

KDP'S STATEMENT ON DECEMBER 30th

On December 30, the legal term of office of President Ferdinand E. Marcos expires, according to the 1935 Philippine Constitution. During Marcos' last eight years in office, the Philippines has witnessed a period of crisis and turmoil marked by economic disaster, increasing control of the country by foreign corporations, food shortages, crime and violence which has worsened the already miserable conditions of the common people. The Marcos regime became noted for its corruption as Marcos quickly rose to become the "richest man in Asia."

Resistance and protest to these conditions were the order of the day as President Marcos approached 1973, his last year in office. When it became clear that Marcos could not legally run for office again, and that the U.S. corporations which had backed him from the beginning still entrusted Marcos to do their bidding — he made his move to the dictatorship. Marcos declared martial law September 22, 1972, suppressing all civil liberties such as freedom of speech and press, and attempted to crush all his opposition from the worker, peasant, and student movements to the Liberal Party

With strong traditions of democratic struggle in the Philippines, the dictatorship was met again with

staunch opposition from all sectors of the society (with the exception of U.S. corporations and wealthy Filipino businessmen and landlords). In a futile attempt to add some air of legitimacy to this bankrupt regime Marcos finally stooped to the creation of a despicable new constitution with provisions included to allow for his lifetime dictatorship. When Marcos hoped to have this "new constitution" ratified at his "citizens' assemblies" to create the illusion of people's support for martial law, the scheme backfired as a massive "NO VOTE" campaign swept the country. The assemblies were held anyway under the gun of the military, and the Marcos regime manufactured its "vote of confidence."

Today, the people of the Philippines have no regard for this fraudulent "new constitution" as widespread discontent and resistance are growing. However, some Filipinos still believe that the 1935 Philippine Constitution should hold valid despite the martial law. One such group is the "Filipino Freedom Fighters" who have called on President Marcos to resign from office on December 30, and have threatened to take up arms against the dictatorship if Marcos does not resign.

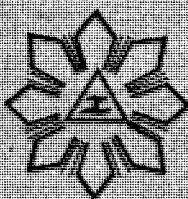
While it is certainly a good thing that more and more Filipinos both in the homeland and here in the

United States are realizing the need to fight, the Marcos regime will not become illegitimate on December 30, for it has been illegitimate since its first day of existence! The Marcos regime has never served the interests of the peasants, workers, students, teachers, small businessmen who comprise the vast majority in Philippine society.

Since the day of its inception, the Marcos regime has been guilty of the betrayal of the sovereignty of the Philippines in his blatant subservience to the interests of the U.S. corporations and U.S. government which have still maintained their colonial rule.

Whenever workers and peasants have organized themselves to fight for their rights and for better conditions, the Marcos regime has not hesitated to utilize the brute force of the military to suppress them. In the meantime he has enriched himself through kickbacks, land-grabbing and stealing government funds.

At the same time, these crimes are not particular to Marcos alone, but are the collective crimes of the big landlords and capitalists (less than 1% of the society) who are guilty of these crimes. No coup d'etat which replaces one opportunist for another, one puppet of the imperialists for another, or one landlord for another, can be acceptable to the masses of Filipino workers and peasants. Only a true revolutionary movement which organizes and mobilizes the vast majority of the people to overthrow the dictatorship and confront the basic problems of the country, can ever satisfy the national and democratic aspirations of our people.



Ang **KATIPUNAN**

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DEC. 30th — CAN MARCOS CONTINUE ?

Dec. 30, 1973, is the day when the Marcos regime legally expires after eight years of rule. It is doubtful whether Marcos will abide by this amendment as stated in the 1935 constitution. Many Filipinos both in the Philippines and abroad, recognize the 1935 constitution as the legal constitution of the

Philippine government.

When Marcos declared martial law, he dissolved the 1971 Constitutional Convention, conjured up his own constitution and submitted this for "votation" via his militarized "Citizens' Assemblies."

While it is obvious that Marcos will not

willingly step down from power on Dec. 30, it is clear that he cannot rule beyond that date unprotected by both the Filipinos in the Philippines and abroad.

FFF Issues Warnings to Marcos

A group called the Filipino Freedom Fighters (FFF) has issued a warning to Marcos through an open letter dated Sept. 8, 1973, urging Marcos to hold a national presidential election before Dec. 30, 1973. The FFF outlined several steps for the national elections to take place. Among them were:

1. Martial law must be lifted to give all candidates and electorate ample opportunity* to discuss the issues. The opposition should be allowed unlimited freedom of

(continued on page 2)



Slip Zero district, one of the slum sections in Tondo which the government wants to demolish without providing the people another place to live. In one unconfirmed report, we heard that some Tondo dwellers have already been picked up by the PC, driven a mile or so out of the city, and just dumped.

