

Ang KATIPUNAN

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PLAZA MIRANDA, MANILA — Sen. John Osmena speaking before rally (50,000 people) opposing the Suspension of the Writ of Habeas Corpus on May 22, 1971. Holding up the Revised Penal Code, he denounced the anti-subversion act and asked the crowd: "Susunugin ba?" (Shall we burn it?) and received an overwhelming "Yes!" He ripped the book apart and tossed it into the crowd and it was burned.

Where are your principles and interest in the people's democratic rights now, John Osmena?

Editorial:

MARCOS PROPAGANDA BARRAGE

The Marcos government has stepped up its propaganda efforts in the U.S. in an attempt to gain sympathy and support from the Filipino communities around the country. Former opposition leaders, civic leaders, and even cultural troupes have been touring the country speaking highly of the "new society." But it is important for all Filipinos to know who they are and who they represent.

Mr. John Osmena, a former Senator in the opposition Liberal Party, is now touring the U.S. telling Filipino communities the martial law is good for the Philippines. Trying to retain his former "image" as a young, incorruptible leader, Osmena "sells" the "new society" like a so-called "objective" politician who has been convinced that martial law is good for the people.

Osmena is a member of the wealthy (sugar lands and other business interests) Osmena family; before martial law, they were recognized as a politically powerful family which opposed Marcos.

Osmena joined rallies in opposition to the suspension of the Writ of Habeas Corpus and deprivation of civil liberties (1971). But unlike Senators Diokno and Aquino, John Osmena has chosen to turn his back on the People and revolutionary cause he once rallied.

Marcos Spends Millions to Spread His Lies

Marcos is not only using former politicians to propagate his "new society" lies, but also cultural troupes such as the Bayanihan Philippine Dance Company. The Bayanihan is currently touring the country and in the middle of their performance is a "spot" for building up the martial law "new society."

In truth, Marcos' sugar-coated promises of land reform, peace and order and lower prices have backfired into the objective reality of the rice crisis, massive government corruption and the lawlessness and brutality of the mercenary AFP and PC.

"In the face of these failures, the Marcos regime has embarked on a massive propaganda campaign, spending millions of the people's money for newspapers, magazines and advertisements. It has appropriated P35-M to subsidize Filipinos going home so that they could be subjected to more propaganda." (Tambuli, Chicago NCRCLP)

Marcos is deluded into thinking that the

endless repetition of high-sounding slogans of "new society" and "peace and order" will win the people's support. That is why he has used his power and manipulated the reputation of the Bayanihan to propagate his lies in the Filipino communities here and in other countries.

These new waves of Marcos' propaganda are here in the U.S. to drum up support for his dictatorship because he has felt the growing strength of the anti-Marcos, anti-martial law sentiments of patriotic Filipinos overseas.

But Filipinos here in the U.S. have been neither intimidated nor brainwashed by the Marcos regime. Our protests against martial law have exposed the Marcos propaganda for what it is, the "clanging of an empty can."

Operation Balikbayan BALONEY!

Below is an account of a Filipino physician and his family, exposing the farce of "Operation Balikbayan" and his impressions of martial law during his trip to the Philippines for a vacation. For security reasons, we cannot disclose his identity.

"Operation Balikbayan" is part of a whole propaganda scheme of the Marcos regime to entice Filipinos abroad to come home to the Philippines and "witness all the changes that have occurred under martial law." Through this Marcos hopes to win their support for his regime, not to mention all the dollars he could earn from their back taxes and tourism.

—Ma. F.S.

Balikbayan: "Bola na, Baloney Pa!"

This American expression summed up the reaction of a visiting Filipino to the propaganda claims of the Marcos Martial Law Regime about the massive effort to bring Filipinos home from abroad—together with their coveted dollars.

The visitor, a physician residing on the West Coast, recounted how he and his family tried to take advantage of the "Balikbayan" scheme, only to be told in confidence, after several weeks of persistent inquiry, that the program could not possibly push through.

According to the regime's publicity campaign, Filipinos in the U.S. returning to the Philippines for a visit are entitled to a significant discount from Philippine Air Lines

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OIL SHORTAGE — RP PRICES ZOOM

Filipinos are experiencing harder times with the worsening oil shortage in the Philippines. U.S. oil corporations have cut the normal Philippine supply by 25% in order to force up prices. Beginning October 20, gasoline and other oil products were increased 15 centavos. Zooming prices on other prime commodities immediately followed.

For Filipinos, higher oil prices will mean:

1. A gasoline price boost as high as 1 peso per liter (3 times the cost of a year ago).

2. Gas rationing, which has already begun, will continue and higher public transportation costs are expected soon. Schools on all levels were already suspended for one week (November 12-18) in order to save on gas for public transportation.

3. There will be higher prices on many consumer items, such as rubber, synthetic fibers and plastics because their manufacture involves the use of oil.

4. Other basic foods will be subject to rationing in the same manner as rice. The National Media Production Center is now printing ration cards for at least 4 basic commodities including milk and sugar. This is partly because the higher costs of fuel have increased the costs of making goods available to the market.

Imelda Visits New York

see inside page 6 for full story



(above) NEW YORK—This demonstrator, dressed as Mrs. Imelda Marcos, was part of a picket of 40 Filipinos who greeted the real Mrs. Marcos when she visited here on Nov. 14. The President's wife was here to attend her daughter's (Imee) top-secret debut being given her by Mrs. Christina Ford.

Ang Katipunan
P.O. Box 23644
Oakland, California 94623

FRANCISCO
BULK RATE

ANDRES BONIFACIO

The original monument to hero Andres Bonifacio depicting the historical 1896 Cry of Pugadlawin, when the Katipunan declared war against Spain.

This statue is located in front of the Vinzons Hall, U. of Philippines, the center of student activism. Today, national democratic youth have implemented this call in our final struggle for genuine independence.

SERVE THE PEOPLE



Katipunan stood on the principle that revolutionary change will only come through the force of arms and the active support of the Filipino people.

Andres Bonifacio was a humble man, good at recognizing the talents of others and tolerant in all matters except those where the success or failure of the cause of Philippine freedom was at stake. At such times, he was decisive, displaying a single-minded devotion to the Katipunan.

In 1896 when the Spanish discovered the existence of the Katipunan, it was Bonifacio who called an emergency assembly, attended by 500 Katipuneros. He encouraged people not to be afraid and to begin the revolution. He said, "Bring out your cedula (I.D. cards issued to Filipinos by the Spanish government) and tear them to pieces to symbolize our determination to take up arms!" Everyone did so, shouting, "Long Live the Philippines!" This event has since come to be known as the Cry of Pugadlawin (Aug. 23, 1896).

The betrayal and death of Bonifacio was at the same time the betrayal of the Philippine revolution. It marked the beginning of a trend where the leadership of the movement was transferred into the hands of the elite class, the "illustrados." Because of this, the movement began to lose touch with the masses of Filipinos.

