his temper certainly hints that some kind of fever must have gotten to his brain.

"If you can find a better man, I'll step down!" he tells the people. (Not telling them, of course, that chances of doing this are nil since he is hunting down, jailing, and killing the nation's best sons and daughters.)

This bitter scolding followed a series of warnings typical of someone who, if not delirious, had just lost his cool. "Anyone who agitates against high prices is a subversive!" "My enemies should watch themselves before they go too far!" are just a few of these outbursts.

Even the elite opposition whose tame criticisms he has tolerated, are now under increased threats. Macapagal was recently charged with inciting to sedition. Although the charge was dropped, his example is meant for all in his circle to "think about."

On the whole, it appears that the President-Prime Minister-Commander-in-Chief of the New Society has been afflicted less with viral flu but more with a potent strain of pronounced defensiveness. It's not the chill, it's the jitters. Upon further diagnosis, this present indisposition just may develop into a case of terminal panic.

What is upsetting Marcos' confidence, which was just recently bolstered by renewed U.S. support, is a raging economic crisis.

The prices of oil products shot up overnight a few months ago and triggered a chain of price increases for all basic commodities. Inflation is at a 20 percent rate—and rising. The peso is down to 41 centavos in value. The cost of day-to-day living has become grossly unbearable, and the crisis is showing no signs of abating.

Marcos tries to disclaim any responsibility for the crisis, blaming it all on the present global economic recession. He slyly tries to hide the fact that his economic policy as a puppet of U.S. interests has

tied the country to even greater dependence on the U.S. and other advanced capitalist countries. Thus, the Philippines inherits all the economic woes of these capitalist nations—and in even greater proportions.

Already in hock by \$8.7 billion to foreign creditors, Marcos intends to borrow some more from the International Monetary Fund to "ease" the inflation. Given that the IMF will most probably demand anti-price control policies and the further devaluation of the peso as conditions for more loans, more inflation is definitely just around the corner. Thanks to Ferdie himself.

At any rate, economic difficulties lead to greater popular discontent. The people are being hit hard and their tempers are rising.

Marcos' fear of the political implications of the crisis is all over his face. A vicious nationwide



campaign to arrest all suspected revolutionaries in sight has been launched. "Salvaging," or the outright murder of dissenters is on the rise. In addition, the regime announced its intention to mobilize 900,000 civilians into the military—the biggest mobilization ever.

The economic crisis is fueling the most concentrated form of resistance to the dictatorship: the revolutionary war of the NPA and the MNLF which is growing by the day. The AFP is pounding Samar and Cagayan Valley with "encirclement and suppression" campaigns. There are 10,000 troops in the city of Jolo alone. As a result, military atrocities have increased in these areas, generating more popular discontent.

To compound his worries, the overthrow of the Shah and Somoza has drawn international attention once more to U.S.-backed dictatorships. With the spotlight on Marcos, the international media has

renewed its strong criticisms.

All in all, the fat paycheck from Jimmy Carter has not completely soothed Marcos' anxieties. Tenuous political and material support from the U.S. may stabilize his repressive capacity in the short run. But in the long run, it is incapable of containing the destabilizing effects of economic inequities and the political upheavals they produce. From all recent indications, it seems the long run is already beginning to show its signs in the short.

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This is the backdrop for Marcos' message to the nation on Sept. 21. The message is actually a circular argument—"martial law cannot be lifted until the economic crisis is averted and the NPA and the MNLF are crushed."

Essentially, this means his repressive rule will stay until he is forced out. It is both a self-serving excuse for the continuation of martial rule as well as an accurate indicator of his sorry predicament.

The country will always be beset by economic crisis. It comes from its status as a neo-colony of the U.S., a status that Marcos himself is zealously guarding. Unless the country is liberated from U.S. economic stranglehold, it will never know prosperity. Marcos therefore will always have an economic crisis available as an excuse.

It is precisely this state of affairs and the poverty and inequities it breeds that is the basis for the existence of the NPA and the MNLF. These peoples' armies will never be crushed as long as the basis for their existence remains. Marcos therefore will always have enemies available as an excuse for the continuation of repression. At the same time these excuses are not lame ones. Marcos really needs to continue martial rule—not to save the nation but to preserve the status quo. This is his role as a puppet dictator for the U.S. This is how his bread is richly buttered, so to speak. His predicament is, the more he preserves the hold of U.S. imperialism on the country, the more he preserves the very sources of his problems. Therefore, economic deterioration and the popular resistance it fuels will just keep on closing in on him. He has no future but inevitable doom.

Indeed, Marcos is squeezed between a rock and a concrete wall. But he is hardly a heroic Bernardo Carpio trying to save the people from destruction. He is only trying to save himself and the rotten semi-colonial society that begot him and his likes. Marcos is right. He really cannot lift his dictatorial rule. The NPA, the MNLF—the people's revolutionary movement will have to do that for him. □

## Cheating Alleged Commentary:

# Foreign Nurses Are Scapegoated Again

By AIMEE CRUZ

As if the rapid succession of anti-foreign nurse measures which have sprung up in recent months were not enough, the New York State Education Department has now joined in the chorus of racist, chauvinist and malicious attacks which have been orchestrated against foreign nurses by private professional organizations like the American Nurses Association (ANA) and the National League for Nursing (NLN).

After receiving reports about a leak in the recent state board exams for nursing which was administered last July 10 and 11, the Education Department announced that all results of this examination would be invalidated. Attempting to verify reports about the leak, it arbitrarily reasoned that since the last examination showed a higher percentage of FNG's who passed, then "something untoward must have happened." (Thomas Sheldon, Coordinator, Professional Education, New York State Board of Education)

The motive for the racist innuendos is clear. Once again, FNGs are being scapegoated for a problem which is

originally rooted in other quarters of the health care delivery system in the U.S. By subtly implying that the cheating was committed mainly by FNGs, the Education Department and the New York State Board of Nursing would like to deflect the roles of those agencies responsible for the security of the examination and wash their hands of this whole mess. By invalidating both the U.S. and foreign nurse scores, they hoped to see the ire of U.S. nurse graduates lash out at FNGs and thereby create a deep racial division among nurses in the U.S.

How can the Education Department make such a statement on the sole basis of FNG scores? More importantly, why is their investigation principally directed at FNGs instead of the source of the alleged leak? If there was such a leak, it would not have been from anywhere else but from the National League of Nursing (NLN), the agency responsible for the formulation and administration of the exams. Why do they not direct an investigation to get at the real culprit, those who plotted to make money out of FNGs' desperation to pass the

exam? Any even-handed investigation, free of racist hysteria and fury, should logically focus at this agency. Why should the FNGs be made the main target of investigation?

While we cannot condone cheating as a means to pass the examination, we cannot but protest the one-sided and blatantly racist thrust of the investigation.

However regrettable, this incident only serves as a grim reminder to all that many FNGs are driven to such points of desperation, and present licensure procedures should be rigorously examined for fairness.

The NAFL-FNG has consistently called attention to the fact that FNGs have failed poorly in this examination not because they are incompetent as nurses, but because they have been placed under extremely disadvantageous conditions in trying to pass the exam. First, they are required to take the exam at the first available date from their time of arrival, depriving them of much-needed time and opportunity to adjust to the new U.S. health care system which affect their performance in the exam. Moreover,

while FNGs have been continuously recruited to serve in U.S. hospitals, neither the hospital administration nor the U.S. government have provided any type of educational assistance to FNGs to help them obtain licensure. And those who enter under H-1 visas are to take the exam while under the threat of deportation.

It is clear that all is not well in the licensure system of nursing in the U.S. At least, we are now made certain through this incident that the integrity of those responsible for the preparation of the exam is highly questionable.

A thorough investigation of this incident is in order. For the real sake of upholding the health care standards in the U.S., this investigation must aim at getting the real culprits of the leak. Also, it is high time that the fairness of present licensure procedures for FNGs be given attention and that the necessary reform should be affected. Racist hysteria will not solve the problem which beset the U.S. health care delivery system but will only serve to blur the issue at hand. □

**BUOD NG MGA BALITA  
BUOD NG MGA BALITA**

**CHICO RIVER DAM 4  
SLATED TO START**

TABUK, KALINGA-APAYAO—Reports have been circulating recently that the preliminary construction of Chico Dam 4 in Tomiangan, Pasil, Kalinga-Apayao will start in October 1979. If so, this is a departure from the original construction schedule of the dam which was set to start in 1980.

Questions have been raised among the affected population regarding the reported advanced schedule, considering that the feasibility study of the dam project was originally scheduled to be completed in December of this year. On top of this, whatever change in schedule was done in complete disregard of the people's often expressed stand of total opposition to the project.

In related developments, Kalinga governor Amado Almazan, also concurrent administrator of the Kalinga Special Development Region (KSDR), recently announced that "20 new relocatees have been awarded two hectares of irrigated agricultural land, cash money of P10,000, and a residential lot of 150 square meters." He further said that "more and more of the affected families are convinced of and sold to the idea of development as evidenced by the increasing number of families of the affected areas accepting their relocation."

Reports from the province, however, point out some inaccuracies in the governor's statements.

Untrue to the promised relocation offer, the relocatees who received land titles to two hectares of agricultural land are expected to construct their own houses, supposedly with the P10,000 given them. The money, however, is deposited with the local Philippine National Bank (PNB) branch here, which in turn is entrusted to Gov. Almazan for "safekeeping."

Moreover, most of the relocatees are from areas not directly affected by the impending dam construction, whereas the others are known to be die-hard supporters of the dam project.

The majority of the people have openly expressed their outright rejection of the government's relocation scheme. They also pointed out that the relocation offer has, time and again, been revised, resulting in less and less benefits for the victims of eviction. Whereas the original relocation offer was unacceptable to them, why should they accept a much-reduced relocation plan, they ask.

Observers note the government press releases concerning the "breakthrough in the Kalinga dam project" that has been achieved with the "people's acceptance of the relocation scheme of the government" will not help in patching up the fast deteriorating relations between the government and the people of Kalinga-Apayao. □

Monta News

**MILITARY PROMISED  
MORE BENEFITS**

In keeping with his practice of insuring the loyalty of the military, Marcos promised to give active and retired military personnel a package of benefits.

Basically, the package opens the opportunity for military men to become professionals and get into trade or business. The deal includes a scholarship program for qualified members of the Armed Forces.

The loyalty of retired military men who are living witnesses to the dirty work they did for the regime has to be secure as well. In this direction, Marcos plans a private corporation for them in the area of construction and infrastructure.

As if the land dispute in the South were not complicated enough, Marcos is also promising military personnel access to public lands through the construction of 10 resettlement projects there. □

**HILL TRIBE  
PROTEST ABUSES**

Subanon Hill tribes of Zamboanga recently protested against abuses by the military who have been trying to run them out of their ancestral lands.

