

## Seattle Murder Case:

# 'Hit Men' Get Life Sentences



Jimmy Ramil (l) and Pompeyo Guloy (r), convicted in the slayings of Gene Viernes and Silme Domingo, are led out of the courtroom following their sentencing to life imprisonment.

Special to the AK

SEATTLE — Jaime Bulosan Ramil and Pompeyo Benito Guloy, Jr., were formally sentenced to life in prison without parole November 18. The two were convicted of aggravated first-degree murder for the June 1 slaying of Alaska Cannery Workers Union officials Silme Domingo and Gene Viernes.

Under a new state law, conviction of a murder charge that involves conspiracy draws the automatic sentence of life imprisonment without release or parole.

King County Superior Court Judge Lloyd Bever stated the sentences "shall not be suspended, deferred or commuted by any judicial officer or the Board of Prison Terms and Parole or its successor."

Fortunato (Tony) Dictado, a third suspect charged in the murder case will stand trial next spring for the same murder charge that convicted Ramil and Guloy (see story, page 5). *Continued on 6*

## Attack Linked to Extradition Treaty:

# Ver Accuses U.S. Movement of Drug Smuggling

In a crude attempt to portray the U.S.-based anti-Marcos movement as criminal, Philippine Chief of Staff Fabian Ver November 8 suggested that the movement finances itself via international drug smuggling.

Ver's comments appeared in several Philippine newspapers including the *Times-Journal*. The general was referring to the arrest of two Americans, one on October 30 and one on November 6.

The first, identified as Stephen Smith was allegedly caught trying to smuggle two kilos of marijuana out of the Philippines as he prepared to board a plane for Los Angeles.

The second, identified as Arturo Espiritu Favis of Sacramento, was supposedly found carrying five guns, ammunition and heroin in his luggage at Manila International Airport. Reports did not specify whether Favis was entering or leaving the country.

Philippine military authorities

claim to be checking the possibility that the two were couriers for exiled Filipinos in the U.S. plotting to overthrow Marcos. They are allegedly questioning whether drugs are a source of income for the U.S. movement.

### REGIME LINKS LOPEZ, DAZA

Intelligence sources initially named as accessories to the plot former TV executive Jose Almeda-Lopez and former army Lt. Antonio Daza. Both were allegedly seized as they attempted to enter the Philippines through Tawi-Tawi province in the south on November 4.

Lopez, though not related, formerly headed up the ABS-CBN network for the Lopez family in Manila. A former political prisoner himself, he helped arranged the escape of Eugenio Lopez, Jr., and Sergio Osmeña III, from their Manila prison cells to the U.S.

Daza is the brother of former

Congressman Raul Daza, a figure in the anti-Marcos opposition. Both brothers currently reside in southern California.

Once an angry Raul Daza protested that his brother "is right here in southern California," military sources revealed that the man caught with Lopez was actually Marianito Canõnigo, another former detainee. The Philippine military claims that Canõnigo is a leading figure in the Partido Demokratikong Sosyalista ng Pilipinas.

Lopez remains in prison, held in solitary confinement. No charges have been lodged against him nor has his detention been formally announced.

### BOOSTING EXTRADITION OF POLITICAL ENEMIES

No clear reason was given for the so-called connection between Favis and Smith on the one hand and Canõnigo and Lopez on the other. Sources here speculate, however, that the entire incident

*Continued on page 4*

## Manila Theatre Collapses, 25 Workers Killed



See page 8



## Dictado Gets New Lawyer in Seattle Murder Trial

See page 5



Jake Almeda Lopez

Gen. Fabian Ver

Geline Avila

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## Is the U.S. Poised to Strike in Central America?

Whether "nuclear" or "conventional", war is definitely on their minds over at the regal White House. Recently, Alexander Haig told the Congress that he would not rule out any possibility of U.S. military action against Cuba and Nicaragua.

This followed widely circulated reports that the U.S. is planning precisely such an action. Guatemalan, Honduran and Chilean troops are reportedly being secretly mustered for action in El Salvador where the genocidal junta is losing to the FMLN guerillas, as well as in Nicaragua where the popular government is struggling to break free from the U.S. orbit. This plan reportedly includes a U.S. naval blockade of Cuba.

Especially in light of Haig's comment, these reports cannot be dismissed lightly. Already, Cuba and Nicaragua are on a defensive military alert and full mobilizations of their citizens into popular militias are underway. There is also an important reason why the U.S. is likely to seriously consider armed intervention in Central America as a real option.

The U.S. has been itching to regain its former capacity to intervene anywhere in the world in any way it wants to in order to hold on to its shrinking areas of domination. The popular outcry against its participation in the Vietnam War had significantly eroded this capacity. It is this popular aversion to U.S. involvement in foreign wars that frustrated the automatic and massive dispatch of U.S. troops to Angola, Nicaragua, and El Salvador. It is this popular memory of Vietnam that Reagan wants to overcome.

Combined with appeals to "put Vietnam behind us," Reagan is poised to establish a test case that could resurrect direct armed intervention as a legitimate S.O.P. in U.S. foreign policy. Central America is seen by the White House as possibly the most immediate testing ground.

This stance in Central America is but one aspect of U.S. foreign policy. Open support for repressive regimes that are facing national liberation movements—the campaign to make these dictators legitimate and acceptable as U.S. allies—is another. More ominously, Reagan is trying to make it appear that a nuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union and the socialist camp is a viable option. Why else is there talk of "limited nuclear war" in Europe, "warning atomic detonations" by NATO, and why else would Reagan go on a holiday turkey shoot on a "doomsday plane" as if a nuclear attack were expected any moment?

The task of peace loving peoples is not to forget Vietnam but to remember its lessons. They must oppose U.S. intervention in El Salvador and any planned aggression against the independent nations of Cuba and Nicaragua. It is not their duty to accept U.S.-backed human rights violators but to ostracize them. Lastly, they must not succumb to the Reaganite come-on that nuclear war is as simple a choice as one between coffee or tea.

Guest Editorial:

## Dangerous New Proposals on 'Illegal Alien' Problem

President Reagan has requested extraordinary powers from Congress to declare an "immigration emergency" to keep unwanted aliens out of the United States. His proposals are intended to "streamline" the process of asylum determination and slow down the arrival of Cuban and Haitian "boatpeople." The results would have a grave impact on civil liberties and due process protections of both citizens and aliens alike.

If enacted, the Administration proposals would:

- Severely limit judicial review of asylum cases. Exclusion hearings would be held entirely within the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