At the Tejeros Convention, Andres Bonifacio was barred from gaining a cabinet position in the revolutionary government because he was not a lawyer! When he rebelled at such "illustrado" arrogance, they had him executed (May 10, 1897). As another patriot rightfully said of this tragic incident, "The death of Bonifacio constituted the first triumph of personal ambition over true patriotism."

In difficult times like the present it is important that we uphold Bonifacio's memory to inspire us to continue the struggle. The centuries-old desire of the Filipino people for genuine independence and freedom is still to be realized! Today, the country is still dominated economically, politically and militarily by U.S. imperialism, and the Marcos dictatorship has stripped away all of the basic freedoms!

In honoring Andres Bonifacio Day we are commemorating the spirit of the Filipino people to fight for basic revolutionary change, and not be forever satisfied with "promises" for reforms. We commemorate the people's determination to fight, armed with weapons and their understanding that tyranny will never go away through begging or mere words. We commemorate the heroic spirit, displayed by Bonifacio, to be willing to fight, long and hard, against incredible odds when the cause is a right one — freedom and independence. Mabuhay si Andres Bonifacio!

Operation Balikbayan...

continued from front page

From Sept. 1, 1973 to Feb. 28, 1974, it was said, these Filipinos would be charged only \$425 round trip ticket from San Francisco to Manila and back. The usual fare is \$1,054.

Eager to see their families again, the physician and his wife made plans to spend a month in the Philippines, bringing their two children. The physician applied for a vacation leave, way ahead of time to be sure he could go. But on Sept. 1, the PAL office in their city said "Balikbayan" had been delayed, and asked them to inquire again after a week. Numerous calls and visits later, it was admitted that there was no "Balikbayan" flights after all.

The American Civil Aeronautics Board reportedly told PAL that their air fares could not be changed on mere orders of President Marcos, as the fares are subject to international agreements.

Because his vacation leave cannot be cancelled anymore, the physician decided to go anyway. Joining a group tour, the family discovered that had they taken the "Balikbayan" flight, they would have actually paid more.

Wishing to avoid a fuss over two suitcases of "pasalubong" (gifts), the family opted to get the "mabuhay" program, which promised to whisk them through customs. They soon found out that the "Mabuhay" program was just as phony as "Balikbayan." They were charged \$64 of about P450, in "service fees," allegedly for the trouble of carting their luggage from the airport.

Honest Impressions of Martial Law

"Tahimik lang, ngunit galit at takot ang mga tao." (There is a pervading silence, quiet, but the people are afraid and angry.)

The couple cited friends who told them that corruption is still riding high in the government, although this is "centralized" with the military getting a big cut.

"My compadre does business in the province," the doctor said. "Whereas before his trucks could get by with one peso lagay, given to local policemen, now there are several PC checkpoints along the way."

Wherever they went the couple noted the rapidly growing number of slums, evidence that the basic problems of the people have not yet been solved. And everywhere their friends whispered the same reports of skyrocketing prices, the misery of the masses, and the abuses of high officials.

If these couples experiences were typical as it seems to be so — "Operation Balikbayan" will soon boomerang on the Marcos regime and Filipinos will come back, convinced that Martial Law is not good for the Philippines and does not serve the needs of the people. —

Editorial: FILIPINO PEOPLE'S HERO

Gaining a better understanding of Philippine history and a clearer sense of who are our national heroes, is one of the first steps in correcting the colonial miseducation that we have received. On November 30, we commemorate the birth of one of the foremost heroes of the Revolution against Spain, Andres Bonifacio.

Bonifacio was born in Tondo, Manila on November 30, 1863. He grew up in the slums under very hard conditions, having to shoulder much of the family burden after his father's early death. Throughout the 34 years of his life and activities he came to embody the determination of the Filipino people to be free and independent.

His constant struggle to make a living did not leave him with the means to continue his education. Nonetheless, he educated himself by reading at home. He read Rizal's two novels, as well as materials on the French Revolution. Shocked upon hearing of Rizal's deportation to Dapitan, Bonifacio called together the first meeting of the Katipunan (July 7, 1892).

The Katipunan was the first revolutionary organization of the Filipino nation; as such it distinguished itself from the past reformist movement led by Rizal. The Katipunan was a secret organization dedicated to the fundamental objectives of achieving complete Philippine independence from Spain; bringing the modern teachings of science to the people; and defending the masses of poor and oppressed Filipinos. From the beginning the

Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino

"Ang Katipunan" is the national newspaper of the Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino (KDP).

KDP is a mass organization based in the U.S. and is committed primarily to the struggle for the basic and long-term needs of the Filipino people, both in the Philippines and here in the Americas.

Because of this, KDP supports the struggle of the Filipino people against the Marcos dictatorship and pledges to help build a broad-based movement among Filipinos in the U.S. to oppose martial law.

However, KDP sees that the root cause of all the misery and poverty in the Philippines is the imperialist control, exercised principally

by the U.S., over the economy and politics of the country. The Filipino people can solve this basic problem only through long and difficult revolutionary struggle for a truly genuine democratic and independent Philippines.


Here in the U.S., KDP is committed to struggling for the democratic rights of the Filipino minority. Katipunan views the racial and national discrimination experienced by the Filipino people, as part of and stemming from, the monopoly capitalist system in the U.S. KDP members understand that the U.S. government is in fact, not democratic, but in the hands of a tiny minority of monopoly industrialists and bankers.

KDP sees that the people of the U.S. also

need fundamental, revolutionary change to solve the basic ills that plague American society. The Katipunan understands that the working class must firmly control the government before it can rightfully be termed a government "of the people and for the people."

KDP sees that greater numbers of Filipinos are coming to these same political understandings. KDP is an organization open to all who agree with our political programme. In addition, KDP is committed in working in close cooperation with all progressive Filipinos to build a strong Filipino people movement in America.

KDP has chapters in most major cities where there are Filipino communities. —

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Despite Martial Law:

PROTEST CONTINUES AT U.P.



BEFORE MARTIAL LAW... June 7-12, 1972 — A "Long March" was held in Central Luzon in which thousands of students, peasants and workers participated. The march passed through towns and

barrios where the activists would discuss with the people the basic problems of the Philippines and investigate their daily conditions.

From the late '60s to the First Quarter Storm (period of mass protest involving thousands of demonstrators) in the early '70s, most colleges and universities developed into strongholds of protest. In the forefront of this activism was the University of the Philippines.

From them flowed the progressive ideas and the thousand-strong demonstrations that challenged the decadent culture of the ruling classes and consistently exposed the lies and bankruptcy of the Marcos government.

When martial law was declared Marcos clamped down on all schools and arrested hundreds of teachers and students. Many of these students and teachers still languish in military jails to this day.

Academic freedom has been abolished and the educational institutions have turned into brainwashing centers to produce robots of the "new society." Military men have been planted in schools to check on any form of dissent. Some are even in administrative and teaching positions and yet one year of martial law has failed to quell the voice of militant protest at the University of the Philippines.