According to reports received by government authorities, 30 Subanon families from Barrio Grumpra, Zamboanga del Norte were threatened by uniformed and armed men who warned the tribal community of "grave consequences" if they do not leave their rightfully-owned lands. □

**Elite Opposition Stirring**



Seated by the honoree, Gil Puyat (left), Imelda Marcos (center) registers no emotion as her husband's government is verbally attacked.

The elite opposition, after more than a year of lying low since the last IBP election, turned out full force last month at a party honoring former Senate President Gil Puyat on his 72th birthday. The party turned out to be less of a celebration and more of a forum to criticize the Marcos regime before Manila's high-brow society. Among the 356 guests present were many former senators and congressmen, leading former Speaker of the House Jose B. Laurel to quip, "The Senate has a quorum."

The ranks of the opposition was further bolstered by the regime's verbose critic, Jaime Cardinal Sin. Another guest for whom the party really seemed intended, was First Lady Imelda Marcos.

Jose B. Laurel delivered one of the more bristling criticisms: "If Marcos really wish to honor Puyat he can offer no greater gift than to lift martial law. Men like Puyat ought to help deliver the country from the morass [of martial law] and help restore liberty mandated by the constitution."

Gerry Roxas likewise advised Puyat not to retire, while Ambrosio Padilla urged the commencing of re-election. Former Supreme Court Justice

Claudio Teehankee called for a free and independent judiciary to prevent the arbitrary exercise of power.

The highlight of the evening however, was undeniably the message of imprisoned colleague Benigno Aquino whose badly-missed presence was filled by his wife Cory. His message read in part: "I have been speculating on the judgment of history during the critical 70s which is about to end. Will the 70s be remembered as the decade of decadence, cowardice, escapism, and insulation from reality? The silence of many leaders can mean conversion or prudence. I pray our generation will not be found wanting. But I frankly fear the retribution of history when it catches up with us for inaction during a time of moral crisis."

The message was clearly an admonition to the verbally abusive but otherwise weak opposition to close ranks and act on their convictions. Although the elite opposition has yet to prove itself as an immediate danger to Marcos and the viable alternative to his rule, their recent stirrings are worth watching. The Gil Puyat party and the spectrum of guests present clearly sent

home the message to Marcos that a sizeable and growing section of the elite is disenchanted with his rule. The opposition is no longer the "mischievous minority" Marcos makes them out to be.

Marcos' recognition of their strength is underscored by his nervous reaction to the event.

What Imelda pledged before leaving the party — "This will be interesting for everyone" — Marcos made true a few days later. Addressing a group of military officers, Marcos ranted nervously, "I solemnly swear to crush the enemy of the state" and promised to organize a 900,000 strong civilian army to do so.

Shortly after, former president Diosdado Macapagal, Progaciano Mercado and several others were placed under house arrest for the publication of Macapagal's book, "Democracy in the Philippines." They are now charged with rumor-mongering.

An impending crackdown? A mere warning? While a definite punitive pattern in the manner in which Marcos deals with his detractors has yet to emerge, it is clear that he is scrambling wildly to neutralize their influence. □

**Imelda Pushes Her Luck In U.N.**



Imelda Marcos, a novice in the UN at an earlier session.

Manila newspapers recently reported that Imelda Marcos, wife of the Philippine dictator and a prominent New Society dignitary in her own right, will address the UN General Assembly on October 1. The topic: the UN's International Year of the Child.

Other reliable sources report that an Imelda address is in the offing sometime between October 10 and 12. Confirming suspicions about Imel-

da's address, sources learned that a request has been made to the UN for the use of their satellite telecast services to broadcast a speech on the Year of the Child. Imelda, it seems, is eager to impress her countrymen with a simulcast speech.

The lady in question turned up at the UN last September 25 as head of the Philippine delegation to the opening session of the General Assembly.

She sat quietly beside veteran diplomat Carlos P. Romulo, her husband's Minister of Foreign Affairs as he presented an address of Cambodian refugees.

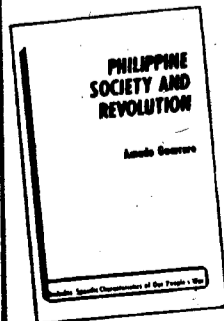
By a convenient coincidence for the First Lady, Governor of Metro-Manila and Minister of Human Settlements, no less than Pope John Paul II is slated to be in town during her New York visit. Sources reveal that Imelda hopes to use her time well to lobby with the Pope, scheduled to visit the Philippines in late November.

Given the controversy over the Pope's invitation to the Philippines and the tenuous relationship between the church and state, the Marcos clan has a strong stake in winning this dignitary's sympathies for their repressive rule.

And given the unpopular character of Imelda Romualdez Marcos and her husband's regime, the UN speech promises to be a controversy in itself. □

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# Malacanang Zarzuela Malacanang Zarzuela

## Whitewash Season

By VICTORIA LUNA

The smell of lime is in the air once more as the Marcos regime layers on the white stuff deep and thick. It's whitewash season once again. And what does it mean? Is another visiting dignitary on his way to inspect the Philippines? One who must be shielded from its grime and poverty by those busy lime-coated brushes touching up the curbstones and the discreet fences which hide the urban poor? It's too soon for the Pope's visit; that's not until late November. Is Miss Universe or Henry Ford coming to town?

No friends. Nothing so special, nothing so unique. Whitewash season is getting to be a year-round phenomenon, just the way events are dealt with in the Philippines.

Consider Andres Barba. A fine young man who had the misfortune to be witnessed in the act of shooting and seriously wounding a middle-aged couple. The couple had raced into the street distraught because the bodyguard of the same Barba had just been seen shooting their 17-year-old son, Apolinario, in the back with an M-16. Apolinario was dead.

Andres Barba is not just anybody — just anybody does not need a bodyguard, a member of the Presidential Guard, to accompany him to a basketball game. His mother, Fortuna Marcos Barba, is the youngest sister of the President. His father, Col. Marcelino Barba of the AFP, is assigned to the Office of the President.

Last month the lime-laden brush swept across the case. Barba, to no one's great surprise, walked out of Malacanang where he had been closeted for the last several months, a free man. Innocent, said the anonymous authorities.

### "SUGGESTIONS WITHOUT FOUNDATION"

And then there's the case of the phantom Phantom.

This U.S. Air Force jet, we are assured by no less than Col. James Hildreth, Commander of the 13th Air Force, did not buzz a PAL Cessna training plane. The Cessna's crash resulted in the death of the superintendent of the PAL aviation school and a trainee. A pilot of a third plane flying in the vicinity where the PAL plane made its fatal plunge witnessed the Cessna's fall and insisted that a stangely-shaped green plane intercepted its flight immediately before its fall. By a strange coincidence, the Phantom, from a U.S. air base in Japan, had made a pleasure flight in precisely the area of the accident at almost the exact moment of the crash.

Top brass rushed to investigate. And late in August, Col. Hildreth solemnly announced, "Any suggestions that the Phantom buzzed or otherwise wilfully endangered the trainer are without foundation." The American pilots in question happily returned to their base. But Hildreth made sure to brief the families of the departed on the routines for filing damage claims against the U.S. military.

Col. Hildreth's solicitous concern for the families in spite of the fact that the Phantom and its pilots were innocent as new-born babes surprised some. But the smell of lime was thickening in the air once more. Others simply shrugged. It takes a mighty broad brush to whitewash a Phantom jet, but that was what was happening, leaving an embarrassed Marcos to cope with the nationalist sentiments voiced by Pusyon Bisaya members of the Interim Batasang Pambansa over the incident.

### "AN IMPARTIAL REVIEW"

But if it takes a big brush to whitewash a phantom jet, it takes an even bigger one to whitewash a nuclear reactor and the threat of nuclear holocaust. Rising on the slopes of Mt. Natib, a dormant volcano and not far from several major earthquake faults in the town of Morong, Bataan, is Marcos' controversial nuclear reactor. The regime has made repeated efforts to paint the nuclear plant as a great boon and benefit to the Filipino people. In spite of this, however, sane voices have said, "No," and demanded an investigation of the plant.

As the so-called non-partial review inched along, the President insisted on resuming construction. This, he explains will in no way endanger the impartiality of the review.

But Ferdinand the Brush isn't taking any chances. In his effort to pull off the plant's construction, he has banned the showing of the popular U.S. movie, *The China Syndrome*. The film, which deals with a near meltdown of a nuclear reactor core, might endanger the impartiality of the review, says he.

Also terrify Filipinos as it terrified Americans viewing it in the wake of the Three Mile Island incident. Better to wield the brush once more, says Ferdinand. □

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# Marcos Orders Phoney Wage Hike



Laboring workers have not seen an increase in their paychecks since Marcos' assurances of wage hikes.

In yet another desperate attempt to keep the lid on a deteriorating economic situation, Philippine President Ferdinand E. Marcos last month dramatically decreed a P2 daily "minimum wage hike" for Filipino workers. The so-called raise went into effect Sept. 1 with P1 more to follow Jan. 1, 1980.

Unfortunately for the dictator, Filipino workers have learned by now to look for the fine print in his decrees. This time the catch was not at all hard to find.

The additional P2 to be granted to all workers except those in "distressed industries" does not come in the form of a genuine wage increase. Instead it is just another of the many "allowances" which the regime has repeatedly granted to circumvent tampering with actual wages.

Thus, although the minimum wage for industrial workers in Metro-Manila is P13, regime spokesmen, adding earlier-decreed cost-of-living allowances of P170 per month and "thirteenth month pay," come up with the remarkable information that industrial workers in Metro-Manila have an "effective

daily minimum wage" of P21.30 which will now be raised to P23.30.

### STRIKING FOR ALLOWANCES

This "effective daily minimum wage" comes as news to Filipino workers who have had an extremely difficult time forcing their employers to pay the various allowances decreed over the past few years. A number of strikes have been over precisely this issue.

Most workers, in fact, would consider themselves fortunate simply to receive the minimum wage. The decree last March which raised base pay by P2 for all categories of workers — industrial and agricultural, Manila-based and provincial — was so riddled with exceptions that even that businessmen's bible, the *Wall Street Journal*, headlined its story on the subject, "Marcos Issues Decree Raising Wages; Most Filipino Workers Aren't Covered." The decree covered one-sixth of the workforce. (See AK, Vol. VI, No. 6.)

### CONFUSING CONFERENCE RESULTS

The current decree follows a turbulent and confusing

"tripartite conference" between management, government and labor, represented by the yellow Trade Union Congress of the Philippines. The result, according to labor representatives, was an agreement in principle to raise the purchasing power of the worker to the April 1979 level.