Maligayang Pasko

Due to the holiday season, this will be the only issue to be published in December. We will begin regular bi-weekly publications again in January.

As we enjoy the holidays and look forward to the coming year, we must remind ourselves not to forget the existing realities in the Philippines which do not permit the Filipino people the right to celebrate this season in the fullest sense — with their civil liberties curtailed, economic crisis and hardship burdening the people's daily lives and a dictator ruling the country.

But because we know that the Filipino people are determined in their fight for genuine democracy and independence, this coming year will be one of struggles, sacrifices and victories for the people.

—Editorial Staff

Tondo's Poor March to Palace

(BMP) MANILA—Tondo's poor, who occupy the reclaimed lands along the banks (foreshoreland) of the Pasig River are being steadily evicted from the shanties they occupy in line with Mrs. Imelda Marcos' "Pasig River Beautification Project." This project, in the guise of prettifying the Pasig River, is Marcos' scheme to demolish the shanties which the poor occupy, to make way for different businesses to set up factories there.

Aside from demolishing the shanties, the government has made no attempts to relocate them to other areas within Manila or replace their shanties with decent homes.

Because of this, Tondo's poor, a thousand strong, marched to Malacanang for the second time last Nov. 17 in bold defiance of Gen. Order No. 5 prohibiting rallies, demonstrations and other public gatherings.

ZOTO Heads March

In the first months of martial law, the Tondo residents organized by the Zone-One Tondo Organization (ZOTO) demanded a stop to the mass ejection of foreshoreland dwellers and the demolition of their homes.

Last Nov. 17 however, a demolition team from the Manila city government and the Presidential Assistant of Housing and Resettlement Agency (PAHRA) arrived at Bonifacio Village upon the orders of Marcos. They were escorted by 50 soldiers of the Philippine Coast Guard, led by Com. Brageis. They started ejecting families from their homes and tearing down houses in Block 1 of the neighborhood.

ZOTO leaders immediately rushed to the area and showed the demolition team a copy of an agreement made between ZOTO and Gen. Gaudencio Tobias of the National

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Ang Katipunan
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Oakland, California 94623

LETTERS

We encourage our readers to send us their comments and opinions on any of the articles printed in *Ang Katipunan*. — about the situation in the Philippines; the struggles of Filipinos here in the U.S.; the problems in America and the international issues. When the occasion and space permits, we will reprint them. We also encourage criticisms of our newspaper so that we can improve our form and better the coverage of the news.

The following is a letter sent to us by Mr. J./G. Quijano, an attorney and patriotic Filipino who recently debated Mr. John Osmena (see front page of previous issue) on the question of martial law in the Philippines. The debate was televised November 16 on the "Jim Dunbar's A.M. Show" (KGO-TV, Channel 7, San Francisco).

Mr. Osmena has since appeared on another Bay Area television show (December 2; KTVU, Channel 2, Oakland) in which he debated Fr. Bruno Hicks, O.S.F., a priest who spent 10 years in the Philippines working with the sacadas and small farmers in Negros Oriental until he was arrested last year under martial law and deported.

—Editor

November 20, 1973

Mr. John Osmena, former Senator, has recently appeared in the Bay Area telling Filipino communities that martial law has been a "boon to the Philippines." That Marcos needs our support to succeed in his efforts to create a new society.

When Osmena ran for the Philippine Senate in 1971, he was elected overwhelmingly by the people because of his courage, eloquence and logic in proving that Marcos was corrupt and unscrupulous. He was then one of the popular hopes of the people, especially the young, for a better deal from the politicians.

Now, while his former colleagues in the opposition are still in jail, he is in this country endorsing Marcos' society. He is no longer talking of Marcos' corruption, but of the people's corruption. He talks of the business boom under martial law, but does not explain that the main beneficiaries are a few merchants and industrialists, the new oligarchy that supports Marcos, while the poor people, the great majority of the population, are having miserable times from the high cost of rice and prime commodities and soaring unemployment. If the 37 million Filipinos were free to talk, if the Philippine press were free, this is the story you would hear.

Also, Osmenas says that it is Aquino's fault that he is still in jail because Aquino refused to defend himself in court. But he does not explain that Aquino refused to defend himself because it was going to be a mock trial before a military tribunal, created by Marcos as Commander-in-Chief, that the decision of that court is only appealable to Marcos as said Commander-in-Chief, and not to the Supreme Court, while Marcos is Aquino's principal accuser.

Mr. Osmena talks of the discipline under the Marcos society, but it is the kind of discipline that comes from without, the kind generated by the bayonets of the army that we have now in the Philippines.