But protest actions and resistance literature against the Marcos martial law regime have persisted throughout the first semester. Marcos got so worried that he recently ordered his fellow alumni in the U.P. Vanguard (organization of former ROTC cadets) to stop the "surreptitious and clandestine activities."

Marcos Agents Swarm Campus

The U.P. Vanguard is headed by Brig. Gen. Fabian Ver, the chief of the Presidential Security Unit and the Presidential Guard Battalion. One of its key officers,

Hermenegildo Dumlaog, is the Metrocom liaison man based at U.P. who has been directing repressive measures against militant students, faculty, and non-academic personnel.

Throughout the first semester, intelligence agents of the Marcos regime — both in and out of uniform — swarmed on campus. Besides these military agents, the university's security force has been utilized for espionage and harassment activities.

Turning a Bad Thing Into a Good Thing

Despite the saturation of spies, periodic arrests of students and raids on the offices of faculty members, the U.P. campus is continuing protests in various forms. Resistance literature has been extensively distributed on campus, including *Bangon* and the *Philippine Rebel Collegian*.

Activities in August and September were particularly irritating to the Marcos regime. The "Linggo ng Wika" (National Language Week) observances, approved by the regime, turned out to be a vehicle for protest. This was a week long program of forums, skits, symposiums and other cultural presentations, extolling the contributions of revolutionary Filipino poets such as Amada V. Hernandez. The regime, with its cloak of phony nationalism, approved its observance thinking that the patriotic presentations would be harmless. However, the plays presented were given new interpretations exposing the "New Society" as a hoax and putting to light the oppressive character of the martial law regime.

Because of the enthusiastic response of the university community, and guests to the

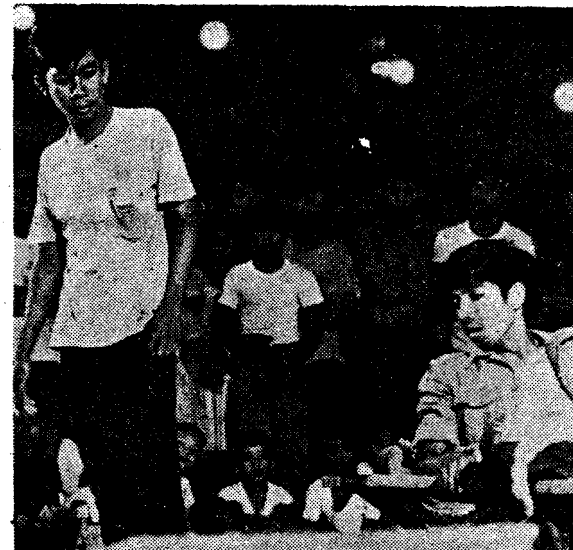
"Linggo ng Wika" presentations, the military reacted by arresting Dr. Ernesto Constantino of the Dept. of Filipino Language and Literature, and detained him in Camp Crame. Two other faculty members of the same department were subsequently picked up for interrogation for supposedly using "subversive materials" for teaching, all of which has been approved by the Dept. of Education and Culture.

Marcos Harassment Answered By More Militancy

On Sept. 11, Marcos' birthday, which was ordered as a virtual holiday by the regime, leaflets calling for people's war against the US-Marcos dictatorship saturated the campus. In addition, students chanted anti-dictatorship slogans at the Vinzons Hall.

On Sept. 21, anniversary of martial law slogans on gummed tape proliferated along with book marks with revolutionary quotations. *Bangon* and the *Rebel Collegian* sized up the gains of the people's war under martial law and called for further action. Other reported incidents were: a student delivered a karate blow on a government agent who was trying to pick him up at the Arts and Sciences Building (AS), on the suspicion that he was carrying manifestos. Also, a gardener assigned to the grounds of the AS was picked up on charges of possessing "subversive" materials and was subject to third degree.

As the semester closed, the military scooped down on the faculty center, ransacked offices on the ground that a bomb was supposedly planted there. With Marcos' order that the U.P. Vanguard be some sort of military mafia, the student activists express confidence that they can continue to cope with any renewed repression.



AFTER MARTIAL LAW... August 15-22, 1973 — "Linggo ng Wika" (National Language Week) was held at the University of the Philippines. The Marcos martial law regime, with its cloak of phony nationalism, approved this observance. However, many of the skits performed were given new interpretations and brought to light the oppressive character of the "New Society." They were performed by the Mobile and Repertory Theaters of U.P., and performed in towns and barrios.

Meralco Under Military Control

WORKERS PROTEST TAKE OVER

(BMP) PASIG, RIZAL — Militant workers of the Meralco Company (Manila Electric Co.) have denounced Marcos for having harassed the Lopezes into "selling out" all their holdings to his clique. In a statement entitled "Resist Marcos Takeover of Meralco" published in *Rebolusyon*, an underground paper circulated among workers the Meralco workers said:

"Marcos did not rest for one moment in his vicious harassment of the Meralco since his criminal imposition of martial law last year

until Meralco's principal stockholders, Eugenio Lopez Jr. and Vice President Fernando Lopez, submitted to the tyrant's desire to grab the P2.5 billion Meralco for himself."

Meralco Under Military Control

Placing Meralco under military control, the statement said, Marcos "infested the firm with his own spies" and "secretly instructed the National Power Corporation to supply Meralco less and less electric power," so that the Meralco was forced to implement power brownouts. Then Marcos ordered the Defense Department and the NPC to "investigate" Meralco for "sabotage" in an effort to drive the Lopezes down to their knees."

"In 9 months under direct military administration, the statement went on, the Meralco workers already got a foretaste of

what working conditions would be like after the Marcos takeover: "reduced wages and salaries, arbitrary lay-offs and disciplinary punishments, cut-off of all bonuses and other fringe benefits, an iron-clad enforcement of working hours, and other forms of capitalist exploitation."

It recalled that in the past decades, militant Meralco workers won for themselves unprecedented economic gains. "They are the country's best paid workers, enjoying the most progressive working conditions; medical, retirement pension, and other fringe benefits; regular salary increases; fat mid-year and Christmas bonuses; and other incentives," it said. All these gains in more than 50 years of militant trade unionism are virtually naught now in the impending tyrant takeover," the statement said.

Mula sa atin...

MASS ARRESTS; 8P.M. CURFEW IN BULACAN

The PC carried out mass arrests of residents and moved the curfew hours from 12 o'clock midnight to 8 p.m. in several towns in Bulacan in the wake of armed clashes between anti-fascist groups and PC BSDU's in that province.

A large number of people were rounded up and detained by the PC in Pandi, Angat Bustos, and Plaridel. In the towns of Sta. Maria, Marilao, and San Idelfonso, the 8 p.m. curfew has been imposed.

The PC have set up numerous checkpoints in those towns, and passenger jeepneys are regularly stopped and searched.

The military suppression campaign also reached Valenzuela, Bulacan, where three persons were arrested by the PC. The three were Eduardo Lozada, barrio captain and president of a civic organization in Polo, Eduardo Panganiban, barrio councilor of San Roque, and Jaime Narciso, an employee of the Central Bank.