Management had supposedly agreed to an approximately P3 minimum wage increase. Added Labor Minister Blas Ople, the raise would be given on a staggered basis, P2 effective Sept. 1 with another P1 added Jan. 1. The final decision, however, was to be left to the president.

"Nothing doing," said management, denying it had ever agreed to the wage-hike. Marcos thus solemnly appointed a three-man cabinet "super committee" to find out the "true results" of the meeting. One week later, he decreed the P3 cost-of-living allowance.

### ENDANGERING R.P.'S REPUTATION

In spite of the mounting economic crisis and the political unrest which Marcos fears will accompany it, the regime was unable to implement even a token wage increase for its beleaguered workers. Such a genuine increase, no matter how small, might endanger the reputation Marcos has worked so long and hard to cultivate for the Philippines as a source of the lowest-paid labor in the Asia-Pacific region. At a time of recession, when international capital is carefully examining each new venture, Marcos is courting investment more eagerly than ever before — no matter what the effect on Filipino workers. □

## NPA Troops Overrun Constabulary Base



NPA in Samar.

A company-sized group of New People's Army (NPA) members last month attacked and overran a Philippine Constabulary patrol base in Malinao, Taft, Eastern Samar. Six troopers were killed by the 70-member band and three others wounded. The NPA troops succeeded in carrying off a large amount of weapons and ammunition.

The major operation in Sa-

mar reflects the increasingly high level of organization and military action in Eastern and Western Samar. Recent visitors to the island reveal that troops of the PC and Philippine Army occupying the highly militarized island are terrified of the people's fighters and hesitate to venture outside of their camps. The NPA thus engages in major military actions against these

camps or finds ways to lure the troops out into the countryside.

But the Marcos military has been instructed to take action against the NPA troops and must fill a weekly quota of rebel troops killed and wounded. A recent action in Northern Samar reveal precisely how the quotas are filled.

Philippine News Service last week proudly announced that troopers of the 601st PC Company in Panguhaon Hills, sitio Algan, Tula, Pambuhan, swept down upon an NPA camp. Catching the rebels asleep, they supposedly killed a large number of them. There is however, a catch to this account. There is no NPA operating in Northern Samar at this time.

Who then are the numerous "rebel" casualties of the recent raid? Civilians, murdered in their sleep, whose corpses are now counted as trophies by the Marcos military. □

# Urban Land Reform-A Power Grabbing Scheme



KAPITBAHAYAN—One of Imelda's earlier projects was supposed to benefit low-income families. It now in fact, serves middle-income families.

Imelda Marcos' acquisitive schemes are now legal activities with the issuance of P.D. 1893 or the "Urban Land Reform" proclamation. Billed as the law which will eliminate oppressive housing rentals; remove ownership of the land from the monopoly of the few; and uplift depressed communities, "urban land reform" is nothing but a euphemism for the legalized expropriation of land by the powerful Ministry of Human Settlements and its even more powerful head, Imelda Marcos.

Under the urban land reform proclamation, all lands in Metro-Manila will be managed by the state. No land can be developed or sold without the permission of the MHS which will also set tax rates and prices for land. Under implementing rules set by the MHS and the Interim Batasang Pambansa, limits on landholdings will be established. Lands in excess of this will be expropriated by the MHS if these are not disposed of within a certain period of time.

## REMOVING THE BLIGHT

Although the regime is touting urban land reform as a boon for the poor and a bane for the rich, the effect of this proclamation, if thoroughly implemented will be to literally banish the urban poor from Manila.

This means that more than two million of Manila's four million populace, or squatter and low-income working families, will be ejected from Imelda's "City of Man." This scheme involves outright eviction and a more protracted easing out of low-income families who could barely cope with the residency requirements of P.D.

1893.

Literally, what the regime refers to as the removal of the urban blight is the removal of humans blighted by poverty. Under the proclamation, tenants are defined as those who have legal papers. It does not include those whose possession is under litigation. Even occupants of idle lands who have resided in their communities for generations, struggling to establish their legal rights as tenants will be ejected from their present dwellings. Despite a provision allowing residents of ten years or more to purchase land, most tenants can ill-afford to buy land at the prevailing prohibitive prices.

Furthermore, the Bagong Lipunan Sites and Services (BLISS), a low-income housing project of the MHS, effectively excludes the poor. It accepts only those from the P500-5,000/month income bracket.

## MIDDLE-CLASS PENALIZED TOO

Penalized to a lesser degree than the urban poor, middle-income residents who are often renters instead of property-owners will see no relief in urban land reform. Although the government plans to regulate rent and land prices and crack down on real estate speculation, it intends to finance the BLISS programme from taxing property-owners. The MHS plans to raise P150 million from a 20 percent tax on landholdings. Ultimately, this will be passed on to renters.

Even middle-income families who own their lots and homes, may be eased out by the urban land reform zones planned by the MHS. If home owners happen to live within a zone designated for industrial or commer-

cial development, they will be forced to sell out to the MHS or face the consequence of paying higher taxes for land with a higher appraised value.

## BANE FOR THE RICH?

The urban land reform code can hardly be passed off as a modern day Robin Hood theft from the rich for the benefit of the poor. Rather it is more like a theft from a section of the rich by another section close to the Marcos-Romualdez families.

Wealthy families and big firms who stand to lose from urban land reform are those who would resist the MHS development schemes. In a bid to make urban land reform attractive to big land owners, the MHS has offered incentives for real estate to be developed according to MHS guidelines.

If landholders, however, fail to conform to MHS regulations, their property is under threat of confiscation or the more protracted process of bankruptcy. The MHS has simply to surround unyielding landowners or businesses with enterprises owned by competitors and force recalcitrants to abide.

The MHS can confiscate and dispose of land, simply by paying a 10 percent deposit on the 1975 assessed value of a piece of property even if expropriation is contested in court. Although appellate courts can rule in favor of the dispossessed party, the MHS becomes the *de facto* winner.

Furthermore, the application of MHS rules, can be bent to fit the situation, especially if the party up for expropriation is close to the Marcoses. Urban land reform is therefore an

excellent weapon against enemies and a lucrative business for friends.

## CONCENTRATION OF POWER

In a nutshell, urban land reform paves the way for the amassing and concentrating political and economic powers under Imelda Marcos.

Started less than two years ago, the Ministry of Human Settlements has become one of the most powerful offices in the martial law bureaucracy. Its pilot project, BLISS, seeks to establish thousands of model communities in urban or "urbanizable" areas, eventually creating a bureaucracy which straddles municipal, provincial and national governments.

Already the MHS has deemed superfluous the functions of other ministries or suctioned the resources of social service and public utility offices.

The machinery of BLISS is the Human Settlements and Development Corporation (HSDC), a monopoly empowered with the management of BLISS sites, the operation of utilities, construction, acquisition and operation of facilities, housing units, factories, and services required in the development of the pilot communities.

With such a monopoly, Marcos cronies and relatives can likewise expect a monopoly on contracts and other lucrative business deals involved in the development of BLISS.

P.D. 1893 simply clinches this elaborate scheme to further expand the Marcos-Romualdez fortunes and strengthen the turf on which Imelda, Marcos' apparent successor, stands. □

# Marcos Gears Up For Bigger Borrowing

Unsatisfied with its current state of indebtedness, the Marcos regime recently floated a plan to vastly increase foreign borrowing. The regime has thus initiated negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank and private commercial banks plugging for a 25-30 percent increase over the \$985 million ceiling which the IMF imposed for 1979.

If the Marcos ploy succeeds, the regime's foreign debt will pass the \$10 billion mark by this time next year. Debt service payments will climb from their present \$1.56 billion to \$2 billion plus next year.

Marcos and his technocrats are gambling on larger inflows of foreign loans to pay for the country's estimated \$400 million balance-of-payments deficit for 1979 and to spur the stagnating economy to greater production. The technocrats have

nixed cutting back on imports and development projects.

Instead, claim the economic planners, it is better to borrow heavily now and increase the country's productive capacity in order to take advantage of hoped-for increase in trade when the developed countries break out of the present recession. Another key point in their argument: given current levels of inflation, today's loans will be cheaper tomorrow when they are paid back in depreciated dollars.

## BEGGING FOR PERMISSION

Before this audacious plan can be implemented, the regime must seek the approval of its creditors. It will have to secure the IMF's assent to another Extended Fund Facility loan and to the repeal of the law setting a 20 percent debt-service ratio for foreign borrowing.

The 20 percent ratio limits the amount the regime can borrow abroad

by determining that debt-service payments do not go beyond 20 percent of the preceding three years' average annual foreign exchange receipts. It is now considered too restrictive by Marcos' technocrats. Permission will also have to be secured from the country's private commercial bank creditors.

## SHAKY PREMISE

Although the regime is not likely to get everything it wants, knowledgeable observers in Manila banking circles agree that there is certainly going to be much heavier borrowing next year. The entire plan, however, is based on the shaky premise that the recession in the U.S. is going to be as short as Marcos' technocrats would like it to be. If the recession lasts as long as another year, the regime may find itself forced to devalue the peso in order to encourage exports.

Some of the country's creditors are

also increasingly nervous about the size of the foreign debt and the country's capacity to pay. There is so much manipulation of debt figures to circumvent IMF borrowing limits and the 20 percent stricture that one British banker quoted by the *Far Eastern Economic Review* claimed, "If the total foreign debt were included, we estimate the ratio would be nearer 40 percent than 20 percent."

Whatever the outcome of the current negotiations, the regime has clearly chosen not to alter its economic task in order to correct the problems that its past policies have brought to the majority of the population. By further consolidating its dependence on the IMF and the U.S., the regime in fact is only intensifying these problems. For most Filipinos, the prospect for the coming year entails more inflation, lower real wages and higher taxes. □

# 'Down with the Marcos Dictatorship'

(continued from front page)

in the U.S. are slowly awakening to the truth underlying the notorious Marcos dictatorship. People are indignant over the support the U.S. has given to the Marcos regime. Cruz went on to say that "People are now beginning to see that we only have ourselves to rely on at this crucial point in the history of our country. In unity we have banded together this Sept. 22 to denounce and oppose the forces that hinder our struggle for freedom and true democracy."

Pickets were staged in front of Philippine Consulates and pro-Marcos institutions throughout the U.S. and Canada. At the risk of getting arrested for misdemeanor, AMLAs in Seattle and New York burned effigies of Carter and Marcos in defiance of the U.S.-R.P. Bases agreement which signals renewed support for the dictatorship.

In New York, people braved the rain to stage a militant picket. At its peak, picket ranks swelled to an estimated 80 persons as people off the street joined in. Significantly most of these people were Filipinos who didn't mind getting drenched in the rain.