Considering therecord and propensities of Marcos in the use of public funds during the past 8 years, of which Mr. Osmena is fully aware. I wonder if it is moral now for any Filipino to endorse the society of Marcos in which he has full and absolute control of the people's money without Congress, press nor public opinion to fiscalize.

The Marcos' society is not new. It is exactly the revival of the society we suffered under the Japanese army for 4 years, with the only difference that instead of Gen. Yamashita, we have our own countryman who claims he earned 27 medals fighting for our freedom.

Should Philippine problems be solved in slavery or freedom?

The biggest deception lies in the scheme that to justify his dictatorship, Marcos utilizes the problems of the country, in the timing of their solutions, to assuage the loss of civil liberties.

As Prof. Kolko of York University very aptly put it in one of his books:

"Complete personal opportunism is Marcos' most consistent personal characteristic, along with a pseudo-intellectual cast of mind which he adjusts to serve his own needs."

J./G. Quijano

Can Marcos Continue? ...

continued from front page

speech and of press, freedom of discussion and movement, and freedom to criticize Marcos and his policies.

2. "Notoriously partisan" officials in the Commission on Elections and in the Armed Forces should be replaced with independently willed individuals whose integrity and political color cannot be questioned.
3. Simultaneously, the people should be asked to vote on an amendment to the constitution allowing the president to seek a third term, with a vote for Marcos taken as a vote for the amendment.

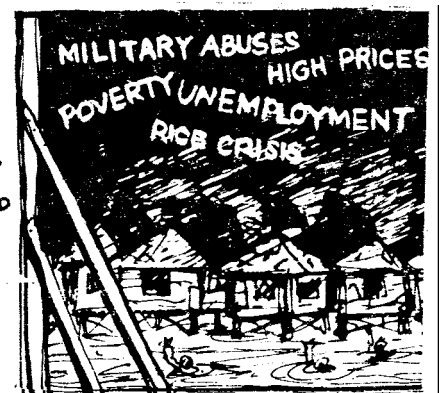
Should Marcos not submit to this proposal, the FFF, which claims to have active and retired military officers in its ranks, threatened to take up arms against Marcos,



PRESIDENT MARCOS TAKING HIS OATH OF OFFICE: TO UPHOLD THE CONSTITUTION

indicating some form of a coup d'etat. They also called on all military officers to actively oppose the Marcos regime. Historically though, a successful coup d'etat has been marked by active U.S. backing and a military disheartened enough to engineer a coup.

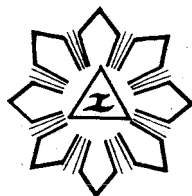
TAKE NOTE OF THE CLEAN STREETS AND PEACE AND ORDER....THE SUNSHINE.



Tambuli, newsletter of NCRCLP, Chicago Chapter

"Welcome home BUT please, NO sight-seeing behind that scene!!"

Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino (KDP)



-Union of Democratic Filipinos-

"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. Inquiries regarding KDP should be sent in care of *Ang Katipunan*.



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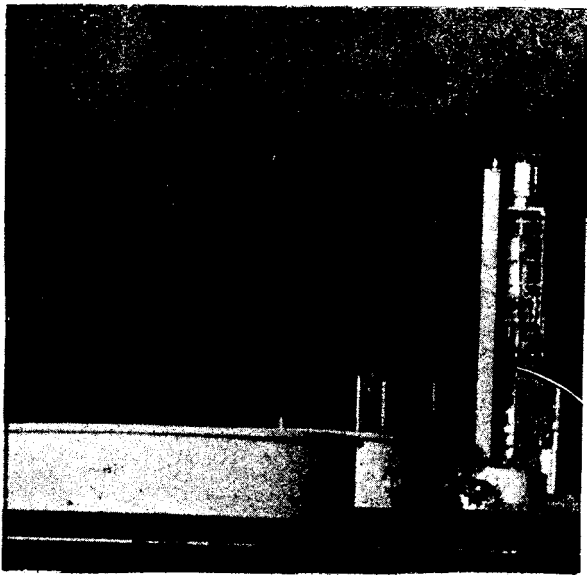
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Behind Pro-Arab Stand

OIL CRISIS WORSENS



American oil refineries in the Philippines: they refine and market all the oil, thus maintaining their high profits, even though Marcos has by-passed the oil embargo and receives oil directly from the Middle East countries. In the past, all oil was supplied through the U.S. oil companies.

The Philippines has 38 days of oil supply left since Nov. 30. It is not clear whether the situation would be immediately alleviated by Pres. Marcos' new pro-Arab policy or by an offer from the People's Republic of China to ship available oil to the Philippines.

While it is uncertain how long this situation will last, the present conditions have continued to worsen.