After the incident the police chief of Valenzuela warned that more arrests would be made, increasing the apprehension of the town.

400 PASSENGER JEEPNEYS STRIKE

Some 400 passenger jeepneys in Cotabato City stopped their operations last Nov. 12. The jeepney drivers protested against the increased oil prices and the refusal of the City Government to allow fare increases because of the oil increases they (the drivers) have to cope with.

Since strikes are outlawed in the Philippines, the jeepney drivers tactically called their action "pahinga" (or rest).

Because of the strong unity of the strikers and their strength in numbers the city government could not interfere in their strike.

Instead, a Col. Hermilo Ahorro of the Central Mindanao Command (CEMCOM) went on radio and urged residents to walk since "walking is a good exercise and good for fuel conservation."

Later Mayor Juliano issued a memorandum instructing all jeepney drivers to secure a permit before resuming their operations and if they did not comply, they would be apprehended. This would be a means for the city to curtail any future strikes by withdrawing the operation permits of the drivers.

MARCOS' LIE ON RICE "CONTRACT" PAKISTAN EMBASSY BARES

When the Marcos dictatorship was forced to admit last month the existence of a rice crisis, it blamed Pakistan and Thailand for allegedly failing to deliver the rice it contracted to import from them.

Now that the truth is out, the "contracts" existed only in Marcos' imagination.

To belie Marcos' allegation seeking to put blame on Pakistan, the Pakistani embassy in Manila issued a press statement that no such Philippine-Pakistan contract was ever entered into.

In the case of Thailand, the article said there similarly was no contract.

These statements were suppressed by the Marcos controlled-media but later appeared in the *Far Eastern Economic Review*.

One year of martial law!

PRISONERS CONDUCT PROTEST



THE POLITICAL PRISONERS

IPIL RECEPTION CENTER, FORT BONAFACIO — Political prisoners in this detention camp observed a "Day of Protest" last Sept. 21, the 1st anniversary of the declaration of martial law.

The camp authorities declared "open house" in observance of the Marcos martial law regime's Thanksgiving Day. "Open house" means that the detainees could be visited by their friends and relatives. On such occasions, the prison camps are full.

Protest Activities

The protest activities were carried out systematically. Upon waking up in the morning the detainees started singing out the "Internationale," song of the working class, and hummed this tune as they marched around the camp. Others chanted "Marcos; Hitler, Diktador, Tuta!" and as the time for the morning exercises ended, someone shouted "Down with the U.S.-Marcos dictatorship."

Anti-dictatorship slogans were evident around the camp and even playing cards and other parlor games had boldly written on them "anti-military dictatorship."

When visitors began arriving, small groups were formed to discuss the true meaning of martial law to the Filipino people. The singing of the revolutionary songs continued throughout the day. More than 15 male political prisoners shaved their heads in protest, telling the harried guards that it was for sanitary reasons, since not enough water was coming from their faucets.

Statement of Political Prisoners

"The political prisoners in the Ipil Reception Center reiterate their wholehearted support of the Filipino people's struggle against the U.S.-Marcos dictatorship. We firmly believe that the formal declaration of martial law is a violent imposition of the U.S.-Marcos dictatorship on the Filipino people. It is a desperate attempt to intimidate and suppress the people, crush the machinery of the people's liberation movement and shore up the crumbling rule of imperialism, feudalism, and fascism in the Philippines.

"We express our deep admiration for all Filipinos who persist in the struggle against the dictatorship. We remember the revolutionary martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the liberation of our people and we derive revolutionary strength from their example."

"We express our intense desire to get out of prison and march side by side again with the masses in the struggle."

Renewed Severity

Immediately after the last visitor had gone, four detainees were called to the guard house and ordered to name the leaders of the protest actions. Failing to get a response, the camp authorities imposed new restrictions the following day. Communications between male and female prisoners were prohibited. The

Pangkat Sining, a cultural group, was dissolved and lessons in karate and language were stopped.

In spite of renewed severity, the spirit of the political prisoners has not been dampened. They expressed satisfaction that they had demonstrated their unity during the "Day of Protest" and succeeded in taking advantage of the "open house" to freely express their views and their feelings against the Marcos martial law regime.

Prisoners Stage Break Out

CANLUBANG, LAGUNA — "Prison walls are paper walls."

This was recently proven by five political prisoners at Camp V-Lim, this province. After three months of careful planning, the five broke out of the 2d PC military zone's principal detention camp last Sept. 3 to rejoin the revolutionary forces fighting against the U.S. backed Marcos dictatorship.

The five — 3 of them fighters of the New People's Army and two youth activists who called themselves the "Papillon Squad" (after a French convict who wrote an international bestseller narrating his numerous daring escapes from tightly guarded prisons).

The groups declined to give the details of their escape in order to protect those who helped them. They disclosed however, that their plans were set in motion in the 1st three days of Sept. in connection with the projected transfer of prisoners including themselves, to Camp Crame in Quezon City.

The People Will Ultimately Win

In a statement issued on Sept. 21, first anniversary of the imposition of martial law, the five expressed confidence in the ultimate victory of the people's forces.

"If the enemy cannot secure its nerve center in Southern Luzon, how can it possibly secure the vast countryside of the Philippines," they said.

"On the first anniversary of the U.S.-backed Marcos dictatorship's formal declaration of war against the Filipino people," the group said, "we reiterate our readiness to continue taking part in the revolutionary struggle to end martial law and bring about the emergence of a truly free and democratic society."

It will be recalled that in Matnog, Sorsogon earlier this year, 30 political prisoners staged a successful escape. A similar daring escape was staged by a political prisoner in Fort Magsaysay, Laur, Nueva Ecija.

The successful escape of the Papillon Squad proved the truth of a song composed by a fellow detainee entitled "Prison Walls are Paper Walls." In conclusion the five declared that their plan to escape was born out of the conviction that their freedom was to be seized by their own hands.

Oakland: 'Project Manong'

YOUTH SERVE THE COMMUNITY



Youth Council members refurbish hotel corridor

Special to ANG KATIPUNAN

In the once dingy Pool Hall here in Chinatown-Manilatown in Oakland, Calif., some 30-40 Filipino Senior Citizens used to gather regularly for companionship and limited recreation. They would generally play Keeno, shoot pool, chat with each other or sit around idly, dozing off occasionally. This is a common sight in many towns throughout California.

However, the Pool Hall in Oakland began to change somewhat in the summer of '72 when young Filipinos began to frequent the place. The youth were from the Pilipino Youth Development Council (PYDC), involved in a summer job program with nearly 100 Filipino youth.

Meeting the Senior Citizens at the Pool Hall brought to the surface the plight of our elderly Pinoys and made their problems important to many of us. We began to do whatever we felt could relate to the Senior Citizens and meet some of their needs. Different programs were planned and carried out such as picnics, coffee hours and dinners in the Pool Hall. Before long, close friendships were established between the youth and the Senior Citizens. And the Pool Hall began to take on a new atmosphere.