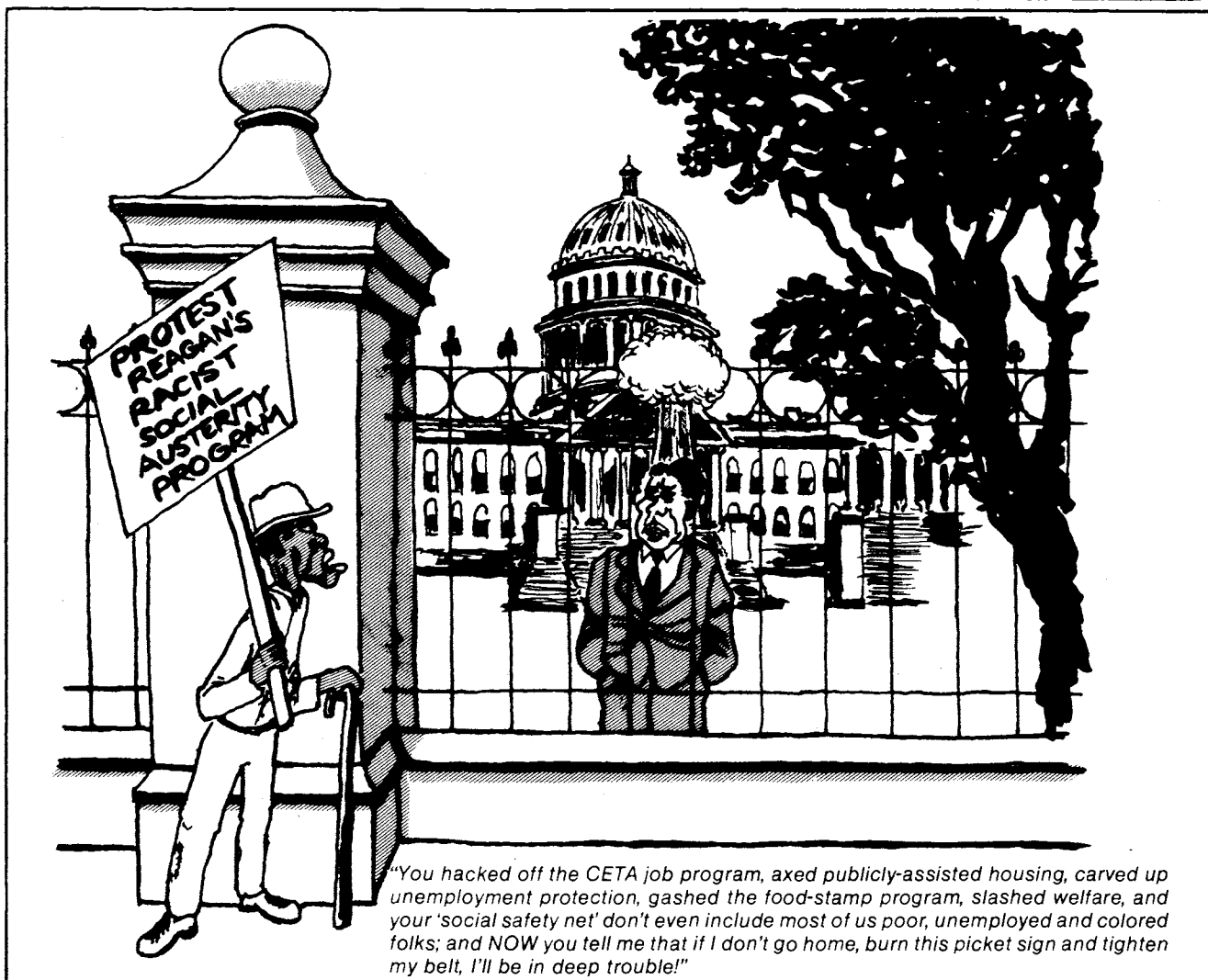
- Allow the indeterminate detention of aliens.

- Establish detention facilities at any sight designated by the Attorney General. It would also permit the transfer of aliens from one facility to another without judicial review.

- Restrict the right of citizens to travel both at home and abroad by allowing the President to close airports, harbors and roads.

- Allow authorities to board foreign ships on the high seas to search for aliens, even though this clearly violates international law.

Congress and the Reagan Administration are also turning their attention to the problem of identifying those "undocumented aliens" who have already found their way into workplaces. Some of the proposed remedies, such as universal identification cards, government databanks and broader use of the Social Security number raise



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Thank You . . .

As an inmate of Filipino lineage in a New York State Prison, I have received a complimentary subscription of the *Ang Katipunan* since 1976-77. Enclosed please find check for \$10.00. A small token of appreciation for your unyielding concern. Thank you.

Randy Jackson  
Auburn, NY

### Investigate Nuclear Waste . . .

Filipinos are urged to investigate reports that Japanese nuclear wastes had been dumped into the ocean 300 miles northeast of the Philippines.

The alert was sounded by Philip-

pine Monitors, a San Francisco-based research group about the Philippines. It explained that the nuclear wastes could easily be washed towards the Philippines by the prevalent northeast monsoons and could threaten human and marine life in that country.

A Monitor spokesman revealed that he had written the Japanese Embassy in Washington, D.C. and the International Atomic Energy Agency requesting more details about the nuclear wastes dumped into the Philippine frontyard.

The spokesman revealed that Manila has so far remained silent on the nuclear dump despite its obvious dangers to her people. He said he has not read any report of testing Philippine waters for atomic flotsam.

J. Frivaldo  
San Francisco

### TO OUR READERS . . .

We may have to go monthly. Money is at the heart of the matter. We depend entirely on subscriptions, donations, and street sales. While subs, renewals and donations are coming in at an encouraging rate, our street sales have declined. The reason is that our activists, already loaded with organizing work, have had difficulty finding the time to sell in churches, marketplaces, etc. They actually have only one weekend to get each AK issue out. Combined with inflation, which is no fault of ours, this decline is having a severe effect on our income.

We are convinced that subscriptions will eventually be our main method of distribution and source of financial

support. But it will take time to build a subs network capable of covering a substantial portion of our costs. Meanwhile, we may have to give our activists more time to sell the AK on the streets by coming out monthly instead of twice a month.

Right now, we do not have enough to come out twice a month. Our activists were heavily involved in the protest preparations for the postponed Marcos state visit in this last period. For this issue and for the next one, we are coming out as a monthly. Then we will break for a month for the holidays. Meanwhile, we will study more seriously the feasibility of becoming a monthly publication.

We realize this is a disappointment for our readers who have subscribed expecting to get the AK twice a month. However, we will not com-

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promise on our readers' primary expectation, which is getting no-nonsense news analyses, and features on Philippine and U.S. politics, culture, history, and economics. While we may not be able to bring you news as fresh as it should be, our articles will be as meaty and provoking as we have always tried to write them. We may even add a few more pages for the next issue.

We hope you understand our predicament. Keep sending your renewals and donations. Get subscriptions for your friends. Give the AK as gifts to the people you care about. Happy holidays to you all!

Rene Cruz, Editor

serious civil liberties questions.

Proposals include a statutory ban on the employment of "illegal aliens" combined with an identification system for proving a person's eligibility for employment. There are two forms the identification system might take: a counterfeit-resistant identity document, possibly an improved version of the Social Security card; and a government databank which would dispense with the need for identity documents.

The ACLU opposes legislation which penalizes employers for hiring aliens unlawfully in the United States. It could increase racial discrimination by creating greater risks for employers hiring applicants whom they believe might be aliens. Under the sanctions system, an employer might prefer to avoid the trouble and expense of verifying

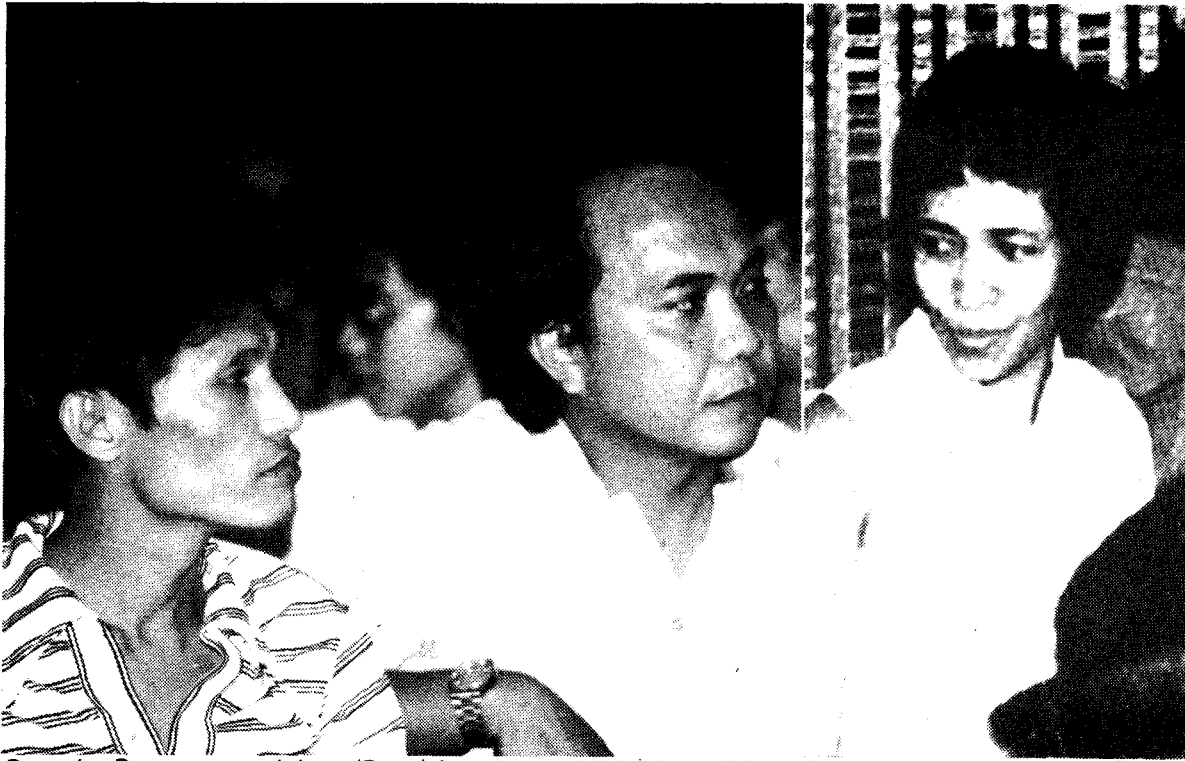
a "suspect" applicant's eligibility to work by refusing to hire anyone whose appearances suggests that he or she might be an illegal alien.