The Seattle Times carried a photo of the effigy-burning accompanied by a lengthy article on the event. Quoting the AMLA coordinator in Seattle, Mila Rodriguez, the paper played-up the fact that the pickets main focus was denouncing the U.S.-Marcos collusion as shown in the signing of the U.S.-R.P. Bases Agreement. A clause in this agreement allows for U.S. troops to engage in off-base operations.

Twenty-two people representing AMLA-Sacramento, National Lawyers Guild, KDP and members of the Filipino and Chicano communities in Sacramento held a picket in front of the offices of the pro-Marcos paper, Bataan News. Militant slogans were chanted throughout the event, among them were "Ibagsak si Marcos at si Carter!" and "Sigaw ng Bayan, Demokrasya, Himagsikan!" There to cover the picket were TV channels 10, 40, 13, and 3. The Sacramento Bee also carried an article on the protest action.

## MOTORCADES SNAKE THROUGH FILIPINO NEIGHBORHOODS

Blaring bullhorns announced the purpose of anti-martial law motorcades that passed through areas where there were large concentrations of Filipinos. Where ever they passed, the people would give a sign of support or reach out for leaflets.

In Vancouver, 22 cars wove around the city carrying banners which read "Honk against the dictatorship in the Philippines." And passing cars honked loud and clear in support of this protest action. The four hour long motorcade denounced the atrocities committed by the regime, particularly the massive build-up of troops in Samar and Cagayan. AMLA spokesman in Vancouver, Boying Bagon condemned the indiscriminate arrest and salvaging of innocent civilians in these areas. The AMLA also denounced the U.S. for helping maintain the dictatorship in power.

"Philippine Week" at the University of Hawaii saw lunchtime presentations of "Conditions in the Philippines." Every day for a whole week, an audience averaging 20 persons came to hear forums regarding the hazards of putting up a nuclear reactor in Bataan, the implications of the U.S.-R.P. Bases Agreement, the gross violations of human rights under



martial law and other related topics. Because "Philippine Week" reflected the real conditions in the Philippines, it was appropriate that it flowed to the anti-martial law motorcade sponsored by the AMLA. The motorcade which snaked through the Kalihi district denounced the cause of the suffering of millions of Filipinos—the U.S.-backed martial law regime. Hundreds of leaflets were distributed along the way as people came out of their houses to view the motorcade and listen to the short talks. The motorcade ended in a press conference attended by NBC TV Channel 2 and CBS radio. The morning daily also came out with a quarter-page article written by AMLA member Dean Alegado on the implications of the U.S.-R.P. Bases Agreement.

Children pasted Philippine flags on windows and adults came down from their houses to get leaflets and to donate to the Anti-Martial Law Alliance as the motorcade wove around South of Market in San Francisco. Making brief stops at key places along the route, the AMLA called on people to join and support the efforts for true freedom in the Philippines. The motorcade ended in a rally within the South of Market area. One of the keynote speakers, Bo Zawabsky of the Campaign for a Nuclear Free Philippines, also spoke on the hazards of the nuclear reactor that is planned to be set up in Morong, Bataan. Citing the numerous defects of the reactor which Westinghouse is selling for an atrocious sum to the Philippine Government, Kawabsky said, "The people of Bataan will be forced to help pay for a reactor which will be the source of untold miseries. Aside from depriving them of their livelihood, the reactor which sits beside a volcano poses a threat to their very lives."

While denouncing the seven years of crime committed by the Marcos dictatorship on the Filipinos, the anti-martial law motorcade in Los Angeles led up to the house of the

pro-Marcos FACLA leader, Tony San Jose. Denouncing San Jose's corrupt leadership in the FACLA, speakers of the motorcade went on to condemn his support for the Marcos regime by spreading lies about the real situation in the Philippines and reducing the motherland to nothing more than a "tourist spot." Filipinos came out of their houses to listen to the speeches, some nodding in agreement to what was being said. From here, the motorcade stopped in front of the FACLA offices where Jaime Geaga expounded on what the FACLA was reduced to under San Jose's leadership.

A motorcade roused sections of the Filipino community in San Diego. At 9:00 o'clock in the morning, a sound truck went through El Toyon and Sonoda Homes to announce the forthcoming motorcade. When the motorcade passed through, the people came out of their houses to greet it and eagerly stretched out their hands for the leaflets that were being passed out. According to AMLA co-coordinator, Paul Sapuriada, "This is the first time we had a motorcade and the response of the people has been very good. Many wanted to know what the issues were and they readily took the leaflets we were handing out."

## RALLIES, FORUMS DISCUSS PHILIPPINE CONDITIONS

Phones were busily ringing the night before the AMLA dinner/forum in Washington, D.C. Many people wanted to know the true conditions in the Philippines. As a result, 60 people showed up for the event which highlighted on how the martial law government concretely affects the lives of the people. There to speak on this topic was anti-nuclear activist, Romy Villianueva, who spoke on the construction of the nuclear power plant that is being set up in Morong, Bataan. Villianueva expounded on how this plant has displaced farmers from their lands, how the reactor's cooling system would kill the fish and

deprive the fishermen of their livelihood, and how at this very moment, the military troops try to harass the people of Morong into silence. When asked what the people intended to do if Marcos pushes ahead with the reactor project, Villianueva said, "The people of Morong have very few choices. If they choose to be quiet and allow the construction of the reactor on top of that volcano to go on, they or the future generations are sure to meet death. The only solution open to them is to fight the construction of that reactor with their very lives. Many are convinced that in the event that the projects push through, they will go up the hills to join the New People's Army."

An educational forum was held at the Filipino Community Center in Seattle on Sunday, the 23rd. Slide-shows, singing and other speeches were part of a program prepared by the AMLA. Discussions that ensued after the presentation were lively and enthusiastic. Many pledged their support to the efforts of the anti-martial law movement. Concretely, people pledged to participate in hosting the delegates from the different cities nationwide who shall be coming to Seattle at the end of October for the annual AMLC Conference. After the forum, members of the AMLA proceeded to the Seattle Center where the Philippine Consulate was hosting a cultural show. While the consul was giving a welcoming address, people in the audience were busy reading and reaching out for the leaflets that the AMLA distributed. Two people even gave their phone numbers to the AMLA, saying they want to participate in its activities.

IAFP-Montreal held a community meeting to cap its Sept. 22 activities. There to greet the people who attended the meeting was a photo display of the Children of Tondo, a slum area in Manila. It being the 'Year of the Child' the photo display was aimed at presenting the plight of the Filipino children under martial law. Among the pictures were those of children scavenging in garbage cans, children sleeping on sidewalks, and faces of malnourished babies. The photos were captioned with Clarita Roja's poem, "Bakit hindi maka-uwi ang ina, anak?" Tessie Zaragoza of the IAFP spoke on the Philippines situation and how the national democratic alternative stands as the only rational alternative to solving the problems that beset the Filipino people. Those who attended the community meeting pledged to make others aware of the conditions in the Philippines and by means by which this can be solved.

In Vancouver, ABS's "Politics of Torture" was shown to an audience of 55 people and members of the AMLA and IAFP spoke respectively of the worsening conditions in the Philippines and the national democratic struggle. Boying Bagon of the AMLA-Vancouver has this to say about the turn-out for the Sept. 22 activities in the area. "The support the Filipino community has given to the anti-martial law movement is inspiring indeed. We had an unexpected turn-out during all our activities which just goes to show that the people are now openly defying the dictatorship. Even those who are still afraid to come out openly have not been passive. Just yesterday I received a check for \$100 from a supporter who does not want to be identified. The anti-martial law sentiments of the people are slowly turning into a force that the dictator-Marcos cannot simply ignore." □

## FILIPINO COMMUNITY NEWS

# Racism Charged in Alona Case

Los Angeles—The National Committee for the Defense of Dr. Alona charged the District Attorney's office with injustice and racism regarding its prosecution of Dr. Bienvenido Alona, Jr. The Filipino doctor is being charged with nine counts of perjury in a controversial criminal case.

The Alona case has attracted attention throughout the Filipino community because of the "questionable motives" of the D.A.'s office, leading many to believe that Alona is being charged unjustly.

Maria Abadesco, national coordinator of the defense movement, met with Deputy District Attorney Kossoris, the prosecuting attorney in the Alona trial. Abadesco registered a formal concern to Mr. Kossoris regarding the issue at hand.

"Filipino communities throughout the country are rallying to support Dr. Alona," said Abadesco. "This case directly attacks the integrity and the democratic rights of the Filipinos in this country." She also demanded that the charges be dropped.

Kossoris' response, however, was that the case "... is now in the hands of the court."



Alona Defense Committee members meet with the Ventura County District Attorney to press for the dropping of charges against Dr. Alona. (Alona Defense Committee)

## PETITIONS DEMAND JUSTICE

Petitions calling for the dropping of the charges against Dr. Alona were delivered to the D.A.'s office. The petitions contained over 2,000 signatures. In addition, hundreds of letters and telegrams were sent to the D.A.'s office demanding that the

charges be dropped.

The Alona trial was scheduled to begin Sept. 24, however it was postponed to Oct. 3, 1979 when jury selection begins. Opening statements

from the defense and the prosecution start Oct. 5 and members of the Filipino community and other concerned people throughout California are expected to attend the hearing.

For more information call: Maria Abadesco (805) 488-8545; Emy Alona (805) 488-0665; Cyril Cabison (213) 463-6200; or Jaime Geaga (213) 613-1519. □

## Nurses Licensing Exam Invalidated



San Diego forum discusses problems of foreign nurse graduates. FNGs are accused of cheating in recent licensure exams. (AK)

On September 15, the New York Education Department invalidated the results of the nationwide State Board licensure examination for registered nurses. The department charged that the exams taken by 12,000 state applicants last summer, involved cheating.

For the 12,000 who took the test in New York, it means taking the test again before they can be licensed, while the rest of the 100,000 people who took the test around the country will not be licensed in New York.

Investigations around the alleged cheating began in mid-July when the state received letters saying that copies of the entire test had been available for \$300 to \$2,000. Some 26 letters about the test leakage were received from nursing candidates in several cities, including New York, Chicago, Detroit and Philadelphia. After receiving the letters, the state checked the results of the test against several statistical data. In a Sept. 16 *New York Times* article, Thomas

Sheldon, Coordinator of Professional Education for the Education Department said: "The figures indicated something untoward has happened." He bared that far more people passed than in previous nursing examinations and individuals who failed the test before by scoring 350 on a 850-point test suddenly showed improvement of 200 to 400.

Among foreign trained nurses about 70 percent failed the test, whereas 85-90 percent usually failed, Sheldon continued. He added that American trained nurses usually have a failure rate of 12 percent and shifts are not easily detectable.