Soon the word, "manong," which expresses

endearment and respect for the elderly, was a word freely used to address our new friends.

Better Housing for Filipino Senior Citizens

Today, a 22-unit building at 561-16th Street in Oakland is being renovated into a hotel for the Manongs. The most urgent need of the Manongs is decent, low-cost housing. Most of them have lived in single apartments along the periphery of Chinatown-Manilatown for the last 30-40 years. But recently, many of these apartments (old hotels, apartment buildings and homes) have been bought up by the Oakland Redevelopment Agency. The plans of Redevelopment are to set up more commercial structures in Chinatown (capitalizing on the location and building it up as a possible trade-tourist center), construct high-rise offices and a financial center in the city.

The Manongs are only a fraction of all the other poor people in the area who have had to uproot and relocate, and usually to higher rent areas.

The discussions began over a year ago about a hotel or some kind of better housing for the Manongs. Many ideas were generated about what it should have — lower rents, health clinic, community meeting room and a lot of healthy activities that would bring young and old together. For 10 months, PYDC had been negotiating for an upper-story building just around the corner from the Pool Hall, but these discussions were fruitless. Since the owners knew that the Youth Council was not a rich organization (about \$10-15,000 was needed) and actually thought that the Youth could not really succeed in such an ambitious project, the discussions were a see-saw of false hopes and bureaucratic red-tape.

Finally, PYDC found the building on 16th Street which was formerly the Beverly Hotel, left vacant since 1971.

Hotel Renovations Done by Volunteer Crews

In October of this year, the lease was signed by three Manongs from the Pool Hall. Since then, renovation has been the task of major importance. A carpentry instructor for Laney College and licensed contractor has joined PYDC and the Manongs in the struggle for low-cost housing and has taken the responsibility for the renovation. He has even involved his class as well as assisted in bringing in help from the various skilled trades (carpenters, electricians).

We are patching and texturing the walls, installing 8 showers and we need 9,000 sq. ft. of carpeting; also we need some linen, appliances and tableware, in addition to fabric for curtains.

All the work is done by volunteer help with Filipino students working between classes everyday. Also the weekends are when many other people come together and help with the work.

Overall, the renovation work has gone well. Recently about 15 people from Agbayani Village came up and helped us tremendously in the renovation. They too are involved in a housing struggle — building a retirement village for farmworkers, and most of the first occupants of Agbayani Village will be

Manongs since among farmworkers, the Filipinos are in the most need.

There are also monthly community dinners held now with the youth, parents and Manongs attending regularly. More and more people are becoming informed of the hotel (called Project Manong) and a Parents Support Committee has been formed.

Project Manong . . . Just a Beginning

When the Hotel opens in January, the Manongs will start a new life: special care will be given to providing some of their basic needs. For example, a nutritional program has been funded by the City of Oakland and a health-recreational program is being planned.

Most importantly, the Manongs will have decent living conditions at a price they can afford. This will be a big change from the social conditions they've faced their whole lives as discriminated and exploited non-white workers. Now in the new hotel, the Manongs will form a tenants' union and have a say as to how the hotel should be run.

It is a sad fact that this system rejects its old people when they can no longer work. Leaving many Senior Citizens alone and insecure; trying to survive on meager social security (which barely covers their essential needs). For Filipino "old-timers" this problem is compounded by years of racial discrimination which has left them unmarried and without families and very poor.

But the Hotel Project has begun to change many things. Progressive sectors of the Filipino community in Oakland are coming together now and working on a common project. The Manongs have been given new encouragement. Many of the Filipino youth are becoming activists in the spirit of "Serve the People." And more and more of our parents are becoming involved. Not being afraid to tackle the problems that face our community and beginning to struggle for change — this is the real significance of the Oakland Hotel Project. We also feel that other Filipino communities can learn from our experiences.

by Anna Tess Hilao



Contractor works on window with Cleanup crew

Imee's Top-Secret Debut:

MRS. MARCOS MET BY PICKET

Special to ANG KATIPUNAN

(NEW YORK) — Mrs. Imelda Marcos was met by a surprise picket staged by 50 Filipinos and Americans last Saturday, November 10 at the Hotel Pierre in New York City.

The picketers included members from five Filipino national organizations who joined together into the Committee In Support of the Victims of the New Society. The Committee included Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino (KDP), Friends of the Filipino People (FFP), Movement for a Free Philippines (MFP), National Association of Filipinos in the U.S. (NAFUS), and the National Committee for the Restoration of Civil Liberties in the Philippines (NCRCLP).

Mrs. Imelda Marcos was in New York to attend a top-secret debut thrown for her daughter, Imee, by Mrs. Christina Ford, wife of the multi-millionaire car magnate, Henry Ford II. The demonstrators bore placards saying "Imelda's luxury, Filipinos poverty," "New Society for the Rich Minority," and "Down with the Marcos Dictatorship in the Philippines."

Picket Sends Imelda and Guests Scrambling

The picket, staged within 12 hours notice, surprised Philippine Consulate officials and attending guests. Security guards and the usual number of photographers regularly sent by the Consulate on such occasions were not on hand. The picket covered the two main entrances to the Hotel.

Ambassador Eduardo Romaldez arrived at the 61st Street entrance completely unaware of the picket. Alighting from his limousine he was met with resounding chants of "Down with Marcos," and almost stumbled on his way to the Hotel.

Imee Marcos, daughter of the Philippine president, arrived with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ford II and received a similar reception from the picketers.

Also surprised was Consul General Ernesto Pineda (NY). Pineda appeared to have alighted absent-mindedly from his car into the middle of the 5th Ave. picket line. Thinking perhaps that this was just some other city demonstration, Pineda's face flashed from puzzlement to quick embarrassment when he found himself in the midst of the picketers chanting "Marcos' luxury, Filipinos' poverty."

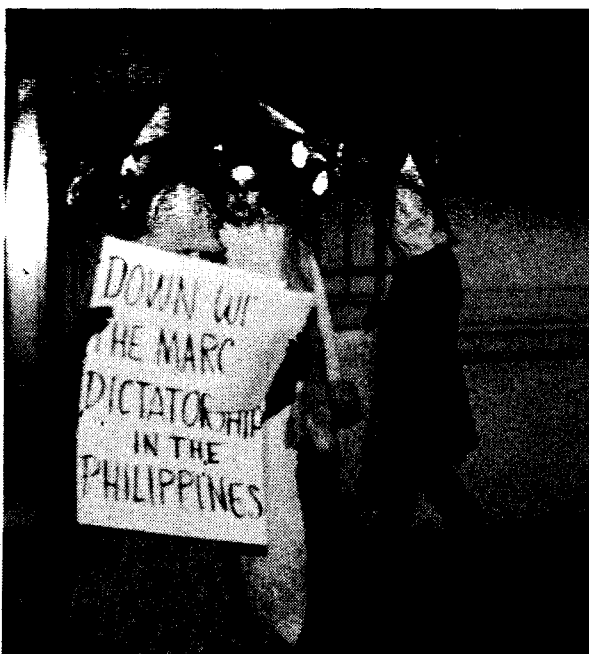
When Mrs. Marcos' tinted-glass limousine reached the 61st St. entrance, it paused, but gradually moved away and circled the block to the rear service entrance. From here she was whisked in through the basement and the kitchen to the ballroom.