The ACLU also opposes the use of Social Security cards and other governmentally-issued documents as a condition of employment. Such a practice, in effect, creates an "employment passport," which results in a universal identifier of all persons in this country. An identity document would increase the government's already broad police power to stop, question and search. A national databank, on the other hand, would become a centralized repository of personal information and a means of tracking the lives and employment opportunities of millions of Americans.

*Civil Liberties Alert, ACLU Nov., 1981*

## PHILIPPINE NEWS

# Prisoners on New Hunger Strike



Bernabe Buscayno and Jose (Pepe) Luneta at trial; both participate in current fast. Juliet Sison, now pregnant; a possibility of release?

MANILA, Nov. 19—Spokespersons for the Ministry of National Defense today announced that release papers for political prisoners Antonio Liao, Nicamor Bautista, Alejandro Carteso and Juliet Sison are in Malacañang, appealed to President Ferdinand E. Marcos for favorable action.

Liao, Bautista, Carteso, and ten other prisoners at Camp Bagong Diwa, Bicutan, are in the midst of a hunger strike aimed at achieving the release of 23 fellow prisoners. Juliet Sison is currently pregnant. Her husband Jose Ma. Sison is also in prison.

Prisoners Bautista, Benjamin Davina-Flor and Ariel Olalia began a protracted fast as early as October 5 in an effort to force the regime to clarify their status. When the three collapsed on November 3, 10 detainees at Bicutan joined in the hunger strike.

Among the hunger strikers are some of the Philippines' most prominent political prisoners. Sixto Carlos, Jose Luneta, Satur Ocampo, Balthazar Pinguel, Fidel Agcaoili, Romeo Bitangcor, Antonio Buragay, and Rene Marciano are all participating.

Their demands include immediate release of all detainees who have not been formally charged in court, those who have not been called to

trial for more than a year, and those who should be released on humanitarian grounds.

The fasting detainees also demand an end to the cruel practice of solitary confinement. They want all isolated detainees transferred to regular detention centers.

Once again, the prisoners called for a transfer of all cases being tried before military tribunals to civilian courts. In the past, this demand was easily ignored by the regime under martial law. But now that military rule has supposedly been "lifted" the detainees hope that the regime will be more consistent with its propaganda that military courts have been abolished.

The hunger strike was timed to coincide with the meeting in Manila of the International Commission of the Red Cross (ICRC) November 7-14. The humanitarian organization was slated to take up the issue of political detainees worldwide during its 24th annual meet.

Recent reports reveal that Bernabe Buscayno, held in isolation in the Military Security Unit has joined the others in a sympathy fast. Twelve prisoners charged with involvement in the April 6 Liberation Movement and held

in Philippine Constabulary headquarters at Camp Crame have issued a strong statement of support for the Bicutan detainees.

Marcos claimed at the time he "lifted" martial law in January that there would be no more political prisoners in the Philippines. Those kept in Bicutan, a facility constructed explicitly for political detainees, were promptly shipped to the National Penitentiary at Muntinlupa. Here they were mingled with convicted thieves, murderers and rapists.

The unconvicted political prisoners quickly began organizing, particularly among political prisoners convicted on criminal charges. As a result, they were shipped back to Bicutan.

A number of the country's political prisoners have been kept for years without charges. Others, such as Carlos, who has a weak heart, have serious health problems or are the sole support of their families.

The detainees have asked friends at home and abroad to pressure the regime to grant their demands. They also seek support for their call for improved living conditions and the restoration of visiting rights to friends and immediate family members. □

## Buod ng mga Balita

### NPA RETALIATES AGAINST ROCK CHRIST

The New People's Army (NPA) attacked a mountain community in Tudela, Misamis Occidental killing 15 members of the Civilian Home Defense Force (CHDF). All allegedly belonged to the violent and much-feared sect, the Rock Christ.

The NPA was responding to a reign of terror instituted by the CHDF and Rock Christ which has driven hundreds from their homes. The worst incident to date was a massacre of 25 Catholics and Protestants in the hinterlands of Tudela in late September.

Military forces stationed in the area have refused to take action against the terrorist groups. Observers insist that the military, in fact, supports the Rock Christ and is using it as an effective tool against the NPA in the area. (See AK, Vol. VIII, No. 18.)

In a related development, the leader of the Rock Christ was shot down by two men who visited his home in Dapitan City on October 30.

### \$200 A YEAR MAY BE ENOUGH TO LIVE ON—VIRATA

Poverty, claims Philippine Prime Minister Cesar Virata, is relative.

In a New York interview last October, Virata disputed several international organizations who criticized his contention that an annual income of \$200 or less does not constitute "absolute poverty."

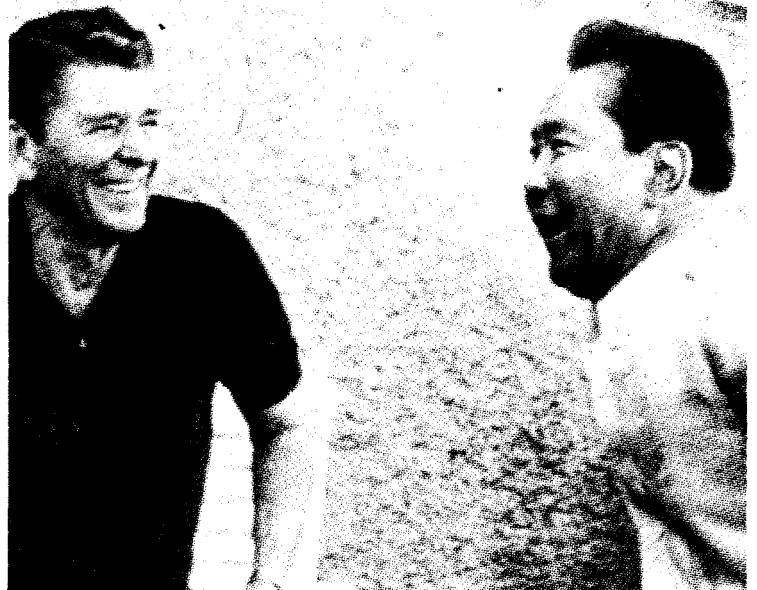
He elaborated, "under the definition, a person will be extremely poor, but might be a healthy person; he might be happy enough and contented."

### MARCOS TOTES A GUN AT CANCUN

Provoking an international embarrassment, President Ferdinand Marcos was found to be carrying a gun during a plenary session of 22 heads of state at the Cancun conference in Mexico last October 22.

The North-South Summit of rich and poor nation heads was held under tight surveillance by Mexican Security Forces. Their routine search at the conference hall doors revealed a small hand gun in Marcos briefcase.

When the incident was exposed, Marcos' body guard claimed responsibility for having placed the gun in his boss' briefcase. Marcos, he claimed, was unaware of its presence. As a head of state, Marcos was spared prosecution under Mexican law for carrying a weapon into a restricted area.



Marcos with Reagan at Cancun.

(Asiaweek)

## Sison Denounces 'Trial by Publicity'

Jose Ma. Sison and the defense attorneys in the Karagatan Andrea case accused Marcos authorities of trial by publicity at a military hearing August 28th.

Sison, one of the 92 people accused in the case and the lawyers of other defendants were reacting to a series of irregularities in a "perpetuation of testimony" hearing. The military hearing, which is not a trial, has been denounced by regime critics as a highly irregular process in itself.

On the morning of the hearing and the day immediately prior, press releases appeared in two national newspapers detailing the precise type of evidence—firearms and ammunition—to be presented in court.

The papers quoted Lt. Col. Virgilio Saldajeno, a member of the prosecution panel, as stating positively that the arms shipment was financed by Fidel Agcaoili, one of the accused.