Recent Developments

—In the major cities: Manila, Davao, and Baguio, jeepney drivers have protested the hike in oil prices and the government's refusal to increase fares. What was once a P20/day earning, has dwindled to P10/day.

—In Manila, the Bus Operators Association of the Philippines (BOAP) and the Associated Taxicab Operators of Manila (ATOM), have filed petitions to increase their fares by 10 cents since a liter of gas would be increased by 17 cents (the former price before the oil crisis of 34 cents/liter has now shot up to 54 cents/liter in a matter of a month!).

—Industries consuming a lot of oil to manufacture products, were forced to lay-off workers.

Most controversial perhaps was his recent pro-Arab foreign policy which embodies the following positions:

1. "A condemnation of forcible occupa-

tion of Arab lands which is tantamount to an act of aggression in violation of the United Nations charter."

2. "The withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied Arab territories in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 242 issued Nov. 22, 1967."

3. "The restoration of the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine."

The Truth Behind the "Energy Crisis"

All the oil companies in the Philippines are subsidiaries of the big oil monopolies that control ¾ of the world's crude oil production. These are ESSO (EXXON), Caltex (Texaco), Mobiloil (Mobil), Flying "A" (Standard) and Shell Phil. (Shell). These companies net \$35-billion yearly in profit.

During the past few years, the local oil companies have always asked the Oil Industry Commission (OIC), to allow them to increase the price of petroleum and the other sub-products of this (kerosene, paraffin, etc.)

The reason for this, as they rationalize, is the increase in the price of Middle East crude oil and the increase in the price of production incurred (freight, manufacturing, refining, etc.). But in truth, all the oil monopolies own their own oil vessels and refineries.

The Arab countries meanwhile, are justified to demand that the oil monopolies pay more for the crude oil they squeeze from these countries. The Arab countries have merely asked that the payments per barrel of crude oil be returned to the same level as in 1960 and that the taxes of the oil companies be increased. This would compensate for the loss of Arab revenue made since the devaluation of the dollar. (The price of crude oil is computed by dollars. Since the devaluation of the dollar the usual amount paid for crude oil has become insufficient to pay for the actual value of crude oil.)

Yet the oil companies not wanting to lose a cent of profit, have chosen to take this out on its ultimate consumers—the Philippines and other Third World countries. To do this, they have whipped up an "energy crisis" to make countries who are dependent on them for refined oil, desperate enough to pay the exorbitant prices the oil monopolies ask.

The truth therefore behind the "energy crisis" around the world is not due to energy shortages, but is a scheme of the big oil monopolies to blackmail the people of the

world into paying higher prices for their profits.

Behind the Pro-Arab Stand

The Philippine government now buys crude oil directly from the Middle East, but it is shipped and refined by the oil monopolies. The oil monopolies have taken a stand supporting Israel's aggression on Arab territory. Because of this, the Arab countries have limited the sale of oil to these monopolies and have imposed oil embargos on countries who politically and militarily support Israel's aggression. Because the Arab countries have limited the sale of oil to the oil monopolies, the Philippines has inevitably been affected. To avert this, Marcos has tactically taken a pro-Arab stand to deceive the Arab nations that he supports their demands. So instead of the former 25% cut-back on oil sent to the Philippines, the Arab countries have reduced this to a 5% cut-back.

On the surface, Marcos' pro-Arab statement is deceptive. In reality it is nothing but mere words on a piece of paper. How could Marcos genuinely support the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, when he outrightly suppresses the legitimate rights of the Filipino people? It is surprising in fact, how a President who has consistently towed the foreign policy of the U.S. on almost every international question, should take an independent position on the Middle East question.

What has to be understood behind this pro-Arab policy, is the collusion of Marcos and the oil monopolies to circumvent the Arab oil embargo. Even if the Arab countries ease the cut-back of oil exports to the Philippines, it is the oil monopolies that ship and refine the oil and therefore benefit from Marcos' pro-Arab policy.

Oil Monopolies Profit— Filipino People's Burden

Even if the Arab countries continue to export oil to the Philippines, the oil prices will continue to go up. Marcos loyalty to the oil cartels has always granted the cartels the right to increase their prices through the Oil Industry Commission. The OIC was created to control or put a ceiling to the prices oil and its sub-products. But in reality the OIC has granted the cartels every opportunity to jack up their prices.

To bear the burden of the prices are the Filipino masses who always suffered for the profits enjoyed by the monopolies.

by Ma. Flor Sepulveda

Harassment Of Clergy Stepped-Up

In the past two months, Marcos has stepped up the arrests and detentions of members of the clergy as well as raids on different schools, convents, and seminaries run by religious orders known to be critical of the Marcos regime. Despite pastoral letters to Malacanang from even high-ranking members of the church hierarchy, Marcos has ignored all protests, petitions, and pleas to stop the harassment of the clergy.