A young gentleman, reportedly a guest of Imee, went out to talk with the picketers. He described Mrs. Marcos' entrance through the basement and the kitchen and said that most of the guests were elderly Americans rather than friends of Imee.

Imelda's Luxury, Filipinos' Poverty

The protest pointed out the glaring difference between Mrs. Marcos' style of living and the economic hardships that the Filipino people face under the Martial Law Regime.

The Committee's position paper read: "... there is a stark contrast between the rhetoric of Pres. Marcos and the reality of Filipino society today. In truth, the Filipino rich



Picket line in front of Pierre Hotel, New York City. Demonstrators were masked to protect themselves from reprisals from the Marcos government. The protest exposed the hypocrisy of Marcos' New Society as they chanted: "Imelda's Luxury, Filipinos Poverty."

enjoy all the privileges of power and extravagant spending (as we see all very clearly tonight), while the poor are deprived of their basic democratic rights under an oppressive martial law regime."

The demonstrators exposed the hypocrisy of Marcos' "New Society," which prohibits by decree conspicuous consumption of wealth, but the prime offender was none other than his wife, who shops for \$8,000 worth of diamonds at Cartier's (bought while she was in the U.S. to attend Nixon's Presidential Inauguration in January) while her husband maintains 8,000 political prisoners in military camps all over the country.

American Taxes Used to Support Marcos

They also raised the issue of U.S. aid as the principal supporter of the Martial Law Regime, saying "it is unfortunate that this inequality is sustained by U.S. aid to the Marcos dictatorship. The heavily-taxed American people support the illegitimate Philippine government to the tune of \$70-M a year.

Ford's Real Interests in Philippines Exposed

Explaining the close and friendly relations between Mrs. Marcos and Mrs. Ford, the Committee explained that "it is no mere coincidence that Mrs. Marcos celebrates with Mrs. Henry Ford II; since martial law does not allow Filipino workers to strike for just wages, Ford has decided to increase its profits by operating in the Philippines. Thus, Americans are being laid off so their jobs can be exported to Filipino cheap labor who work at slave wages of 30 cents an hour in an enforced industrial peace."

Consulate Denies Mrs. Marcos' Visit

It was reckoned that Mrs. Marcos, who has always caught the eye of the American press because of her expensive shopping sprees here in New York, had been cautioned by local Philippine officials to avoid the limelight, especially now that her husband is asking the U.S. Congress to double its military aid to his regime.

There have been consistent denials from the Philippines Consulate about Mrs. Marcos' presence here in New York. However, in addition to the debut on November 10, on the following Wednesday, November 14, she drove up to Sarah Lawrence College with an entourage of American and Filipino security agents. The purpose of her visit was to inquire about some things regarding her pet project, the Cultural Center in Manila, which is having problems.

Whenever or wherever President Marcos, his family or the agents that serve the Martial Law Regime go, like this demonstration has shown, they will be met by true, patriotic Filipinos whose allegiance lies with the interests of the Filipino people and who will expose the hypocrisy of the "New Society" whose rich minority live in luxury off the blood and sweat of the people.

UNITY... Magkaisa!

NEW ORGANIZATION FOUNDED TO OPPOSE U.S. INTERVENTION IN PHILIPPINES

As reported in our last issue, on October 20, at a Conference in Philadelphia, the Friends of the Filipino People (FFP) was founded. FFP is a national organization whose purposes include seeking to end U.S. aid to the martial law regime of Pres. Marcos.

FFP adopted 4 points of unity upon which the work of the organization will be based:

1. We seek an end to U.S. support to the Marcos dictatorship;
2. We seek an end to all U.S. military and political intervention in the Philippines;
3. We condemn the longstanding domination of the Philippine economy by U.S. corporations, which has been a major cause of the continued poverty and underdevelopment of that nation;
4. We support the Filipino people in their efforts to secure full independence and freedom in their country and social and economic justice in the U.S.

At the founding Conference, it was stated that "what martial law has actually accomplished has been to silence the critics of Marcos. Many of the opposition Senators, Congressmen, labor leaders, intellectuals, and media people, as well as clergy, have been imprisoned." The appointment of William H. Sullivan, "who figured prominently in our disastrous policies in Indochina," to the post of Ambassador to the Philippines, is an ominous indication of the kind of policy the U.S. government is undertaking.

FFP is a broad-based coalition uniting many people around its 4 points of unity. It will seek its ends primarily through "public education" and "Congressional education," and plans to establish a resource center on the Philippines which will include literature, a slide show and video tapes.

The national office of FFP will be at 235, E. 49th St., 3rd Floor, New York City, New York 10017. Regional headquarters are currently being set up in Philadelphia, Boston and Washington, D.C.

FIRST COURT VICTORY IN RACIAL DISCRIMINATION SUIT

SAN FRANCISCO — On October 17, a motion that was filed by California Blue Shield (CBS) requesting a dismissal of a Class Action Suit brought against them for their discriminatory practices against Asian-Americans was denied by Judge C. Remfrew of the U.S. District Court.

The Class Action Suit against CBS was filed on June 27 by the United Pilipinos for Equal Employment (UPEE) and Mrs. Emma Salazar, a former employee of CBS. (A brief account of Mrs. Salazar's case was given in Vol. 1, No. 2, "Community Airs Feelings About Discrimination," page 6.) The denial of CBS's "motion to dismiss" is the first court victory in the continuing struggle to fight the racial discrimination which exists throughout the various office of CBS.

Hundreds of individuals have signed petitions in support of UPEE and Mrs. Salazar's suit. This indicates the growing and continuing concern and support this struggle for fair and just hiring and promotional practices for Asian-Americans. Japanese, Chinese and Filipino groups within the Bay Area community have also endorsed the struggle.

Drive For Higher Profits

BEHIND THE ENERGY CRISIS

by J. Tolero

In a speech regarding the present energy crisis, Pres. Nixon called Americans to make "sacrifices." He has proposed that people lower their thermostats 6 degrees, travel no more than 50mph and that gas stations close from 9pm Saturday and 12pm Sunday.

Nixon says there is an "energy crisis." The oil monopolies say there is a crisis. What is the nature of this "energy crisis?"

The crisis has to do with the oil cartels who are "out to make money" through the production of oil.

Oil Monopolies:

\$35B Profits Yearly in Gas Alone

For the most part, there are only 7 major oil corporations who control three-fourths of the world's crude oil production, refining and marketing. These giant corporations make up the international oil cartels - EXXON, Shell, Texaco, Gulf, Mobil, Standard Oil of California, and British Petroleum. These corporations net an annual \$35 billion just in the gasoline business alone!