Military Commission No. 1, however, merely admonished Saldajeno to avoid future publicizing of evidence.

### SISON ERUPTS

A second heated controversy and accusation of "trial by publicity" erupted when the prosecution asked a state witness to point to Sison and identify him as "Chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines" before a battery of TV cameras.

Sison exploded, denouncing the

prosecution's efforts to "make propaganda" out of the proceedings and threatened to walk out.

"I do not recognize the authority of this commission. I denounce this propaganda plot against us. I denounce the beastly way in which my wife and I have been treated for four years in detention," he declared before the TV cameras.

"Whoever ordered this beastly treatment upon us can only be a sadist."

Sison and his lawyer insisted that the identification of the accused during a mere perpetuation hearing and before the press was highly prejudicial.

The "law member" of the military commission agreed to forego the identification process.

### OPPOSITIONISTS FORMING NEW PARTY?

Last month, Filipino leaders of a newly formed Institute for Social and Political Affairs stepped up their campaign to convene a national opposition party. The Institute is spearheading a "Party formation conference workshop" drive similar to those held in Davao, Cagayan de Oro, and Cebu.

Contrary to some young oppositionists who fear fragmentation, Institute spokesman Assemblyman Reuben Canoy stated that a party will strengthen the cause of opposition and bring some public attention to the grave economic and political problems today.

He added that the program would reflect social democratic principles.

Trustees of the Institute include Canoy's Mindanao Alliance running mate Mayor Aquilino Pimentel Jr. of Cagayan de Oro.

The World Bank:

# Funding Counterinsurgency in the Name of Development

## FAKE NPA SURRENDERS EXPOSED



Public works projects—a sinister form of counterinsurgency: World Bank funds projects in NPA base areas and potential guerrilla expansion areas. (New Philippines)

SPECIAL TO THE AK

(The World Bank's purpose, claimed Robert McNamara during his heyday as its president, is to satisfy the basic needs of the eight million people who live in absolute poverty.

To that end, this powerful economic institution which claims political neutrality dispenses long-term loans to the impoverished nations of the world. The supposed purpose of these loans: "development."

But a soon-to-be-published study by the International Association of Filipino Patriots and Philippine Solidarity Network reveals that the World Bank funds a good deal more than just development.

The study charges that two bank-funded projects in the Philippines consist of nothing more than thinly-veiled counter-insurgency efforts aimed at destroying the New People's Army.)

Two World Bank-funded projects in the Philippines adopt differing approaches but boil down to counterinsurgency nonetheless.

One, seen as a preventive approach, is applied principally among minority tribes. The other, based among lowlanders, seeks to reverse the substantial gains already achieved by the New People's Army (NPA) in the past few years.

Both approaches go by the name of Integrated Area Development or IAD. This means delivering to the people of an area a "development package" consisting of services ranging from medical assistance to road building, from agricultural aid to "security."

IAD is a two-level strategy. On the one hand, the Marcos regime hopes that, if the lives of the rural poor can be made a little less miserable, they will provide slightly less fertile ground for NPA organizing.

IAD received its dry run in the seventies under the auspices of USAID in the Cagayan Valley, a key NPA base area. It received a much-expanded application several years later in the Bicol region, an important NPA expansion area.

### FUNDING PANAMIN IN MINDORO

The Mindoro IAD project, begun in 1975, for the first time enlisted the World Bank in a Marcos counterinsurgency effort. The Bank described the project as an effort to increase farm incomes and improve living standards by providing water control, port construction, road building, certified rice seed, rat control, schistosomiasis control, and assistance for 20,000 families of Manggyans, the island's indigenous tribal group.

However, among the project's participants were the Civic Action Group of the Philippine Army, a key counterinsurgency unit, and the Presidential Assistant on National Minorities (PANAMIN).

### RESERVATIONS TO EXTEND MILITARY CONTROL

PANAMIN was assigned the role of administering the Manggyan outreach component of the project. Funded by \$600 thousand from the Bank, it was to dispense medical assistance and agricultural inputs and construct an access road. Far more important, PANAMIN was to grant the Manggyan legal titles to their ancestral lands.

But PANAMIN quickly decided to shelve the land-titling process. Instead it chose to establish Manggyan reservations. PANAMIN conveniently retained title to the land, leasing it in turn to the tribespeople.

This subversion of the program's original intent was not surprising. Under Marcos' well-heeled associate Manda Elizalde, PANAMIN has become known as the government's counterinsurgency arm for minority peoples.

### FUNDING PACIFICATION IN SAMAR

The Philippine government began planning its IAD program for

Samar in 1974, when signs of NPA activity appeared on the island.

In 1976, the Samar Integrated Rural Development Office was created, and negotiations for financing began with both the Bank and the Australian Government.

It was in the midst of a military build-up against the NPA in January 1979 that the Australian Government made its formal commitment to finance a portion of the project centered in Northern Samar.

The World Bank soon followed with its input focused on Eastern Samar, the most isolated of the island's three provinces.

The World Bank component of the project, begun in late 1980, consisted principally of an effort to modernize the port of Catbalogan and improve 200 kms. of the Coastal Road of Eastern Samar. This area was already occupied by four battalions engaged in relentless "anti-subversive operations."

### BANK PROJECT - PART OF MILITARY EFFORT

Military atrocities have become common in the wartorn area. According to the International Commission of the Militarization of Samar, the creation of "free fire zones," was becoming more and more frequent.

That the World Bank project is part of an overall military effort is clear. Two military engineering battalions posted in Eastern Samar are currently engaged in building roads and airstrips which observers insist have a strategic military value.

Others note that the regime has stepped up the construction of large ports, airstrips and highways, which will facilitate quick movement of troops by sea, air and land.

### WORLD BANK'S TRUE NATURE EXPOSED

Some World Bank staff members have reportedly expressed concern over the military character of the project. This was sidestepped by higher-ups who countered with arguments about the "political neutrality" of Bank projects.

This is hardly the first time that questions about the World Bank's overall guiding motivations have been raised. For example, the policy of export-led growth currently being pushed by the Bank and eagerly pursued by the Marcos regime has been denounced by progressives as a means to convert the Filipino people into a permanent pool of cheap labor to service the needs of US multinationals.

"Industrial Restructuring," another Bank initiative demands that protective tariffs be removed in the Philippines. This move will destroy the remaining protection given to native capital in favor of foreign investors.

But it is "development" schemes such as those funded in Mindoro and Samar that make the Bank's claim to political neutrality highly questionable. No wonder more Third World participants at the recent Cancun conference wanted to shift international economic negotiations out of U.S.-dominated institutions like the World Bank.

"Development" World Bank-style has become closely associated with the US motive of strengthening economic hegemony over Third World countries.

Politically, this motive expresses itself in the US policy of propping up repressive governments. From all indications, the World Bank is more than willing to foot some of the bill for this, too. □

Political Detainees Update belatedly reports that on the morning of August 24, Marcos' government agents initiated a "peace conference" in Baranggay Dolis, Magpet, North Cotabato. Forty-eight farmers were forced to "surrender" as members of the New People's Army (NPA).

The only problem was that these farmers had never joined the NPA in the first place.

The Magpet incident sheds some light on the frequent reports of "surrenders" by both NPA and members of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) appearing in the controlled Philippine press.

The 48 farmers of Magpet were ordered to the mayor's office and the headquarters of the local military unit. One by one, each was interrogated, asked where he kept his weapons and forced to acknowledge membership in the NPA. As a result of these "conferences," the military claimed success in persuading large numbers of NPA in the area to surrender.

On August 31, the same routine was repeated in Barrios San Roque and Napantihan, where 20 farmers were summoned, investigated and finally allowed to return home. People of the area learned that seven more baranggays and two municipalities were scheduled for identical treatment. □



Manggyans, Mindoro's indigenous people: World Bank money funds PANAMIN's efforts to keep them on reservations. (Asiaweek)

## Drug Smuggling . . .

Continued from page 1

should be viewed in connection with the current push for an extradition treaty between the U.S. and the Philippines.

Though the treaty proposed by the administrations of both countries would apply only to criminals, observers here see it as aimed at the opposition to the Marcos dictatorship.

Members of the Coalition Against the Marcos Dictatorship (CAMD) denounced the treaty as "an attempt to extend martial law to the U.S."