Raids in Manila Schools

St. Joseph's College, an exclusive school for girls and run by the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Concepcion, was raided by a battalion of state troopers. It was not clear what the soldiers were after but they searched every part of the schools' grounds even the sleeping quarters of the sisters. The raid began at midnight and ended at 5:30 the next day.

A nun, Sr. Marianni Dimaranan, was arrested in the raid, allegedly for possessing "subversive materials" which were actually leaflets from the Filipino Freedom Fighters and the Christians for National Liberation. The nun, who was a social science teacher and the assistant registrar of the school, said she did not know the origins of the leaflets having received them by mail, but this did not deter

the arresting officers from bringing her to Camp Crame.

Also raided was the Franciscan seminary, Our Lady of the Holy Angels in Novaliches, Quezon City, and the Trinity College on Espana Avenue.



Sister Marianni Dimaranan, the Josephine nun who was arrested during the raid at St. Joseph's College, Manila.

More Arrests in Davao

In Tagum, Davao del Norte, Mindanao, there were successive arrests of clergymen and laymen active in parochial work. Among them were:

—Fr. Orlando Carvajal, of the Mindanao Development Center, was questioned and put under arrest.

—Fr. Tom Marti, of the Maryknoll Fathers and the Mindanao Social Action Secretariat, was picked up for questioning but later released.

—Five other persons, who worked with priests and nuns in the Agdao District of Davao, were detained for 5 days in the PC headquarters. They were later released when no evidence turned up against them.

—Fr. Edward Gerlock, a Maryknoll priest also of Tagum, was arrested in connection with writing a position paper "with critical overtones of martial law," and possessing "subversive materials." He was also accused of supporting the guerrillas, because he made a trip to Sitio Cagan which was a supposed guerrilla hide-out. Gerlock was brought to Camp Crame in Manila, but it is still undetermined whether he will be deported or detained.

Mula sa atin...

113 PRIESTS, PASTORS DECRY CONTROLLED MEDIA

An ecumenical group of 113 Catholic bishops, priests, Protestant ministers, and the priests of the Philippine Independent Church denounced the Marcos controlled media and urged that press freedom be restored in the country.

The religious leaders wrote: "The common people are wiser than many of us think since they sense that there is no truth when many things they read or hear are plainly contrary to the reality of their misery and poverty. They can see high class extravagance, they can smell the stench of corruption, they can feel the sting of terrible injustice, whatever the official propaganda say. It is this contradiction between propaganda and actual fact that disturbs us," the group stressed.

The group emphasized that a system of controlled media is far worse than a "free-wheeling, abusive type of journalism." They suggested the two alternatives:

1. Freedom of the press should be restored by abolishing all forms of licensing and censorship; and
2. To encourage responsible writing and reporting, the laws of libel and slander should be modified to impose higher penalties, including imprisonment and fine, for false and unfair representation of both news and comments."

FM SEEKS TO MONOPOLIZE FOREIGN PRESS

(BMP) MANILA - Pres. Marcos recently formed a quasi-government news agency called National Media Trust. This agency was formed despite the protests of existing international agencies as Agence France Presse (France), Reuters (Britain), and Associated Press and United Press International (U.S.).

To be patterned after Indonesia's Antara News Agency under the Suharto regime, National Trust Media (NMT) would be the sole distributor of foreign news to the already captive local mass media.

To achieve this, Marcos would declare the NMT to be a franchise, meaning he would buy out all the foreign agencies' communications facilities in the Philippines and thus become the sole subscriber of those agencies. At the same time, Marcos has created the Philippine Overseas Information and Trust News Agency (POINT) which would basically cover the international situation from the viewpoint of the Marcos regime and for the consumption of the local media. What could be more censored!

WHY FORD LIKES FILIPINOS A LOT?

The Marcoses have often publicized their friendship with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ford II, of Ford auto millions, in order to project themselves as close friends of the Filipino people.

Mrs. Cristina Ford became the first woman recipient of the "Golden Heart" Presidential Award for the numerous "unpublicized" projects she has funded for Filipino youth.

Is it any wonder why Henry Ford likes Filipino very much? Why through his good friendship, Ford now has a local car stamping plant to expand his market in Asia, and of which he repatriates all his profits back to the U.S., tax-free. And of course, there's nothing like cheaply-paid Filipino skilled labor!

Tondo Demo...