On the other hand, Helen Mellet, a member of the New York State Board for Nursing, expressed concern that incompetent nurses might be licensed if they did not cancel the exam intended for the minimum competency in nursing.

The cheating allegation is now under investigation. (See AK editorial, page 2.) □

## NATIONWIDE PICKETS TO PROTEST CGFNS

Nationwide pickets to protest the CGFNS examinations are being launched by the National Alliance for Fair Licensure of Foreign Nurse Graduates (NAFL-FNG) on Oct. 3 in five cities where the examination will be administered: New York City, Chicago, Miami, Houston, and Los Angeles. Pickets will be held while the examinations are being administered at the testing site itself.

The NAFL-FNG, along with other groups and individuals, have protested the unconstitutionality and discriminatory effects of requiring foreign nurse graduates (FNGs) to pass the CGFNS exams in order to a) obtain an H-1 visa; b) take the State Board Licensure exam; and c) obtain a work certificate from the Department of Labor. All foreign-trained nurses, both permanent residents and those on H-1 visas, are affected by these new rulings.

The issues against the CGFNS examination revolve around two major points: (1) That *private professional bodies* such as the American Nursing Association and the National League for Nursing, have rallied federal and state agencies (Immigration and Naturalization Service, State Boards

of Nursing, Department of Labor, and the Department of Health Education, and Welfare) to issue government policies that prevent the entry of foreign nurses into the U.S. nursing profession; and (2) That passing the CGFNS exam is no guarantee to the foreign nurse graduate that he/she can pass the State Board licensure examination. Contrary to the claims of the ANA, there is no proof that passage of the CGFNS exam would "provide a reasonable index" for the FNG's capacity to pass the licensure examination. The creation of a new examination, in effect, deflects public attention from the real root of the problem: the high percentage (87 percent) of failure by foreign nurse graduates from the State Board licensure examination.

Exact times and the site of these pickets in each of the cities will be announced by the local NAFL-FNG chapters. For further information on the pickets, contact local NAFL-FNG chapters:

New York City: (212) 672-8203 or 424-5181.

Chicago: (312) 989-4566

Los Angeles: (213) 613-1520

Miami: (305) 253-3646

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# Bataan News Can't Hide the Truth!

By CYNTHIA BONTA — KDP Sacramento Chapter

Sacramento — As part of the annual nationwide Sept. 22 protests against martial law in the Philippines, the Anti-Martial Law Alliance and the KDP here picketed the office of *Bataan News*, local self-proclaimed representative of the martial law regime.

As expected, our protest was bitterly attacked by its publisher, Leonilo Malabed, in his column of the newspaper. In his Sept. 21 issue, Malabed wrote:

"For some time now, leftist elements in the Filipino community have mounted a black propaganda campaign against this newspaper and this publisher. These elements are a small, ineffective minority in the community and, if they have succeeded in achieving anything at all, it is only in creating so much noise. . ."

"These elements have been baiting us into mentioning them in our news stories, supposedly because their activities are legitimate community news, worthy of seeing print."

"On certain special occasions, . . . they make the rounds in the community distributing flyers containing the usual trash about the alleged violations of human rights in the Philippines, and other sins of omission and commission of the Philippine leadership against the Filipino people."

"Of course, no one has really taken these elements seriously. Certainly not this newspaper and this publisher."

Well, Mr. Malabed, human rights violations in the Philippines is a serious matter. It is a known international fact, well documented by prestigious Philippine and international groups. Even the U.S. State Department has admitted this. It is only you and a handful of other naive pro-Marcos forces that have not faced this political reality.

And if anyone is in the "small ineffective minority in the community," it is those people who support the Marcos martial-law dictatorship. The anti-martial law movement continues to grow; every month thousands of Filipinos are reached through our leaflets, house

## award...

Continued from page 1  
discriminated against in 1973.

Mrs. Fajardo hoped that everything would work out well. She was very encouraged because now she could prove that she was as qualified as any American-trained school teacher. But what was ahead of her was a can of worms. Students questioned her competence and circulated petitions to remove her. Parents and school administrators began observing her classes almost daily, making notes of every "mistake" she made. The situation progressively worsened as memorandums were hurled at her charging her with incompetence.

At the end of almost 10 weeks, she finally decided to take a leave of absence when her doctor strongly advised that she do so for her personal health.

At the time Mrs. Fajardo saw Madge Bello of the ALC, she was already on leave of absence from Fremont Unified School. Madge felt that Mrs. Fajardo was out of work through no fault of her own. But Mrs. Fajardo could not collect unemployment insurance benefits because she was not eligible for employment, which was a precondition for collect-

**President Carter has proclaimed the first week in May as Asian Pacific Heritage Week. Varied activities are set May 4 to 10.**

**Mother's Day**  
May 13  
P.S. Mom, we love you.

**Windsurfing: This sport is going with the wind**  
Page 9

38th Year - No. 8  
May 8-17, 1979  
35 cents

## Bataan News

A Journal of National Distribution Among Filipinos in America  
Sacramento, California

**May 7 election all set**

*Bataan News Services*  
The 1979 election for the Philippine National Assembly is set for May 7. The election will be held in the Philippines and will be the first since the 1973 election. The election will be held in the Philippines and will be the first since the 1973 election. The election will be held in the Philippines and will be the first since the 1973 election.

**8,000 war veterans in RP to get additional benefits**

*Bataan News Services*  
The Philippine government has announced that it will provide additional benefits to 8,000 war veterans. The benefits will include medical care, education, and other services. The government has announced that it will provide additional benefits to 8,000 war veterans. The benefits will include medical care, education, and other services.

**\$527-M set for pension adjustments**

*Bataan News Services*  
The Philippine government has announced that it will set aside \$527 million for pension adjustments. The adjustments will be made to the pension plans of government employees. The government has announced that it will set aside \$527 million for pension adjustments. The adjustments will be made to the pension plans of government employees.

**Briefing the news**

*Bataan News Services*  
Yank pilot, trainee die  
P4-million fire hits Baguio  
Typhoon toll: 29 dead  
Damaged plane reaches SF

**Who'll be next Chief Justice?**

*Bataan News Services*  
The Philippine government is expected to announce the name of the next Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. The current Chief Justice is Andres Bono. The government is expected to announce the name of the next Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. The current Chief Justice is Andres Bono.

**RP also reels; FM acts on oil, food prices**

*Bataan News Services*  
The Philippine government has announced that it will take action on oil and food prices. The government has announced that it will take action on oil and food prices. The government has announced that it will take action on oil and food prices.

**UNCTAD confab**

*Bataan News Services*  
The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is holding a conference in Manila. The conference will discuss trade and development issues. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is holding a conference in Manila. The conference will discuss trade and development issues.

**UFO is sighted in Negros**

*Bataan News Services*  
A unidentified flying object (UFO) was sighted in Negros, Philippines. The sighting was reported by several witnesses. The unidentified flying object (UFO) was sighted in Negros, Philippines. The sighting was reported by several witnesses.

**Humor a la carte**

*Bataan News Services*  
A collection of humorous stories and cartoons is available. The collection includes stories about everyday life and political events. A collection of humorous stories and cartoons is available. The collection includes stories about everyday life and political events.

*Bataan News*, a rabidly pro-Marcos mouthpiece recently launched an attack against the anti-martial law movement.

visits and educational forums. And every Christmas, thousands of dollars are generously given by the Filipino community to support the struggle back home. All these sacrifices —

ing UI benefits. Fremont Unified School did not pay into State Disability Insurance Fund (SDI), thus Mrs. Fajardo could not collect SDI benefits. The only recourse was to claim disability caused by her job. A workers' compensation claim was filed in May 1978.

Workers' Compensation procedure requires that claims be examined by doctors hired by Workers' Compensation Fund (WCF) before any award can be made. Mrs. Fajardo went through a rigorous examination and was discouraged. She told Madge at that point she wanted to forget the claims. She said she did not want to go through another medical exam. But with encouragement from Madge she decided to see the second doctor. As a result, WCF found that she was indeed "injured" by her job because of harassment. WCF awarded her a weekly payment from March through September when she was out of work.

Because the medical reports indicated that her injury was essentially permanent and stable "due to her emotional state (agitated depression)," WCF made an offer to compensate her \$27,500. Vicky Chin, the consulting attorney from the Asian Law Caucus assessed the offer as "reasonable," and suggested that Mrs. Fajardo accept the offer.

time, money and effort — are given freely out of people's political convictions. This is not "so much noise," but effective political action that has affected public opinion, both here and

## We Don't Just Report The News... We Help Make It.



internationally.

But on the other hand, the only vocal, organized support for martial law comes from the Philippine Consulate and other rabidly pro-Marcos forces. For more than 20 years, the *Bataan News* was a short, irregularly published tabloid. Its former publisher and editor, Mr. Jacaban, was politically conservative and held a pro-Marcos position reflected in his newspaper. But when Malabed took over a few years ago, "New Society" propaganda filled its pages and its format, professionalism and circulation drastically changed. Everybody here in Sacramento knows that these "overnight" changes in the *Bataan News* did not come from the strong base of support for this newspaper, but suspected that Marcos' money was behind its new publisher.

That is why the anti-martial law forces here have targetted the *Bataan News*, and we make no apologies for it. This is not a personal vendetta, but a political action with the purpose of countering the lies and distortions that are perpetuated by the *Bataan News*.

Malabed, himself, says that "We are proud to be a medium of informing our kababayans here of the exciting events and changes taking place in the Philippines." He goes further to advise his readers "to just ignore the horror stories being peddled by these remote control revolutionaries."

While Malabed makes no qualms about his reactionary position, we similarly make no bones about our intention to continue to criticize this propaganda mouthpiece in the Filipino community. In fact, we are resolute to step up our organizing efforts to tell the truth about the fascist dictatorship in the Philippines.

As long as Malabed and the *Bataan News* continues to perpetuate lies, we will continue our counter efforts. No amount of name-calling and anti-communist red-baiting will deter the anti-martial law movement. Malabed's support for the repressive Marcos dictatorship has doomed him to political isolation in the Filipino community. □

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DOMESTIC / INTERNATIONAL NEWS

# 200,000 Rally Against Nuclear Power

In the largest anti-nuclear protest to date, an estimated 200,000 people gathered in New York City's Battery Park September 23 to denounce nuclear power.