As part of the extradition campaign and to intimidate the U.S.-based opposition, Victor Burns Lovely has been returned to the

United States. Lovely has admitted participation in last year's series of bombings aimed at destabilizing the Marcos regime. In his testimony, Lovely implicated nearly every U.S.-based opposition figure, including Rene Cruz, editor of this paper.

"Painting the opposition as criminals by accusing them of trafficking in drugs suits Marcos' interests perfectly," commented Geline Avila, staff member of the CAMD.

"In this way, Marcos can request extradition of his enemies to the Philippines on criminal charges while actually persecuting them for their opposition political activities." □

## FILIPINO COMMUNITY NEWS

# Trial Delayed Until Spring '82: Dictado Retains New Lawyer

Special to the AK

SEATTLE—Fortunato (Tony) Dictado formally retained prominent lawyer John Henry Browne November 13 to defend him in the famous cannery murder trial after attorney James Grubb was disqualified for possible "conflict of interest."

The Dictado trial was reset for April 1, 1982 to allow Browne to study the murder case that claimed the lives of Silme Domingo and Gene Viernes, two prominent officials of the Cannery Workers Union Local 37 ILWU.

In a related development, a court hearing before King County Superior Court Judge Lloyd Bever November 18 sentenced convicted killers Jaime Bulosan Ramil and Pompeyo Benito Guloy, Jr. to "life imprisonment without release or parole."

In addition, the sentences "shall not be suspended, deferred or com-

muted by any judicial official or the Board of Prison Terms and Parole or its successor."

Before the sentences were imposed, Deputy Prosecutor Joanne Maida informed the judge that the law further would not allow for a Governor's pardon. The defense disagreed, telling the judge that the door remains open.

After the hearing, Judge Bever acknowledged there was disagreement on that point, but stated he agrees with the Prosecutor's interpretation.

The change in lawyers occurred after King County Superior Court Judge Frank Howard agreed with the prosecution that defense attorney Grubb, who unsuccessfully defended Ramil at an earlier trial, should be barred from defending Dictado.

Maida charged that there exists a possible conflict of interest, and Grubb would be unable to act in the best interest of both Dictado

and the State.

In his decision, Judge Howard stated that "while there may not be a conflict of interest presently, one could potentially arise in the course of the long and complex trial anticipated of the Dictado case."

In a hearing before Judge Warren Chan, Browne stated he had been retained by Dictado. Browne stated that if Dictado could not continue paying him, he would continue as a court-appointed attorney.

Browne will review the court transcripts of the Ramil-Guloy trial, which would cost an estimated \$10,000 and about three months to prepare.

Dictado has filed as an indigent, which under the law would require the State to pay for the transcripts.

Additional motions to be heard in January include change of venue, which could move the trial site



Atty. James Grubb (l): prevented from defending Dictado (r).

outside of King County, if Browne can prove pre-trial publicity will prevent Dictado from receiving a fair trial in the county.

The same motion will also move to suppress testimony that Dictado gave under oath at the earlier trial.

Dictado, also charged with aggravated first degree murder, allegedly was the Tulisan gang-leader who ordered the killing of Domingo and Viernes June 1 in front of the union headquarters in Pioneer Square. □

## Reaganomics, Unemployment Hits Hard:

# Immigrants Grapple With Hard Times



Retired Filipino workers who have paid their "dues" as workers now feel the pinch of cutbacks.

By ANNATESS ARANETA  
Staff Writer

Frustrated that he couldn't get into a CETA-training program, Florencio Manahan, 24, desperately looks for a job.

For three months he pounds the streets, visiting the local Employment Development Department (EDD) office and other employment agencies, scanning through the daily newspapers, hoping something would come up.

"I don't feel I have enough marketable skills," noted Florencio, "but I have to work."

Meanwhile, a recent issue of the *Oakland Tribune* headlines "Jobless Rate at 8%, Highest in Six Years."

According to national government figures, unemployment is 16.7% within the Black community. Among Latinos, unemployment stands at 10.9%; and among other minorities, the present rate is 15.5%. The white population has its share of 6.9% unemployed.

But minorities in general have a lot less going for them to buffer

the impact of unemployment.

### WHITE HOUSE: A NORMAL SITUATION

What is the White House's response to this?

"The rise in unemployment is a natural, short-term consequence of unwinding the deeply rooted inflation that is embedded in the economy," said presidential spokesman Larry Speakes. "The administration will not adopt any quick-fix measures to deal with the short-run movements in the unemployment rate."

Speakes, in effect, was carrying out a policy borne out of Reaganomics—the government's long-term solution to the ailing economy.

As soon as Reaganomics befell the nation, the administration wasted no time in implementing sharp cuts in social services and public assistance. Affirmative Action, CETA, training programs that have not adequately corrected past discriminations, but have provided a way out of the "disadvantaged" category for some, show definite signs of phasing out.

That minorities are hurt most

by these cutbacks is no accident. These programs and services were bitterly fought for by minorities, especially Blacks, during the Civil Rights movement. The social service programs begrudgingly given during the Vietnam War era are now being retracted without hesitation by Reaganomics policies.

### IMMIGRANTS CAUGHT IN CRUNCH

For newly-arrived immigrants, the situation is especially difficult.

Uprooted from their country, they often give up everything to come to the United States. Rising anti-alien sentiments, government cutbacks and the worsening state of the U.S. economy compounds the shock that comes with just trying to start again in a different country.

Among newcomers to the U.S. Filipinos have conspicuously grown in numbers. In California, Filipinos are the largest Asian group. The recent 1980 U.S. census report shows the Filipino population going up by 158% with 357,514 in the state. They are the second largest Asian grouping in the whole nation.

Landing a job in the U.S. is a

tremendous boost to a recent immigrant who is often faced with a myriad of other problems. Worries over finances are lessened, and overall adjustment to a new society is somewhat alleviated.

For those who still have family back in the Philippines, getting an affidavit of support to petition for the rest of the family becomes possible. But the immigrant soon begins to discover other problems in one's avid search for employment.

Jimmy Austria, 36, has been looking for work in San Francisco for four months. He observed discrimination this way: "When I came here, I didn't think I would have so much trouble looking for work because I have excellent work experience, references and training as a civil engineer. When I apply for an entry-level position here, the company makes me feel my background is inferior."

Referring to cutbacks and unemployment, Shirley Ando, a recent college graduate and job-seeker shares this view: "Immigrants and minorities are the first to get hit. It's not good."

How do Filipinos perceive hard times ahead?

"Mahirap nga, pero, alam mo naman ang Pilipino . . . masipag at matiisin," draws out Rachel Alcalá, a part-time clerk. "Times are hard, but Filipinos are hard working and enduring."

Cutbacks on social services and poverty programs felt hardest by minorities:

- CETA funds slashed by 90% or a total of \$3.8 billion. CETA is one of the main training and manpower programs that helped the unemployed and disadvantaged youth. The program will be wiped out by 1983.

- Welfare spending reduced by 11%. Of 3.9 million families who receive AFDC, 408,000 are expected to lose all their

In the U.S., "bringing home the bacon" is not the sole task of the father. Other members of the family of working age attempt to find work to help make ends meet for the entire household.

The extended family structure or clustering together of small family units into one household is maintained, to the extent that it makes the limited monetary and survival resources go a longer way.

"Our apartment is small—just one bedroom. But there are two couples living in it. This is the only way my husband and I can afford housing," relates Mrs. Capras, a young wife and job-seeker.

For those who are "settled," fear of losing their jobs linger in their minds.

Pete Castro, homeowner in Union City says, "I just dread the thought of losing my job. In my workplace some people are being laid off because of low production. If I will be one of those to be laid-off next, what will happen to us? Who will pay the mortgage?"

While struggling to individually resolve problems of unemployment or gaining financial stability, Filipinos cannot escape the impact of a declining U.S. economy to the same degree that other minorities are affected. □

benefits. 279,000 will be cut in aid because of changes in eligibility standard.

- Unemployment benefits reduced by 15%. Present cut totals \$238 million.

- Relaxation of guidelines on Affirmative Action means women and minorities don't have to be given special hiring or admission opportunities.

- What is increasing? Military spending increased by \$52.4 billion.

# Pro-Marcos Antic Ires Moviegoers

Mrs. Nati Aguilar has not been to a Filipino movie since 1951. But at the urging of her sister, they went to see a double showing at the Apollo Theater in San Francisco.