(continued from front page)



"Squatters" living in Beata, Pandacan, forced to tear down their homes. In Tondo too, where the impoverished population of Manila is concentrated, is a systematic scheme to evict tenants, demolish their homes, and dump them in the countryside as was done to the squatters in Sapang Palay who were dumped in isolated Carmona, Cavite.

Housing Corp. and Col. Venago of PAHRA. The agreement provided that only those shanties within 3 to 5 meters of the Pasig banks would be demolished. The demolition team, however, wanted to clear 15 meters, virtually the whole of Bonifacio Village.

Government Violates Agreement

As the demolition team ignored the agreement of the community leaders and the government agencies, the former called a meeting of the residents at the barrio's headquarters. Residents of the neighboring areas also came by the hundreds. The residents decided to march to Malacanang since it was President Marcos who ordered the demolition.

People Meet, Organize March

By noontime, there were about a thousand people, not only from Bonifacio Village, but from Luzviminda Village, Dulo Puting Bato, Slip Zero, Magitingan Extension, San Antonio, Fugaso, and North Harbor.

Marching five abreast, the men and women took to the main streets of the populous district, proceeded to Malacanang. While

Tatalon Folk Being Evicted

The Marcos regime has widely publicized that the people of the Tatalon estate would now be able to have a right to lots through his Presidential Order (PD) No. 42, which is supposed to expropriate 45 hectares of the land and redistribute this to bona-fide tenants.

Implementing this order, is the People's Homesite and Housing Corporation (PHHC). In implementing this however, the PHHC issued "appointment slips" as evidence of the right of the holders to buy lots at the estate. The slips also require the holders to present building permits and other proof that they are bonafide tenants.

Meantime, many of the poor families being classified as squatters, were not issued any of these slips. Instead, these slips were given to rich Kuomintang elements and to the millionaire, Araneta-Tuason group. The poor families were instead issued demolition notices.

The people of Tatalon then issued a manifesto denouncing PD No. 42 as another means to evict them, in their historic struggle for the ownership of the land. The people also announced that they organized themselves into the Association of the Urban Poor to

crossing the Del Pan Bridge, a Metrocom (Manila Metropolitan Command) car tried to stop them. However, when they were within several blocks of Malacanang, they were blocked by a huge formation of Metrocom men. The Metrocom officers threatened to arrest the marchers for violating Gen. Order No. 5.

At this point, the ZOTO leaders promised to disperse the crowd if the Metrocom would stop the demolition going on at Bonifacio.

The officers present, which by this time included Metrocom Chief Gerardo Tamayo and his deputy, Col. James Barbers, could give no word, but instead continued to invoke Gen. Order No. 5. At this time, Metrocom Chief Brig. Gen. Prospero Olivas arrived and proposed that ZOTO and the demolition team discuss the problem at his office in Camp Crame.

The marchers were distrustful of Olivas' offer, suspecting a trick to lure their leaders to Camp Crame. But the ZOTO leaders decided to do so and asked the marchers to return to Tondo. The latter reluctantly did so, but did not disband at Bonifacio Village pledging to march to Crame if their leaders were detained. In the past several ZOTO leaders were arrested and some of them remain detained.

Unity—Weapon Against Marcos

The meeting ended with the Metrocom promising to stop the demolition and giving a firm commitment that no houses would be destroyed without prior consultation with the residents concerned, and that these be relocated to a desirable area.

When the ZOTO leaders returned and informed the residents of the agreement, the people rejoiced. They told them that peoples power — unity through mass struggle — is their only weapon against the abuses of the Marcos Dictatorship.

Driver's Wives' Also March

(BMP) MANILA—In another event that same day, some 300 wives of jeepney drivers went to Malacanang to protest against the sharp increase of gasoline and diesel oil.

The wife's complained that their husbands' daily earnings had been considerably reduced because of the high cost of fuel, plus the fact that many working hours are wasted spent in lines waiting as gas stations.

They demanded that the prices of gasoline be lowered since the government would not allow the hiking of jeepney fares. They also protested the government's plan to phase out jeepneys from the streets of Manila.



Children playing by a marsh in Quezon City's Tatalon Estate. Since Oct., 1972, Marcos has widely publicized that he would expropriate the land for distribution to the bonafide tenants and created Presidential Order No. 42 to "implement" this. Implemented instead was the systematic eviction of tenants in Tatalon.

..... serve as a united weapon in fighting the government and the Araneta-Tuason group

DELANO: Farmworkers Retirement Village**VOLUNTEERS HELP BUILD AGBAYANI VILLAGE****Los Angeles**

LOS ANGELES — On November 23 through November 25, 26 brothers and sisters from Los Angeles KDP Chapter (Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino) and Jacs-Ai (Japanese-American Community Services—Asian Involvement Office) went to Delano to support the Farm Workers struggle and participate in the building of Agbayani Village. Many of us had never experienced life in the rural areas, but because of our growing understanding of the history of Filipinos in America, especially of the conditions of Filipino farmworkers, we knew we could gain a rich learning experience in Delano. In turn, we wanted to share our cultural experiences with them by singing and dancing.