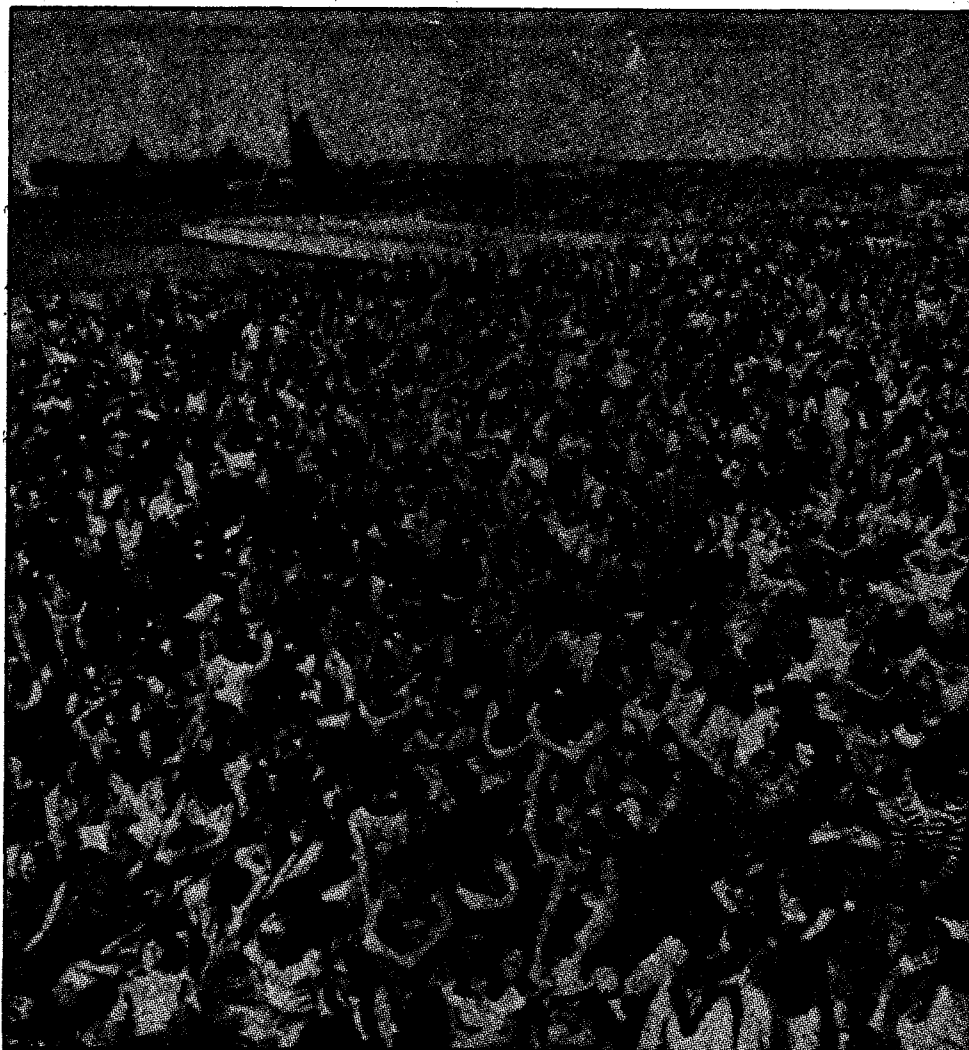
Demanding the phasing out and eventual shutdown of all nuclear power plants, tens of thousands of people came by bus, car and railways from throughout the East Coast. The huge demonstration far surpassed the May anti-nuclear demonstration in Washington, DC, and reflected the growing national concern about the safety of the country's nuclear industry.

Addressing the huge gathering were numerous scientists, consumer advocates and social activists, including Ralph Nader, actress Jane Fonda, Gray Panthers leader Margaret Kuhn, Dr. Barry Commoner, and Dr. John Gofman. The peaceful rally also heard music performed by Pete Seeger, Tom Paxton, Jackson Browne, Graham Nash and Gil Scott-Heron.

Fueling the nation's anti-nuclear sentiment has been the growing revelations of safety violations and health hazards posed by the industry, especially in light of the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident earlier this year. Spokespersons for the Sept. 23 rally stressed that continued reliance on nuclear power was unsafe, and that existing plants could be phased out with little impact on the nation's economy.

"Because of the unreliability of nuclear plants and inaccurate demand projections, today we have an excess generating capacity of about 33 percent, which is much higher than the normal safety margin of 15 to 20 percent," asserted environmentalist Barry Commoner.

"Nuclear power accounts for only 13 percent of our electricity and less than 4 percent of our total energy," said Commoner. "We could rapidly phase out nuclear plants by drawing on this excess capacity, implementing conservation measures and by speed-



Over 200,000 people rallied against nuclear power in New York City's Battery Park, September 23.

ing up development of alternative energy sources for the future."

Anti-nuclear protests are slated for the next month, with a major spring demonstration occurring in Washington, DC on April 26, 1980. According to the Guardian newspaper, the upcoming actions include the following:

- Oct. 6, Seabrook, New Hampshire. The Coalition for Direct Action at Seabrook will attempt to stop construction at the New Hampshire plant with a nonviolent occupation. The action is endorsed by the Clamshell Alliance. Contact 617-661-6204.

- Oct. 7, Long Island. The SHAD Alliance will conduct a rally outside the Federal Building in Happaug, Long Island (New York) to protest the construction of the Shoreham plant. Contact: 212-475-4539.

- Oct. 13, Washington, DC. Women Strike for Peace will hold a rally to end the arms race against nuclear power at the White House, in conjunction with the International Year of the Child. Special activities for children will take place across the street at Lafayette Park. Contact: 212-254-1970.

- Oct. 27, New York City. New York Mobilization for Survival and Women Make Movies will present a benefit concert at Symphony Space. Featured are Bernice Reagon's folk songs of protest and Suni Paz's Latin folk tunes. Contact: 212-989-6615.

- Oct. 28-29, Washington, DC. The Mobilization for Survival (MFS) will present a teach-in and conduct civil disobedience at the DOE. A legal rally will also take place. The demands include a nuclear moratorium now. Contact: 202-386-4875.

- Oct. 29, New York City. The SHAD Alliance will conduct civil disobedience and a legal rally on Wall Street in New York City — on the 50th anniversary of the stock market crash. The theme: "If Wall St. won't shut down the nuclear industry — the anti-nuclear movement will shut down Wall St." Contact: 212-475-4539.

- Nov. 10, New York City. New York Mobilization for Survival and Women Make Movies will cosponsor a benefit concert at McMillan Theater featuring Alive, the women's jazz band, and Edwina Lee Tyler, performing percussion and dance. Contact: 212-989-6615.

- Dec. 7-9, Kentucky. The National MFS will conduct the third National MFS Conference in Louisville, Ky. Contact: 215-386-4875.

- Dec. 14, New York City. Singer Holly Near will present a benefit concert for NY MFS at the Beacon Theater under the theme "Holly Near for a Nuclear Free Future." It is part of a 26-city tour for the benefit of antinuke groups. Contact: 212-989-6615.

April 26, 1980, Washington, DC. The April 26th Coalition, including the National MFS, will conduct a national "March for a Non-Nuclear World" in Washington, DC. Contact: 215-386-4875.

For further information about any of the above actions, contact the Guardian 212-691-0404 or MFS 215-386-4875. □

# Anti-Klan Network Formed

Norfolk, VA — A National Anti-Klan Network has been established by a broad range of human rights, civic, religious, and labor organizations to mount a nationwide campaign to counter the current resurgence of the Ku Klux Klan.

The Network grew out of a weekend conference on the Klan threat here in August. The conference was called by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) immediately following its annual convention. "We studied the Klan and we analyzed it," said the Rev. C.T. Vivian, SCLC acting Executive Director, "and we see it as a major threat to this country — not in its present numbers, which are still small, but in its potential. We intend to build a mass movement to stop it all across this nation."

Participants in the Norfolk conference came from 18 states and represented 30 organizations. They drew up plans to combat the Klan through legal action, political action and direct action, with special emphasis on reaching white young people who are now a prime target of Klan recruiters. The conference decided to establish the continuing Network and asked SCLC to coordi-



Anti-Klan march earlier this year in Decatur, Alabama.

nate it. SCLC will do so, with a headquarters in its main office, 334 Auburn Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30303.

A hotline has also been established, to which people across the country are being asked to report instances of Klan violence and resurgence. The

number is (404) 522-1420.

Those who attended the Norfolk conference were about equally divided black and white. They came from both North and South and from the East and West Coasts. They represented church groups, trade unions, women's groups, civil rights groups, and grass-

roots organizations in places like Decatur, Alabama, a center of fight-back against the Klan.

Speakers outlined the history of the Klan, its ideological roots, its current growth and efforts to create a so-called "new" image, its legal ramifications and moral implications. Participants then exchanged experiences from their communities and broke into small groups to develop action strategies.

In the area of direct action, the conference said the cooperating network organizations would make it a policy to confront the Klan wherever it appears with demonstrations, boycotts, sit-ins, and other forms of non-violent direct action. Participants pledged to respond to calls for nationwide support in particular trouble spots, and the Network will work toward a massive demonstration either in one selected area in the South, or through simultaneous actions across the country. In political action, the Network will call a major congressional investigation of Klan resurgence led by the Congressional Black Caucus; it is hoped that hearings will be held across the country,

(continued on page 10)

# Nicaragua Issues 'Bill of Rights'



Recent rally in Managua, Nicaragua. New Statute on Rights assures broad freedoms and responsibilities of the Nicaraguan masses.

Advancing the revolution which overthrew the Somoza dictatorship, Nicaragua's Government of National Reconstruction issued a significant document detailing broad democratic and social rights and responsibilities for the country's people.

Promulgated on Aug. 21, the Statute on the Rights of Nicaraguans establishes the basic democratic rights of free speech, assembly, due process and belief. However, the new Statute also addresses basic social, economic and cultural conditions which will guarantee the "direct participation of the people in the basic affairs of the country, both on a national and a local level."

Full and productive employment is recognized as a basic "right and responsibility of the individual. . ." and it is "the duty of the state to obtain full and productive employment for all Nicaraguans. . . under conditions which guarantee the fundamental rights of the human person." Equal pay for equal work is recognized, outlawing any discrimination due to sex. Guarantees for "health and safety on the job," as well as decent wages, job advancement, leisure time and paid holidays are stipulated.

Advancing the social rights of Nicaraguans, the new Statute guarantees the right to "establish and promote popular, communal, neighborhood, rural and other organiza-

tions." Labor unions are guaranteed, as is the worker's right to strike. Significantly, the new law recognizes every person's "right to social security; to gain satisfaction of the indispensable rights to dignity and to the full development of the personality, to an adequate standard of living. . . which assures health, well-being—in particular food, clothing, shelter, medical assistance and necessary social services. . ."

## EQUALITY OF SEXES

Marriage is recognized as a "voluntary agreement of the woman and the man. In family relations there exists absolute equality of rights and responsibilities between man and woman." Children have rights "without discrimination, to the means of protection that their condition as a minor requires. . ." Children and adolescents are "protected against any kind of economic or social exploitation." Guarantees for working mothers, including child care and pregnancy leave with pay, are made.