*Bruce Liit*, starring child star Nino Muhlach, was doubled with the tear-jerker *Kabiyak na Manika*.

Much to her surprise, the audience was asked to "please stand up and sing the Philippine National Anthem, in honor of President Ferdinand Marcos."

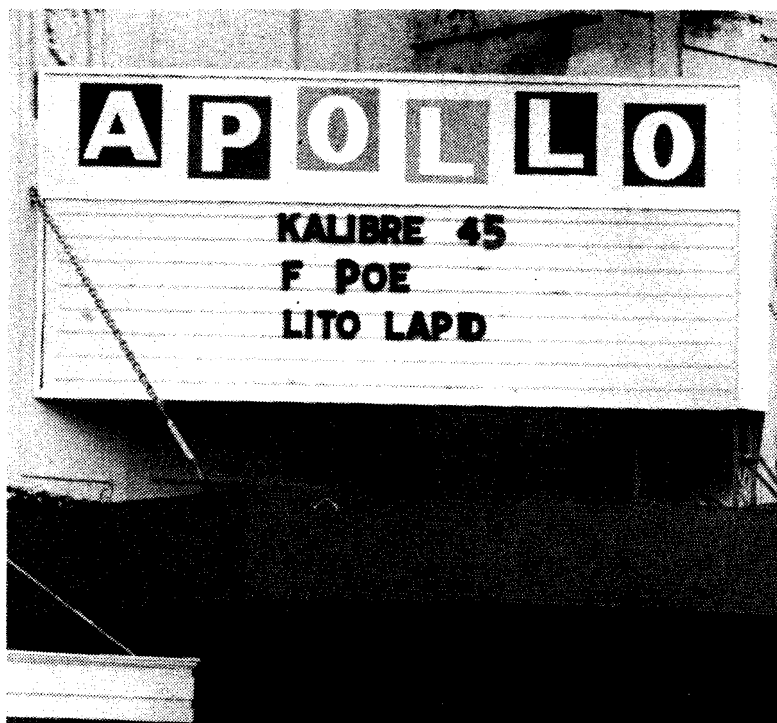
As the request flashed across the screen, Mrs. Aguilar, who is anti-Marcos, fumed and refused to stand up.

She looked around her and saw only four people standing, out of the 70 to 80 people in the theater.

"I was very angry and happy at the same time," recalled Mrs. Aguilar.

"I was angry because I was caught by surprise and asked to do something I don't want to do. I never liked Marcos in the first place because he is a dictator!"

She felt glad seeing that the majority of the audience also refused to stand up.



Movies, a popular form of entertainment for Filipinos, draw crowds into theaters such as the Apollo. (AK File Photo)

"I'm sure they are also angry like me, because many people booed when they saw Marcos' name on the screen.

"My sister, however, stood up because she said something might happen to us if we didn't. I

know she felt embarrassed, but I told her it's Marcos who is 'walang-hiya (shameless)."

Mrs. Aguilar recounted that after the national anthem, the theater showed film clips of the Philippines, mainly Rizal Park

and other tourist spots - all of which made her "very homesick."

"I want to go home next year but my relatives warn me not to go because I cannot stop myself from being vocal against the Marcoses."

How did Mrs. Aguilar become an outspoken Marcos critic?

"I have a lot of friends and relatives who have gone back to the Philippines for a visit, and when they come back they tell me 'Naku, Nati, makikita mo ang paghihirap ng ating mga kababayan,' (You'll see the hardships of our countrymen). And if you say something against Marcos, watch out!"

There is quiet fear among the people, her friends told her.

Asked what her sources were, Mrs. Aguilar mentioned the letters she constantly receives from relatives and newspapers here like *Ang Katipunan*.

While she admits she has not visited the Philippines for a long time now, Mrs. Aguilar stands firm in her conviction.

"All my friends who return from back home say to me, 'Manang, tama ang sabi mo

*tungkol kay Marcos* (What you tell us about Marcos is true)."

Mrs. Aguilar hopes that the movie houses "will stop this business of asking people to stand up for Marcos, because if they don't, more and more people will protest so it's better if they just show movies and that's all."

Asked if they will continue the practice of asking the audience to stand up for Marcos whenever the national anthem is played, an Apollo Theater spokesperson replied: "Only films distributed by Lea Productions carry that message...we have nothing to do with it."

In San Francisco, Filipinos usually pack the theaters that regularly feature Philippine-made movies—perhaps out of sheer homesickness. Many find the attempts to "sneak in" pro-Marcos propaganda to the entertainment simply annoying.

As Nati Aguilar says: "I paid to see a Filipino film, not Marcos. I will stand up for the national anthem because I still love my country. But for Marcos? Never!" □

## Immigrant Stabbed to Death:

# 'New Lease on Life' Ends in Tragedy

By Annatess Araneta  
AK Staff Writer

**ALAMEDA, CA**—His friends said Mariano Ordonez, a 54 year old immigrant, was restless and excited.

He had received word from the Philippines that his wife and family were in the last stage of processing their immigration papers, which meant soon they would be joining him in the United States.

A grand family reunion was finally going to happen, a dream Ano, as acquaintances fondly called him, had been longing to come true for the past two years.

Ano set out to look for housing on the morning of September 8th, a Saturday. He wanted to make sure he had his own apartment when his family arrived.

That was the last time Alex, his friend and co-worker, saw him.

### TRAGEDY STRIKES

Very late that evening, the Alameda Police found Ano sprawled in the men's room of Sambo's Restaurant, bleeding profusely from multiple stab wounds.

He died on the way to the hospital.

"He always kept hundred dollar bills tucked away in his wallet," recalled Alex, "since he was new in the area and hasn't opened a bank account yet."

Two days prior to the incident, Alex had just cashed Ano's paycheck for him. Witnesses within earshot of the murder site heard Ano yelling "give me back my money!"

Two suspects have been released for lack of evidence, and an 18-year old Berkeley youth is now under police custody charged with Ano's murder.

### REMEMBERING ANO

Ano's grief-stricken relatives and friends have not yet recovered

from the initial shock caused by his tragic death. Their recollections keep the story circulating among the Filipino immigrants in this "navy town".

"Masaya siya at palabiro" (he was cheerful and good-humored), Ano's friends said.

He went on outings with fellow Cavitenos, especially the Ferrers with whom he stayed and who considered him part of their family.

Going to the restaurant that fateful night was one of the rare moments Ano went out by himself.

"In our exchange of letters," Ano's eldest son Poli recalled, "I would advise him to go for walks when he was lonely."

Stationed at a naval base in Iceland, Poli immediately flew back to the States upon learning of his father's death.

"My father was very responsible and a hard worker," said Poli, "but he had no luck in the Philippines."

"Alam mo naman sa atin, pag wala kang koneksyon sa pulitika wala ka talaga" (He had no luck

back home. In the Philippines, if you don't have political connections, you can't get anywhere).

### ANO'S DREAMS FOR THE FAMILY

But if anything, Poli continued, Ano's biggest dream was to reunite the family here in the States.

A U.S. Navy serviceman and a U.S. citizen, Poli had successfully petitioned for his father.

"Coming to America was a turning point for him," Poli somberly recalled. "For my father, it was like a new lease on life, a way to start all over again."

As soon as he arrived in 1979, Ano petitioned for his wife and the rest of the family. In effect, Poli remarked, his father became "the link to a new life for the rest of our family."

### ODD JOBS HERE AND THERE

For the first year, he worked his way around Honolulu as a janitor, and also took on "odd jobs here and there." Pay was low and hours were long, so he

ventured on to the mainland to look for "greener pastures."

Ano wound up in Seattle where he found a job as a housekeeper in Cabrini Hospital. A cousin in the Navy invited Ano to San Leandro where he resides.

As soon as he arrived, townmates from Cavite whom he had not seen for years kept visiting to exchange stories "just like old times."

"He was very happy," observed Alex, "being among familiar faces from the same province."

It was Alex who found Ano his job as a freezer door assembler at Barr Manufacturing.

"He was so proud getting a starting salary of \$4.50 an hour," Alex said. "He told me that was the biggest salary he ever made since he arrived in America."

"Suwerte ang tatay ko sa tao

...laging may kumukupkop sa kanya" (my father was lucky with people, there was always someone who took care of him), Poli said.