We arrived Friday night and brought some clothing and food we had collected for the farmworkers. Early Saturday morning, we ate and then started our work. Some people dug an irrigation ditch, but most of us moved tiles to the roof. We worked about 6 hours and it

was cold, sometimes sprinkling, but through it all, there was unity. We sang the tune "The Masses Are the Makers of History" with everybody joining in. We felt that we weren't working because we had to, but because we wanted to.

With some cut fingers and aching backs but feeling a sense of accomplishment, we stopped work. We cleaned up, had a delicious dinner that the Manongs had prepared and then spent the evening discussing the day's work, watching a film on the struggle of the Farm Workers and learning why there was a boycott against lettuce, wine and Safeway Stores.

On the last day, Sunday, we prepared the food for everyone. We had ham, chicken adobo and chicken with oyster sauce. Afterwards, KDP put on a cultural show. We did the Binasuan (wine glass balancing) and the Tinikling dances, and pulled some of the Manongs and anchor crew out of the audience to try and do the Tinikling. This was the highlight of the day and everyone's face lit up. Soon it was time for us to leave. After

hugging people goodbye, promising to come back and wanting to come back, we left, starting back to LA with an unforgettable learning and sharing experience that we can always draw lessons from.

—by Staff Correspondent

Oakland

OAKLAND — The following weekend, November 30-December 2, another work brigade of young people came to Delano and helped with the construction of the Village and gave a cultural presentation for the Delano Filipino Community in commemoration of Andres Bonifacio.

The work brigade brought \$100 for food for the UFWA and were able to secure these funds and a bus to transport the group through Laney College.

About 40 people came. Most of them were from Laney College and were in the Filipino Studies classes or were involved in "Project Manong," whether on the renovation crew, on committees to plan the Hotel's management or looking for furniture, construction materials or money. ("Project Manong" is a low-cost housing project to renovate a hotel building that will provide alternative low-cost housing for some of the Filipino Senior Citizens in Oakland; see previous issue, pg. 5).

Two weeks before, the anchor crew from Agbayani Village came up to Oakland (Nov. 16-19) and contributed their time and skills to the renovation of the Hotel. Their assistance pushed the work ahead greatly, but along with their skills, they brought spirit and strong unity was forged that weekend in our working together.

So when we left Friday for Delano, it was with the understanding that our contributions to the building of the Village was an act of solidarity between people involved in the same broader political struggle. That is, our struggle to build alternative housing is a fighting against this system that has always put aside the needs and considerations of the people, especially the elderly who have spent

(continued on page 6)



We worked in assembly-line style passing tiles to each other. That weekend we moved 50 tons of tile, often singing as we worked.

From Agbayani Village...

The following article was sent to us from one of the Manongs who will be living at Agbayani Village in Delano, California. Written with simple eloquence, he captures the experiences and understandings of the Filipino pioneers and the growing consciousness, especially among the youth, of the conditions which faced Filipinos when they first came to this country.

The Paulo Agbayani Village is a housing project of the United Farm Workers of America (UFWA, AFL-CIO) for retired farmworkers in the Delano area. The Village, which is being built by volunteer labor and is expected to be completed by the Spring, will house 59 retired farmworkers, both men and women. Of those who can live at the Village, first consideration will be given to the original strikers of the Delano Grape Strike of 1965, who are mostly Filipinos. The Village is named after Paulo Agbayani, a Filipino brother who died while on the picket line, struggling to get better wages and working conditions for all farmworkers.

December 8, 1973

Although the Philippines was then under the U.S. government, Filipinos who came before World War II were exploited for our labor and suffered severe racial discrimination. The majority of Filipinos (40-50 thousand) were young, single men who arrived during the depression years. A few of us found jobs in the cities, usually as some kind of domestic help like busboys, dishwashers or janitors. But most of us could only find work in the fields. We worked 8 hours and earned 80 cents. On top of the

worst kind of exploitation of our labor, we were also not allowed to own our own land or houses, and not even permitted to marry or raise a family.

This left the Filipino to avail himself of any opportunity he could find. Those in the cities usually lived in cheap hotels, apartments or rooming houses and those in the country were farmworkers and lived in labor camps built by the ranchers.

In the country and living in those camps, you were subject to the disposal of the ranchers — where he wanted you to work, at what time and as long as you were productive, you could remain there. Otherwise, you were evicted.