In 1966, 40% of all investments of the oil cartels were in Third World countries. U.S. oil corporations account for 92% of total oil investments in the Middle East; 60% in Asia; 59% in Africa, and 35% in Latin America. It was projected that by 1980, 50% of all U.S. energy needs will be coming from abroad, mostly from the Middle East.

It is much more profitable for the oil monopolies to exploit foreign, semi-colonial countries because of legal and tax "privileges" and cheap labor. For example, between 1900 and 1960, the U.S. grossed \$32 billion in the Middle East profits alone! Meanwhile, workers in the Iranian oil fields are paid \$1.30 a day!

Decline in the Middle East Profits

However, since 1959, countries exploited by the oil cartels have begun to nationalize more and more of the oil production in their countries. The recent war in the Middle East has brought new problems for imperialism; the Arab countries are beginning to limit exporting oil to all countries that support Israel's aggressive war.

This movement on the part of oil-producing nations is a just one; to gain self-determination against imperialist control.

However, the growing strength of the Arab countries has brought the U.S. government to the political decision that all domestic energy needs should be produced within the borders of the U.S. by 1980. But the trend has been for oil monopolies not to invest in domestic production of crude oil. Why? Simple, it's not profitable enough!

There Is No Real Shortage

Over the past 20 years, foreign oil investments have increased, while domestic production of oil has decreased. Domestic production of crude oil has been cut by over 59% since 1956. Today for example, in Louisiana and Texas some oil wells are operating at 40% capacity.

The oil monopolies have been raving about inadequate fuel reserves in the U.S. However, a recent Department of Interior publication states clearly, "Our nation has been bountifully endowed with a large resource of fuel, minerals, which includes petroleum, natural gas, coal . . . The energy content is enough to last 190 years at the present rate of



consumption of 1970."

So, in fact, the U.S. has plenty of energy reserves. The real concern then of the oil monopolies is inadequate profits. Domestic production of oil is not profitable enough because of higher labor costs, taxes, anti-pollution and conservation restrictions, etc.

Monopoly-Nixon Collusion = "Energy Crisis"

The problem faced by the government is this: how to increase domestic oil production, while at the same time guaranteeing increased profits for the oil monopolies. And, most importantly, how to convince the American people to pay for it, in terms of higher fuel prices, relaxed pollution standards; speed-ups and lay-offs for the workers in the oil industry, etc.

The standard "solution" is to trick and confuse the people by conjuring up a "crisis" and encouraging "patriotism and sacrifice" for the "national good." But in fact, the "energy crisis" is only forcing the working people of the U.S. to sacrifice for the profits of the oil cartels! All this under the reactionary slogan, "What's good for Standard Oil is good for America."

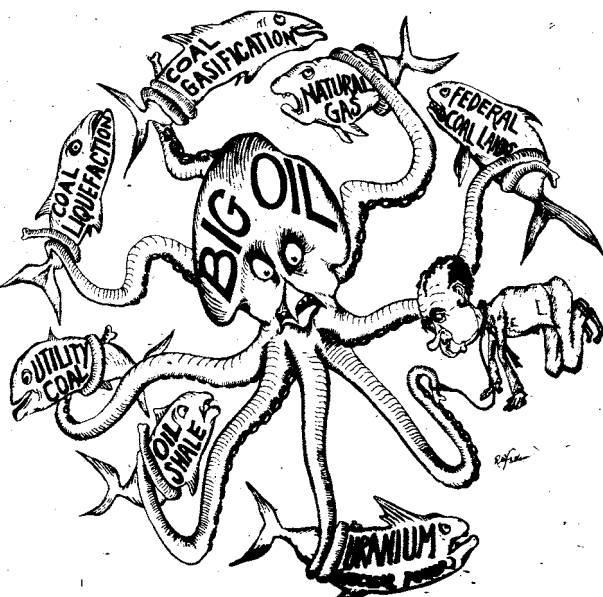
For example, after Nixon proclaimed the "energy crisis," he proposed a 7% tax credit to oil corporations on all domestic investments. (This means indirectly that our income tax will help subsidize the oil cartels!) Also, the go-ahead on the Alaskan pipeline was pushed through Congress over the active opposition of every conservation group in the country. It's clear the oil corporations are "cleaning up" behind the smokescreen of "energy crisis."

There Is No Energy Crisis!

If we believe that oil cartels have no right to exploit and dominate oil-producing countries of the Third World, then we see there is no real "energy crisis."

If we believe that the additional costs for domestic oil production should be taken from the excessive profits of oil corporations and not from the pockets of working people, then we see there is no real "energy crisis."

The real crisis is an on-going political one in the U.S., where Big Business and government are united in a never-ending effort to squeeze the lifeblood from the working masses in order to increase capitalist profits.



America In Turmoil

EVERYBODY NEEDS MILK . . .
EVEN R. NIXON

The Senate Watergate Commission further exposed in November an alleged "Nixon campaign donation of \$2-M from the powerful Dairymen's Lobby." The "favor" in return was a boost in Federal Milk Prices signed by Nixon. This resulted in a \$500-M increase in the industry's profits! (And of course, these profits are made by the money taken from the working people who have to pay the spiralling prices just to buy milk!)

As usual, everything was done "under the table" and Nixon denies knowing "anything about it." Supposedly, there are tapes of Nixon's meetings with top dairy industrialists. Rumor around Capitol Hill is that one of the reasons Watergate Special Prosecutor Cox was fired was because he was about to request these "milk tapes."

Such a scandal would be threatening to any administration at any time, but is especially damaging now to Nixon's. It again exposed that the Federal government is always being answerable first to the needs of the "Big Capitalists" for more profits for themselves.

What we were taught as Americans about our government were only "fairy tales." This scandal, along with all the other Watergate exposures of graft and corruption point out the truth that our government is not a true government for the people.

ANTI-WAR ACTIVIST SENTENCED TO 23 YEARS IMPRISONMENT

MADISON, WISC. — In the past 10 years, millions of people in the U.S. have demonstrated against the war in Indochina. In Madison, Wisc., many demonstrations centered around the Army Mathematics Research Center (AMRC) which played a significant role in the genocidal war in Vietnam.

One early Sunday morning, August 24, 1970, AMRC was blown up, but a researcher in the next building was accidentally killed in the blast. On November 1, 1973, Karl Armstrong, an active participant in the Madison anti-war movement, was brought to trial and sentenced to 23 years imprisonment for the bombing and the 2nd degree murder (manslaughter) of the researcher.

Armstrong had been extradited from Canada where the Canadian government, which prohibits extradition for political reasons, however, ruled that his case was "unpolitical" and agreed to the extradition. Armstrong then agreed to plead guilty when his charges were dropped from 1st degree (premeditated murder) to 2nd degree manslaughter and that he would be allowed to present a week's testimony of mitigating evidence and possibly receive a lesser sentence.