Two days prior to the murder, and barely two months in his job, Ano was temporarily laid off. In his wallet when he was killed was the cash from his last paycheck.

Before the fatal stabbing, Ano still believed things were going for the better. He was almost sure he would be reinstated in his job within the next few weeks.

But friends say what actually kept Ano happy was the thought that in a matter of days or weeks, his entire family would finally be reunited.

No one expected this immigrant's road would end in the men's room of a stateside fast food restaurant. □



Mariano Ordonez, stabbing victim in Alameda, CA.

## Sentencing . . .

Continued from page 1

### 'IT'S NOT THE END'

"It's not the end of the road," said Cindy Domingo, 27, sister of one of the murder victims.

"While the sentence brings some relief, we know there's a more powerful group of people out there who were involved in the murder case, but who have not yet been implicated."

Domingo, a member of the Committee for Justice for Domingo and Viernes, pressed the Committee's claim that Ramil and Guloy were "just hit men for much bigger forces involved in big-time gambling and underworld activities in Seattle and Alaska."

At the sentence hearing, state prosecutor Joanne Maida told Judge Bever that the state law would further bar a governor's pardon. The defense lawyers ve-

hemently disagreed, arguing that the door remains open.

At the sentence hearing, the judge, while acknowledging there was disagreement on the point, said he agreed with Maida's interpretation.

The sentence formally closed the first chapter of the famous Seattle murder case. The State contended during the trial that Ramil and Guloy were ordered to kill the two union officials. Efforts by Domingo and Viernes to "clean up the union," claimed the prosecution, were interfering with the gambling activities of the *Tulisan*, a Filipino street gang.

"We have to maintain our vigilance," stated Cindy Domingo who noted the Committee for Justice is gearing up for the Dictado trial next spring.

"There's still so much to do," she remarked quietly. □

## DOMESTIC/INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Reaganism in Central America:

# Washington Threatens a Wider Conflict

By VINCE REYES  
Staff Writer

The Reagan administration is steering its foreign policy measures ominously close to the brink of war in Central America and the Caribbean.

Secretary of State Alexander Haig made statements in mid-November, suggesting possible U.S. military intervention against Cuba and Nicaragua to stem the revolutionary tide building in the entire region. Haig asked the Defense Department to investigate means to increase military pressure which could include naval blockades and economic sanctions.

Justifying U.S. interference in the region, the Reagan administration has built an elaborate campaign alleging Soviet interference in El Salvador, via arms shipments from Cuba and Nicaragua. Both countries deny these allegations, charging the U.S. with outright lying to provoke antagonism from Washington's allies in the region.

Sensing the danger of Washington's plans, both Cuba and Nicaragua placed their troops on alert in the event of an invasion. There is now fear that the Reagan administration's plans threaten to turn all of Central America into another Vietnam.

Currently, the successful Nicaraguan revolution and the struggles in El Salvador and Guatemala are gaining decisive momentum. Shamelessly reviving the "domino theory," Haig claims that the Soviet Union is trying to seize Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala one by one. It would be more accurate to say that the peoples of these countries are trying to change the course of their own histories favorable to themselves. In the past, the U.S. stepped in at opportune historical moments to insure the safety of Washington's interests by installing regimes that acted repressively to nationalist liberation movements.

Such was the case with Nicaragua in 1927 when the U.S. sent in Marines and six years later installed Anastasio Somoza whose

family reigned for the next 45 years. In 1932 the U.S. sent the Navy in to support Maximiliano Hernandez of El Salvador, giving him license to consolidate an alliance between the ruling class and the military during which over 30,000 opposition forces were massacred. In Guatemala, the CIA was behind a 1954 invasion that ousted the popular government of Jacobo Arbenz, killed over 40,000 workers and peasants, then installed rightwinger Castillo Armas.

The fierce struggles of the people of Nicaragua against the Somoza regime finally reached victory in 1979. Their success represents not only a victory for the Nicaraguans but also a strike against the social and economic contradictions created by U.S. involvement in the entire region which has robbed the people of their resources and labor for decades. In many ways, the Nicaraguan revolution gave further impetus to the liberation movements in El Salvador and Guatemala.

In El Salvador, the largest oppositionist groupings have consolidated within the Farabundo Marti Liberation Front (FMLN)/Democratic Revolutionary Front (FDR). In Guatemala, four major progressive organizations have formed the Cuatrapatita. Even in Costa Rica and Honduras, which are still considered bastions of U.S. support, revolutionary activity is on the rise.

#### U.S. BOLSTERS DICTATORSHIPS

The Reagan Administration, up to now, seems to be doing everything short of outright military intervention to keep its puppet leaders in place.

In El Salvador, Reagan has assigned former intelligence officer Dean Hinton to the post of U.S. ambassador in El Salvador. Hinton's long counterinsurgency experience in Latin America in the 60s and 70s included smashing revolutionary forces in Guatemala. He was also head of USAID in Chile and was instrumental in



Thousands across the U.S. protested White House military threats against Cuba, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. Above, a San Francisco demonstration held on November 21. (AK Photo/T. Rocamora)

laying the groundwork for the military coup which toppled Salvador Allende.

Currently, the U.S. is claiming a "stalemate" in El Salvador. The *Washington Post* recently countered this statement, noting that the FMLN/FDR is gaining military successes.

The Reagan administration has also increased military assistance to Guatemala. One State Department official described the opposition forces as being "better organized than in El Salvador."

Last spring, Reagan called Lt. Gen. Vernon Walters out of retirement to assess and make recommendations for Guatemala's military needs. Walters, the former deputy director of the CIA who engineered the 1954 Guatemalan coup, found his old friends more than willing to cooperate with the U.S. and to resolutely fight the "communist influence."

Without hesitation, the U.S. poured military equipment into Guatemala.

Furthermore, a "democratic election" is planned for the spring of 1982, which the U.S. hopes will install a civilian into the presidency. This would clear the way for more military aid to enter the country.

The U.S. has also placed great emphasis on Honduras as a pivotal point for militarization. Its strategic location, bordering Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua, makes it the perfect staging ground for its role as a Central American counterinsurgency headquarters.

Consequently, Honduras will receive the most military aid, second only to El Salvador. Already Honduras' military is being trained at U.S. Army schools in the U.S. and in Panama. Honduras is currently staging strikes against the FMLN/FDR on its borders and is home for major CIA operations in the region.

#### NICARAGUAN REVOLUTION UNDER FIRE

In Nicaragua, the U.S. is bent on destabilizing the hard-won revolution which is trying to establish order under very difficult conditions. The Reagan strategy is shaping up on two levels. The first, which is already under way, is to internationally portray Nicaragua as a Cuban and Soviet Trojan horse from which "Marxist influence" will "threaten" the whole region.

One "option" envisioned by the White House sees a CIA-backed paramilitary operation which would be possibly launched from Honduras against the Nicaraguan revolution. The forces would be composed of former Somoza supporters, who are already along the northern Nicaraguan border, and Somoza's old National Guards. On Nicaragua's southern flank are Costa Rica and Panama, both U.S. sympathizers, which could also be used as springboards for intervention.

On another level, the Reagan administration could weaken the Nicaraguan government internally by sanctioning credit and/or eco-

conomic blockades. Although this process would take more time, it would buy time for counter-revolutionary forces both in and out of the country to attempt to seize power at the height of an economic crisis.

#### EL SALVADOR: DESPERATE MANUEVERS

Currently, El Salvador remains the biggest thorn in Washington's plans to secure the entire region. Despite the over \$100 million in military and economic aid sent over during the last eight months, Haig stated to the *New York Times* that "more is needed, more help to El Salvador is needed."

Haig confirmed that he had asked the State Department to investigate new ways to limit the arms supply for the Salvadoran rebels at what he claims is their source—Nicaragua and Cuba. The proposals include a naval blockade of Nicaragua, a show of air power (a la Libya), and even stronger action towards Cuba, although it is not specific as to what that means.

Remembering the Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961, the Cubans have placed their military on national alert against a possible U.S. invasion.

Recently, at the United Nations, Cuban Ambassador Raul Roa protested U.S. plans to U.S. Secretary Kurt Waldheim. Roa stated to reporters, "I believe that there is a danger of either a naval blockade, of economic action, or of persecuting companies that do business with us, and even an air strike against key economic points in Cuba."