The new government also "recognizes the fundamental right of Nicaraguans to be protected against hunger." The new Statute calls for the establishment of programs for infant nutrition, nutritional education and the eradication of chronic malnutrition. A reduction in infant mortality is mandated and programs to promote "the highest levels of physical and

mental health" are called for.

The right to an education is protected, and the document notes that "Primary and secondary instruction shall be free, obligatory and accessible to all." The new regime recognizes its duty "to guarantee meals at school, clothing, shoes, school supplies and school books for all children who need them." New educational institutions are called for, and the "training of teachers for secondary education shall also be a priority task of the state.

The Statute recognizes that under the Somoza dictatorship, the "systematic disregard for the fundamental rights of the Nicaraguan people . . . led to acts of barbarianism which outraged the conscience of humanity. . ." In the present period, "the basis for freedom, justice and peace lies in the recognition and affirmation of fundamental human rights both individual and collective, for which it is essential that these rights be protected by the revolutionary government."

In this respect, the state "shall have an obligation to adopt necessary measures for the preservation, development, and dissemination of science and culture, which should be oriented toward the full development of the human personality and its sense of dignity, the strengthening of respect for human rights, and the transformation of Nicaraguan society."

While affirming many of the basic rights of the Nicaraguan people, the document is also significant in what it outlaws. Any "discrimination on the basis of birth, race, color, sex, language, religion, opinion, origin, economic position or any other social condition" is prohibited. While recognizing the right to information, "any propaganda against peace, and any apology for national, racial, or religious intolerance is prohibited."

Also notable is that property rights are addressed very broadly. The Statute states that property, "whether individual or collective, fulfills a social function. It may therefore be subject to restrictions in regard to ownership, benefit, use, and disposition, for reasons of security, public interest or utility, social interest, the national economy, national emergency or disaster, or for purposes of agrarian reform."

Emerging from a devastating war which claimed over 10,000 lives and created over 600,000 refugees, the new Government of National Reconstruction has embarked on an ambitious path towards transforming Nicaragua into a country ruled by its people. The rights and responsibilities recognized in the new Statute are thus the fruit of the Nicaraguan struggle to oust the Somoza dictatorship, and implementing the new law will be the new and formidable task facing the country's people. □

## Anti-Klan Network...

(continued from page 9)

and the Network will organize victims of Klan activity as witnesses.

Organizations participating in the Network will also confront all local and state governing bodies to demand that they take an official position against the Klan, and will reach out to every possible civic, political, and church organization and trade unions asking them to take public actions against the Klan. It will also organize local and regional conferences of concerned people, and focus attention on Klan infiltration among prison guards and police departments.

### LEGAL ACTION

On the legal front, the Network is asking the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York, which had representatives at the conference, to file a massive lawsuit against the Klan based on 1866 and 1867 anti-Klan

laws. The suit would be supported by affidavits about Klan terrorist activity from across the country.

The conference also discussed other legal strategies, such as damage suits by Klan victims and defense of persons arrested for opposing the Klan, and planned a "brief bank" to assist local lawyers handling cases against the Klan, a booklet on legal techniques, and a tour by knowledgeable lawyers. The Network also called on concerned people everywhere to give a further thought and discussion to the question of so-called First Amendment Rights for Klan members in view of international law against genocide and racist propaganda.

Among the speakers at the conference was James D. McNamara, Columbus, Ohio attorney, who has handled many legal actions against the Klan.

He read from current Klan liter-

ature which openly calls for murder and genocide and argued that such speech is not covered by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Anne Braden, co-chairperson of the Southern Organizing Committee for Economic & Social Justice (SOC), spoke on the Klan ideology and said its current line is precisely the same as the line being put forward by millions of people who consider the Klan too "unrespectable" to join. This line is the myth of so-called "reverse discrimination."

"They're saying they are not against black people, they just want to keep white people from being discriminated against," she said, "We've got to attack that kind of thinking. We've got to show the white people of this country that gains by black people do not hurt them—that, on the contrary, every step forward by blacks actually broadens rights for everybody, especially poor and working white people."

Conference participants included

some people who represented two generations of Klan victimization. One black man from Virginia told how his cousin was lynched when he was a child long ago. A trade unionist from Atlanta who is fighting efforts of the Klan and his company to destroy his union in East Point, Ga., told of growing up in that town near Atlanta 50 years ago and watching as Klansmen beat a black man mercilessly on the street.

Summing up the conference findings, the Rev. Vivian said: "We have exposed the myth that the Klan is simply a harmless fringe group of psychopathic individuals. It is a dangerous organization that is drawing on this country's racist tradition to pull frustrated and confused white people into a vicious, violent, terrorist group that could become the storm troopers of America. The mass movement we intend to build will not only confront the Klan as an organization, but the Klan mentality, the racist mentality that allows the Klan to grow." □

# Palau Struggle Exposes U.S. Colonialism

Palau, with 14,000 inhabitants, is part of the Micronesia island region. Located southwest of Guam, it is only some 500 miles east of Davao City in the Philippines. Today, the people of Palau are struggling against an unequal, colonial relationship with the United States.

Part of the Micronesian "strategic trust" set up by the United Nations in 1947, just after World War II, Palau is administered by the U.S., which overrides all political decisions.

In a recent visit to Hawaii, Singitz Singeo of Palau talked with the *Ang Katipunan* about the conditions and concerns of his country. Singeo, who had attended the University of Hawaii, is a member of the People's Committee, a Palauan political group, and works for the Department of Political Affairs in Palau.

According to Singeo, the "ulterior motives" of the U.S. are a great concern to Palauans. "It seems the U.S. has pressured the people of Palau, through their leaders, to make allowances for the security of the U.S. The ambassador's report clearly indicates that the U.S. will have to take over the islands, no matter what, as long as it is for the national security of the U.S."

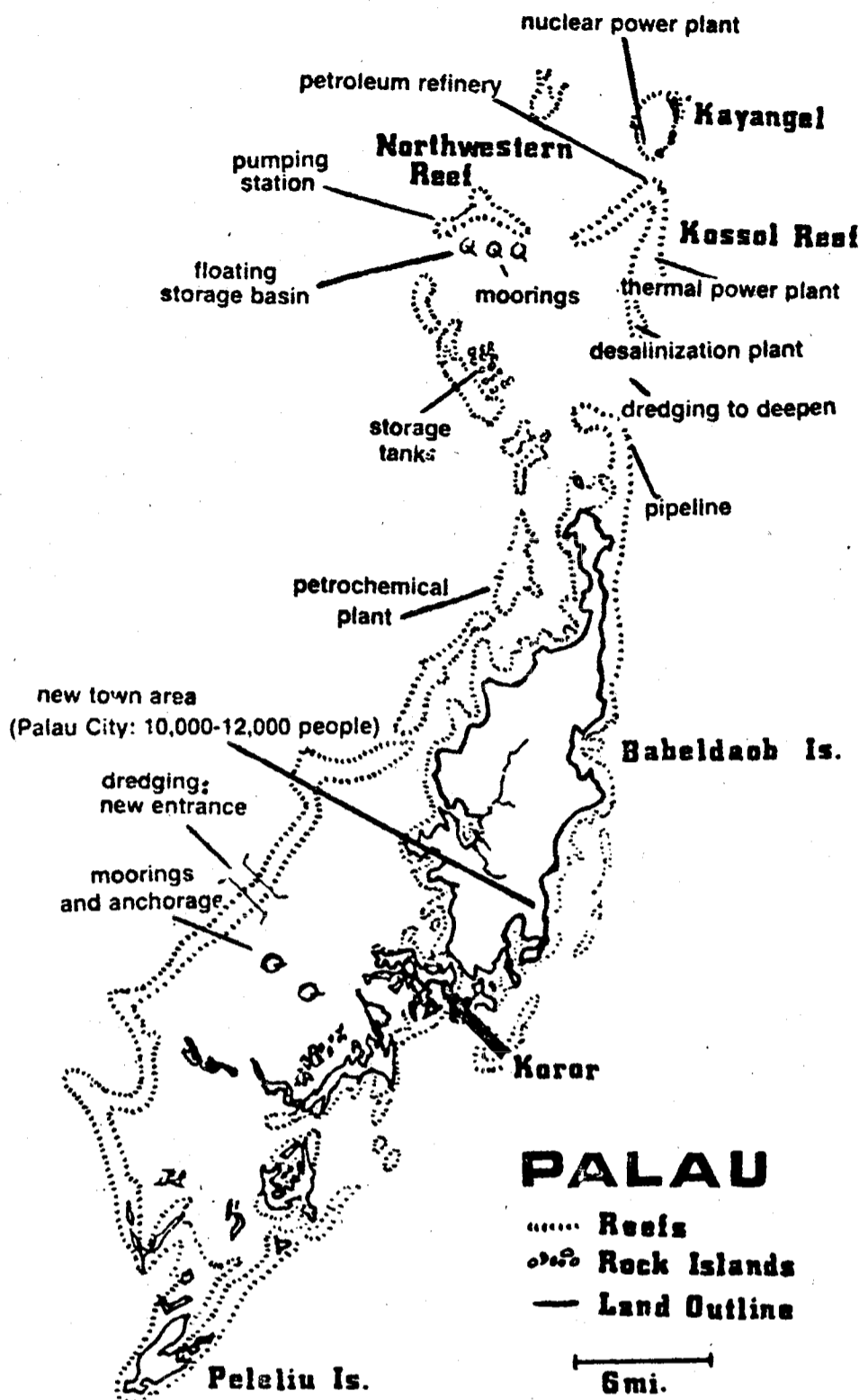
The U.S. views Palau as an important part of its military and economic interest in the Asia-Pacific area. Micronesia has already been extensively used for nuclear weapons tests, naval and air bases, missile testing, germ warfare experimentation, and CIA training bases.

Three major U.S. oil companies have already secured permission to drill for oil in the waters around Palau. The island is located in the same continental shelf as the Mindanao coast, where major oil discoveries have been made.

The U.S. Department of the Interior has control over all decisions affecting Palau, including those made by the democratically elected Palau legislature. A High Commissioner for the trust territory, who is appointed by the U.S. president, also has veto power over the Legislature. The District Administrator of Palau and the judiciary are also U.S.-appointed.

Since 1969, negotiations between the Congress of Micronesia and the U.S. have been conducted regarding the political status of the region. Although the U.S. had previously taken a position of maintaining a united Micronesia, in late 1978, the U.S. began moves to divide the area. In the 1976, the Marianas, one of the major island groups, became a Commonwealth of the U.S., the first trust territory so acquired in more than 50 years.