The week of testimony pointed out that the bombing of AMRC was an act of resistance against an illegal and immoral war; that the war was actively resisted by millions of Americans; that AMRC was an active instrument in the destruction of life and property of the Vietnamese people, and that the American Government is the real criminal, not Karl Armstrong.

The testimony was a moving presentation by the defense which for the first time, literally put the Indochina War on trial in an American courtroom. Despite the overwhelming evidence, the Judge's sentence was exceptionally harsh and Karl was given almost maximum sentence.

China's Young Students Go To The Countryside

In America, youth are conditioned to have competitive aspirations of "getting ahead." Yet at the same time there is a certain kind of "aimlessness" where young people are never quite sure as to what to do with their lives.

Filipino youths, due to racism, know that they have even less of a chance to get anywhere. But the result of often a determination to "make it" in spite of the racist obstacles. Or else, it leads to "giving up" altogether, which manifests itself in drug abuse and gangs.

The "Youth Problem," so called, is nothing but a problem of capitalist society where the youth have no clearly defined role and direction, and the society is run for profit and not the people's needs.

In recent years, many young Filipinos have made efforts to develop a "direction" by organizing around community and campus issues. This marks the growth in consciousness that youth should "Serve the People!"

In the People's Republic of China, the people now have socialism and power in their own hands. This can be seen in the fact that the young people have a clear direction and purpose -- to Serve the People.

The following article tells how Chinese students from the cities go into the countryside to learn from the peasants and help develop China's agriculture. Such a practice has become widespread in China since the Proletarian Cultural Revolution.

Frightened at even the sight of an ox when she first came to the countryside after finishing middle school in the city of Tsingtao, a girl named Ho Yu-tang now can drive such farm animals and do all farm work.

She is the daughter of a deputy commander of the People's Liberation Army Tsingtao garrison area, a timid city-bred girl when she went to the countryside, and today one of China's young generation of cultured, new-type peasants.

Millions of educated young people have settled in the Chinese countryside in the past several years. The number from the three major cities of Peking, Shanghai and Tientsin alone is near 2 million.

In 1968, during the Cultural Revolution, Chairman Mao called on such young people to go to the countryside and young students responded in their millions. This is like a mighty torrent pounding at the exploiting classes' age-old notion of looking down the peasants and manual labor.

The winter that Chairman Mao issued the call, 30 students from Wantou Middle School in Tientsin covered more than 1,000 km. on foot to Maochiashan, a small mountain village of 32 households in Pinglu county of north



Peking people give a warm send-off to educated young people leaving to settle in the countryside.

China's Shansi province, to settle there with a young teacher. Soon after their arrival, they held discussions with the peasants on the spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle shown by the Tachai production brigade, China's pace-setter in agriculture.

Working Together in the Countryside

All made up their minds to build the village into a prosperous socialist community. They worked out a plan and in just one year, turned hilly land into contour fields, built a 5 km.-long highway to bring tractors uphill and put up 8 km. of high-tension wires to supply electricity to farm machinery.

Later, the peasants in cooperation with the young new-comers constructed an irrigation canal that winds across the mountains. The village took just three years to transform its farming conditions. Grain output doubled and the surrounding turned green with the planting of 5,000 fruit trees.

China takes agriculture as the foundation for developing the national economy. Modernization of agriculture and building up



Chu Ke-chia (front) at work with commune members in the fields.

the rural areas require that large numbers of educated youth contribute their political, cultural and scientific knowledge to speed up the process.

The educated young people have set up many scientific experimental groups, spare-time night schools and art troupes. Many of them have become bookkeepers, water conservancy technicians tractor drivers, primary and middle school teachers, and part-time medics known as "bare-foot doctors."

Youth Learn to Apply

Their Knowledge to Serve the People

Chairman Mao pointed out back in 1955, "All intellectuals who can work in the countryside should be happy to go there. Our countryside is vast and has plenty of room for them to develop their talents to the full." Facts have proved the correctness of this statement.

A veteran worker put it well. "No horse can be broken in well within a courtyard, nor a timber tree be grown in a flower pot." This applies to the case of city-bred young people with education. They had a poor understanding of the political and economic conditions in the rural areas as well as of the work, life, thinking and sentiments of the workers and peasants. Many of them did not know how to apply their book knowledge. Therefore, it was advisable for them to go to the rural areas where conditions are hard so as to face the world and brave the storm. This is an important way of training and bringing up millions of successors to the cause of revolution.

by Lu Kung

World in Focus

INCREASING SAIGON ATTACKS AGAINST PRG TERRITORY

SOUTH VIETNAM — Beginning in early October, Saigon began a market step-up of attack and bombing missions into PRG (Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam) territory. This is in open violation of the Paris Cease-Fire Agreement. To cite an example, on November 7, Saigon bombed a major PRG city, Lóc Ninh (75 mi. north of Saigon), killing 32 people, wounding 70 others and destroying the town hospital. Thieu's excuse for these violations is a supposed "North Vietnamese build-up."

Meanwhile, the U.S. continues to supply Saigon with all the necessary military backing, i.e., Saigon's 2,000 planes, 500 of which are bombers. In addition, the U.S. is stepping up training of pilots and ground crews and has U.S. advisors attached to the Saigon Air Command.

In response to these new attacks, the PRG issued a new order to its troops on October 15, instructing them to "defend PRG territory from new and extremely serious Saigon attacks." The order said, "the PRG will fight back anywhere; by any means and with proper force." On November 6, the PRG heavily shelled the Saigon controlled Ben Hoa air base, as a warning to Thieu.

MARTIAL LAW DECLARED AFTER STUDENTS WORKERS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST FASCIST JUNTA

GREECE — After a week of mass demonstrations and protests and street fighting between the protestors and police, the Greek military junta declared martial law and moved the army and tanks into Athens in order to regain control and suppress the people's movement.

The immediate events which lead up to the recent declaration started November 14 when students took over the Athens Polytechnic University. Their demands quickly escalated beyond student issues and were soon addressed against the military regime that rules their country. The protest and activism rapidly spread to other schools. By Saturday, November 18, the main slogans had become "Death to Fascism" and "Down with the Junta." Many of the young Greek workers took up the call and the streets of Athens became the scene of fighting between police and protestors. News of this massive protest spread quickly to other Greek towns where other demonstrations soon began.

This is the latest in a whole series of democratic uprisings of the Greek people since the present right-wing military junta took power in 1967, suspending all democratic and constitutional freedoms. Again, as in other countries under the excuse of keeping them safe for "democracy," the U.S. government has given active backing to the Greek military dictatorship.

In recent years, the Greek generals, because their actions have brought isolation for them both at home and abroad, have been forced to promise more "democracy" and eventual return to constitutional rule. However, their promises were empty and their recent response to the massive unrest of the people have been extremely repressive. 11 people have been killed and 866 arrested (50 percent are workers) and a whole new series of political arrests have begun.