Roa's statement reflects the underlying concern of peace-loving people for the Central American region: that the Reagan administration is pursuing a dangerous policy which not only prolongs the civil strife in countries such as El Salvador and Guatemala, but threatens to expand that militarization throughout the region. □

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# Manila: A City of Man or A City of Tourists?

By NENE OJEDA  
Staff Writer

Picture Manila in its flaming sunset. Three massive forms of architecture rising out from the sea. High-rises dwarfing the swaying palm trees that once framed the city's magnificent view. Modern buildings bathe in the sunset's red glow, standing on land that was once sea.

A few short miles north, shanties stand silhouetted against the same fiery sky. Makeshift housing of cardboard and discarded roofing sheets shelter 30,000 families. Stark shanties stand on land that also was once sea.

## PERENNIAL PROBLEMS

Over 400 years Manila has expanded from a small Muslim *barangay* near the mouth of the Pasig River to the country's premiere city.

But through those 400 years Manila has been beset by problems. Flooding has become a fact of life. So have lack of water and adequate garbage disposal. The rapid population growth not readily tapped into productive labor has led to an increase in crime and a decline in morality.

In 1975, what was to have been a dramatic change came over Manila. That year it was formally integrated with three other cities and 13 municipalities to form Metro-Manila. Appointed to head Metro-Manila was none other than Imelda Marcos. Her position as the country's First Lady and Minister of Human Settlements would ensure Manila's "renaissance."

## MANILA: THE CITY OF MAN . . .

Such was Imelda's promise. Metro-Manila would be revived to show the "true, good and beautiful of the Filipino people." It was to become The City of Man.

Imelda's vision for Manila was the creation of a "New City," a "living monument to the idealism of the New Filipino in the New Society."

## ... AND THE CITY OF LOVE

And on a strip of land, reclaimed from the sea, stretching from Ermita to Zapote, rose The City of Love.

The alleged Filipino ideal was to be embodied in a modern metropolis—sleek office buildings and graceful hotels; recreational facilities including a water skiing resort and a yacht club; cultural showcases such as the Museum of Philippine Costumes.

The City of Love was to be an international center as well evidenced by the Philippine Center for International Trade Exposition and the Philippine International Convention Center. It was to be a cultural center enlivened by grand moviehouses, international restaurants and endless rows of boutiques.

Much of the City of Love today is reality. But few of Manila's eight million residents, though they may have built the City of Love, have set foot within it since its completion. For only businessmen enter the sleek office buildings. Only tourists and their dollars can pay for fancy hotel rooms. Only boat owners can fully ap-

preciate a fast ski down Manila Bay.

## THE POOR OF MANILA

An average Manila household of six subsists on \$750 a year, that is if work is available. An alarming 15% of the city's population is unemployed.

Yet the lure of Manila has been and continue to be the comparative opportunities it offers for jobs and education.

Rural folk continue to come to Manila, swelling the population by 200,000 a year.

With no place to stay, rural migrants set up housing. Their shanties, made of cardboard, discarded plywood and GI sheets, stand in any one of Manila's 415 slums. The district of Tondo, with 180,000 slum dwellers, is one of the largest slums in Southeast Asia.

Slumdwellers account for 39% of Manila's population. Squatting on undeveloped private or public lands denies them the conveniences of urban living—drinking water and sanitation, garbage disposal, and health care. Filth and disease are common.

The Metro-Manila government is only too aware of this problem. And Imelda, an eternal advocate of love and beauty, has sought to "correct" Manila's urban blight.

## WHITE COVERS BLIGHT

Fast, easy and cheap, Imelda's beautification of the slums was the erection of 10-foot fences, painted white, to hide the slums from the view of visitors. This



Imelda at work on plans for one of her many projects; all are constructed on round-the-clock schedules.

was not too effective as the wooden fence, removed from its frame, serves amply to steady flimsy shacks.

"Balik-Probinsiya" failed to convince new and old rural migrants to return to their provinces. Outright eviction often met with active resistance.

## IMELDA'S BEATITUDES

Not to be discouraged by her recalcitrant "little people," Imelda launched her beautifying BLISS, ZIP and PAG-IBIG programs to provide for housing needs and to initiate economic development in blighted areas.

BLISS, ZIP and PAG-IBIG succeeded in establishing 2,307 housing units in Metro-Manila from 1975 to 1980. This amounts to 7% of Manila's annual housing needs.

Of these, only one-fourth were within reach of low-income households as Imelda's preference for tiled roofs over "cheap looking" GI sheets added quite a sum to the costs of building.

## WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE AND NOT A DROP TO DRINK

Manila's problem of flooding,

despite the annual dredging of Pasig River, persists, hitting the slum sites harder than others. Light-material shacks, built by the river banks, are demolished or swept to sea by rising waters. Other areas remain in mosquito-breeding waters days, even weeks, after the rains. Garbage and human wastes float freely.

Yet slum areas are in dire need of drinking water. The city already faces a 70 million-gallon shortage a day.

To provide this basic human need, Imelda's Metro-Manila Infrastructure, Utilities and Engineering (MMINUTE) program will install 404 public water stands in the slums. These faucets will serve an estimated 215,000 slumdwellers, or roughly 532 people to a public faucet.

## CRIME AND PROSTITUTION

With meager or nonexistent incomes, crime among Manila's residents has risen as fast as the cost of living.

Economic crimes, such as theft and robbery, account for 70% of crimes committed in Manila.

For many women and children, existence can only be guaranteed by entering into prostitution.

As many as 100,000 are employed in the "hospitality" industry which caters mostly to foreign visitors. This includes waitresses, massage attendants, go-go dancers, and "hostesses."

A recent Manila raid rounded 115 youth, aged 9 to 13 on charges of prostitution.

Yet the city of Manila lacks the facilities to house and rehabilitate these wayward youth. The young offenders are released after a few hours or days. With little recourse, they return to their shadowy beat.

Manila is a city of extremes. It has spent millions upon millions of dollars on land reclamation to make way for high rises, recreational and cultural showpieces. Yet little has trickled down to provide water, housing, and livelihood—basic human needs—to over one-third of its population.

Utmost care is offered the foreign visitor, showing only the good, the true and the beautiful of the city.

Yet its youth is thrust into the dark and ugly realities of prostitution.

Manila, it seems, is more a city of tourists than a city of man. □

## Victims in 'City of Love':

# 25 Workers Killed in Theatre Collapse

Twenty-five Manila workers were killed November 17 when the roof of a massive film theatre under construction collapsed. Many more were injured.

The 2 a.m. accident occurred as the wooden support of the roof snapped under the weight of newly-poured concrete. Workers fell as the falling sections tore at connecting scaffolds.

## ROUND-THE-CLOCK CONSTRUCTION

Construction of the nine-story moviehouse, a project of First Lady Imelda Marcos as part of

her seaside cultural resort, has been round-the-clock since August. The First Lady intends to meet a January deadline for a film festival scheduled at the beginning of the new year to premiere the \$25 million film palace. The premiere will reportedly draw some 2,500 international movie celebrities. The theatre is located upon the strip of reclaimed land dubbed by the First Lady "The City of Love."

Mrs. Marcos immediately ordered resumption of the building's construction as rescue workers continued to search for the dead and wounded workers. Survivors

say that more than 100 workers were on site at the time of the crash.

Rescuers have been using blowtorches and jackhammers amid the rubble. As late as 12 hours after the crash, surviving workers were using bare hands in search of missing workers.

Public Works Minister Jesus Hipolito said that the accident was a "normal construction hazard."

## THEATRE WILL SHOW 'THE GOOD, THE TRUE, AND THE BEAUTIFUL'—IMELDA

Stung by international criticism over the theatre's lightning construction, Mrs. Marcos responded defensively that the January festival should proceed. Like all her other cultural projects, the massive theatre will "show the good, the true and the beautiful of the Filipino people in a world of ugliness and cruelty."

Imelda's other projects, the Cultural Center, the Folk Arts Theatre, and the Philippine International Convention Center, as well as numerous five-star hotels, have been constructed at record-breaking speed to meet deadlines for international conventions.

They have always required round-the-clock construction and the First Lady has become infamous for her midnight visits to active construction sites. □



Mortally injured worker, limbs encased in cement; Imelda still plans to go through with her film festival. (UPI Photo)