Palau, however, pressed to have



separate negotiations with the U.S. over its status. During February and March, 1979, a Constitutional Convention was held in Palau as an initial step towards creating an "equal" political status. A draft Constitution was ratified last July 9 by 92 percent of the registered voters.

However, the Legislature, with prodding from the U.S., passed a bill which effectively killed the referendum ratifying the draft. A Legislative Committee then formed to propose several major revisions in the original draft which will greatly enhance U.S. military and economic dominance of Palau.

Singeo said the People's Committee has also filed an appeal in U.S. federal court to challenge the legislature's

action against the July 9 referendum.

According to Singeo, there are three major changes from the original draft. Under the revised provisions:

1. The U.S. will have free access to Palau ports, where transports carrying nuclear materials and waste products can dock. Japan has already moved to construct a major, \$1.8 billion "superport" there. It will be used to transfer oil, a dangerous operation, from large Mideast super-tankers to smaller ones which can easily enter Japanese ports;

2. The power of eminent domain will be given to the new government. Already, a proposal has been circulated that the U.S. will seek 28

percent of the land on Palau for military purposes. U.S. military presence would help provide security for the new superport.

Eminent domain will give the government the right to seize that property which is now owned by individual clans, for "public use." The sentence, "This power shall not be used for the benefit of a foreign entity," was deleted in the revised draft of the Constitution. According to Singeo, this power could likely pave the way for extensive bribery in order to gain access to the land;

3) The limit of the territorial waters was changed from 200 miles to only 12 miles. Most coastal countries claim a 200-mile limit. The change would give a free hand to the oil companies which have already made plans to drill for oil and minerals in the area.

A referendum on the revised draft Constitution will be held October 23 of this year. The People's Committee, a broad coalition of various sectors of the Palau population and including several politicians, is campaigning against the revised draft. Their main opposition is the obvious interests of the U.S. behind the changes, which they feel spells out continuing U.S. economic and military domination of Palau.

Aside from opposition to the revised draft, Palauans have also opposed the exploitative relations with U.S. companies. For example, workers have gone on strike against the Continental Hotel, owned by the airline company of the same name, to get a pay raise — including a minimum wage of \$1 an hour. Workers also demanded fair working agreements.

In Palau, some 80 percent of the population is unemployed and subsist on a day-to-day basis. For those who work, their pay is less than one-third of the U.S. pay scale. Government employees have a minimum wage of \$.81 an hour — and for private employees the minimum is only \$.60 an hour.

Singeo and other Palauans are seeking assistance from U.S. and Japan supporters, in particular. The population is very small and isolated from major population centers — although Palau can play a major role in the future of the U.S. and Japan. Singeo said that this time, educational assistance is needed to inform the U.S. public about the current and future intentions of the U.S. government and oil companies to exploit Palau.

More information may be obtained through the Micronesia Support Committee, 1212 University Ave., Honolulu, HI 96826. □

## 500 MILE ISLAND:

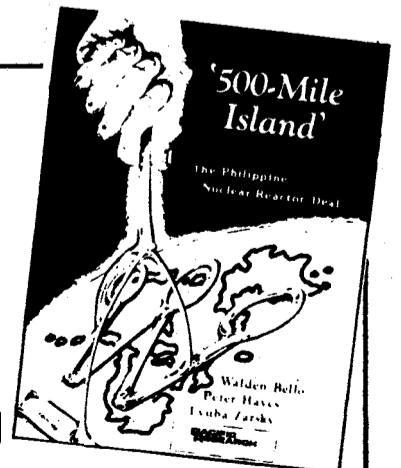
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# Complaints Of Military Abuse Widespread



Truckloads of military contingents are a commonplace sight in many southern provinces. Their presence strike fear among townfolk.

Reports of military atrocities from one end of the Philippines to another have overshadowed all other topics of discussion in recent weeks both within and outside of the country.

Archbishop Antonio Mabutias voiced strong charges in a letter to Marcos citing killings, illegal arrests, and tortures of civilians.

Monsignor Mabutias further related

the case of an American Maryknoll priest who was rudely manhandled by a team of Philippine Constabulary men. Fr. Stephen Morgan, who used to minister political detainees, was accosted by the PC soldiers, and as they led him to a vacant area, the PC team head cursed him with profanities, and cocked a gun on him, but did not shoot.

From Northern Samar, Bishop Hobayan led 20 other priests in appealing to "the powers that be" to restore the credibility of government. They reported that since the escalating of the military presence in Samar, the people have become more fearful. The experience of military sadism and torture, they insisted, accounts for this widespread fear. Due to military abuses, they revealed, 34,000 persons have been displaced and are now scattered in evacuation centers. Most of them are poor farmers.

"We earnestly ask the military and civil authorities to institute punitive actions against the violators of justice and human rights," urged Bishop Hobayan and the group of priests. "We call on the civil authorities to give due process and speedy trial to political detainees and to those victims of arbitrary arrests and imprisonment. We plead with you to stop tortures and summary killings."

## FORCED TO DIG OWN GRAVES

Bishop Bienvenido Tudtud of Lanao del Sur charged that the army soldiers had roughed up two altar boys and shaken two teachers at gunpoint after raiding the parish convent and San Isidro High School in Balabagan, Lanao del Sur in a letter to the Minister of Defense.

A gruesome story was relayed by Bishop Federico Escaler, also from the South. Two lay persons, he revealed, were detained and tortured by the military. One of them was asked to dig his grave.

Cesar Climaco, former mayor of Zamboanga City, reported an even more ghastly tale. In this case, seven men were detained by the military. Later, they were told they could go home. But six of the men were discovered some time later, buried in shallow graves near their place of detention.

## DEMORALIZED BUTCHERS

The fact that the Church has become so outspoken in revealing grievances against the military is indicative both of the heightened scale of abuse committed and the fact that the clergy has itself become a target. The majority of the victims, however, are civilians arbitrarily arrested by military units who must fill weekly quotas of captured members of the New People's Army.

In a lame effort to diffuse intensifying antagonisms between the Church and government and simmer down talks of military abuses, Marcos has taken a number of widely publicized steps. He has instructed Armed Forces Commanders to be sure of their evidence prior to making any arrests. He has ordered Defense Minister Enrile to form a seven-man special defense military committee to investigate reports of military excesses. And General Romeo Espino, Armed Forces Chief of Staff, ordered the review of programs and policies on rank and file morale upon President Marcos' directions.

No longer able to disguise the extent of atrocities committed against the Filipino people, Defense Deputy Minister Carmelo Barbero finally acknowledged last month that the military does overreact and kill civilians. This outrageous behavior is excused, however, by the lame explanation that "communist terrorists" provoke the military to torture and murder civilians.

Meanwhile, even authorities are forced to admit to demoralization among military ranks.

Cloaking it under the high-falutin, psychological title "uncommendable behavioral manifestations," it boils down to the same old thing: the dehumanization which allows soldiers to butcher and brutalize their countrymen. □

## THE RESISTANCE ABROAD

### U.S. Role in Mindanao Exposed

A recent visitor to Mindanao uncovered various instances of secret U.S. military support for Marcos. In a Sept. 14 forum sponsored by the Friends of the Filipino People, Dr. Aijaz Ahmad cited reports from local residents that U.S. pilots were spotted flying missions in support of Marcos' military, and that over 1,000 Green Berets were once deployed in the South. A Philippine Army officer bragged to him that the U.S. Navy was providing logistical support by monitoring MNLF activity on the Sulu coast.

Dr. Ahmad, a Pakistani scholar currently teaching at Rutgers University, delivered his report at an FFP sponsored forum: "Islam, Revolution and Reaction." He visited Mindanao a year ago as a member of an AMLC-FFP investigating team.

In addition to analyzing the various political currents in the Islam world, he also related his experiences and analysis of the situation in Mindanao and the MNLF. A lively question and answer period ensued when Dr. Ahmad expressed favor for the now-deposed Taraki regime in Afghanistan. The fundamentalist and right-

By STEVE WAKE

The word from Congress this year is not only that aid cuts to Marcos have no chance of passage, but that human rights concerns cannot even be raised, before the full House of Representatives.

It has been clear since the signing of the U.S.-Philippine Military Bases agreement that Congress will not challenge any amount of military aid to Marcos. In fact, by linking U.S.

wing Moslems who comprised one half of the audience of 80 objected vehemently as Taraki is one of the arch-enemies of these fundamentalists.

Moderator Steve Wake of the FFP National Office claimed that the forum was a "significant step toward filling a huge gap in the work of the FFP." He explained, "The war in the south has been raging for seven years and we have practically ignored it up to now. In response to Marcos' escalation of counterinsurgency operations this year." Wake added, "We will be sponsoring many more activities to warn the American people of the dangers and extent of U.S. involvement in the counterinsurgency against the MNLF and the NPA." □

## Congress Initiative Aborted

military assistance to the use of the bases, Pres. Carter has ensured that any attempt to cut aid will go down to a resounding defeat in a Congress shifting steadily to the right. Since such a defeat would only encourage Marcos to push ahead even more boldly with his plans to destroy his opposition, the AMLC-FFP Congress Task Force (CTF) changed its tactics to keep the issue of the Philippines alive in the Congressional conscience without proposing an aid cut.

During August, the CTF attempted to gain support for a relatively mild "Sense of the House of Representatives" resolution which merely stated that the \$75.7 million in military aid going to Marcos in FY 1980 "should not be used to violate the human rights of the Filipino people." The resolution also stated concern over the increased scale of Marcos' counterinsurgency operations in Mindanao, Montanosa, and Samar.

In a Congress where even traditionally liberal representatives are satisfied with the bases deal, it was somewhat surprising that the resolution was quite popular. CTF staffer, Walden Bello, explained that in the present period, "Congress is more than happy to express human

rights concerns as long as there is no real teeth to their initiatives."

Even though Congressional supporters of the resolution gave it a good chance of passing, it never reached the floor of the House. Pres. Carter pressured Rep. Clarence Long (D-MD), the floor manager of the foreign aid bill, not to allow issues of human rights to be raised at this stage of the legislative process. Carter claimed that Long's Foreign Operations Subcommittee was overstepping its authority and interfering with the powers of the Executive Branch to implement foreign policy. Long caved in to the pressure, and let the resolution's potential introducer, Steven Solarz (D-NY), know that he would immediately be ruled out of order if he tried to introduce the resolution. Since it would have been a waste of time to even raise the issue, the resolution died before it was even introduced, and with it died the last chance to raise human rights issues in Congress this year.

Frustrated with the Congressional inaction, CTF staffer Steve Wake lamented that "there can no longer be any doubt that we are entering into a new period in Congress — a period in which we will have to fight tooth and nail just to be heard." □