These were the basic conditions of Filipino farmworkers. Now that many of us are old and cannot work as well, we have become like old clothes or shoes to be burned or thrown away because we've passed our usefulness.

But in the United Farm Workers of America (UFWA), where we have organized to fight for our basic rights — decent wages, better working conditions and workers' rights, we also have health clinics and legal and social services provided for farmworkers. The Union is also building the Agbayani Village for retired farmworkers.

Cesar Chavez, director of UFWA said at the Village's groundbreaking ceremonies that this project is the first of its kind to be built by the Union, and others will follow.

Now, Agbayani Village is in the making. With shovels, picks and iron bars, a handful of men and women began construction in April, 1973 by digging ditches of 500 ft. long for water pipes and telephone wires. As days and weeks passed by, volunteers of different races and nationalities began coming in to help build the village.

Much of this is because last March, a group of young Filipinos from the Bay Area came to Delano to learn about Agbayani Village and what they could do to support our struggle. From this weekend meeting of long discussions lasting many hours, they went back and began to organize people to come to Delano and donate their labor to build this home for the Manongs.

Because of their enthusiastic and consistent efforts, we have had many volunteers come — individuals, small groups and whole work brigades of 30-40 people. All of them were enthusiastic workers and strong supporters of our struggle — men and women from different organizations and groups of students from high schools and colleges, and skilled workers from labor unions.

Agbayani Village is now about two-thirds done and with more volunteers coming. By God, the building will be completed by next Spring.

To me, this is the most beautiful home in the whole world. It is beautiful because it is being built by strong, beautiful hands of men and women whose hearts are filled with love, spirit of unity and a determination to remake this world into a better place to live in.

Si se Puede!! Mabuhay!!

Sebastian Sahagun

Bonifacio Day Celebrated



DELANO—Scene from cultural presentation given in Filipino Hall commemorating Andres Bonifacio.

On November 30, Filipinos in the U.S. celebrated Andres Bonifacio Day in commemoration of the birth of one of the foremost heroes of the Revolution against Spain. Known as the Father of the Revolution, Bonifacio was the founder of the *Katipunan*, the first revolutionary organization of the Filipino nation, dedicated to achieving complete Philippine independence from Spain and bettering the lives of the people. Throughout the 34 years of his life and activities, Bonifacio came to embody the determination of the Filipino people to be free and independent.

In the different celebrations that took place, that day — two in San Francisco and the other in Delano — it was clear from the people's enthusiastic response that the revolutionary tradition and history of Bonifacio and the *Katipuneros* had not been forgotten. Sponsored by the joint efforts of KDP members (*Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino*) and other Filipino groups in the local communities, the programs clearly linked the rich traditions of the 1896 revolutionary struggles of Filipino workers and peasants to the current struggles of the people for genuine independence and freedom. All the programs were educational and entertaining with speakers, slide shows, skits and songs used to present Philippine history and discuss the present situation in the Philippines.

At San Francisco State College (CSU-SF), KDP members, students from the Martial Law class and PACE (Pilipino-American Collegiate

Volunteers At Delano....

(continued from page 5)

all their productive years building this country only to be cast aside when they can no longer work.

We arrived in Delano on Saturday morning (2:00 a.m.) and after a few hours sleep, began our work. It was cold and rainy, but despite this, we put up sheetrock in the building. At noon, some people had to leave to prepare for the Andres Bonifacio presentation, but most of us continued until later in the afternoon when we went to the Filipino Hall for the show. From this, we learned much about the struggles of the Filipino people for justice and freedom, both here and in the Philippines. (See following page for article on Bonifacio Day celebrations.)

We had dinner afterwards at Schenley Camp, saw a film on the Farah Strike and then Philip Vera Cruz, V-Pres. of UFWA, spoke about his recent speaking engagement in Hawaii. The last day, Sunday, we moved tiles to the roof working until noon. With a long ride ahead of us, we had to leave soon after lunch. But first we had a short meeting and assessed our work, with the major lessons being that people are the most reliable workers and that the weekend accomplished much in building a strong unity within the growing ranks of people within the Movement.

Bonifacio (left) rallies workers and peasants to arm themselves and free the Philippines from Spanish rule.

Endeavor) sponsored an afternoon luncheon and educational program. This was the first activity of its kind at State and 150 students attended the commemoration. Despite the rain and cold weather, later that evening at Jamestown Community Center, St. James Church in San Francisco, the San Francisco KDP chapter sponsored a community dinner and program where about 75 people attended.

In honoring Andres Bonifacio Day, we honor the spirit of the Filipino people to fight for basic revolutionary change and 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.

In Delano on December 1, a cultural presentation was given by students from Laney College (Oakland) and members from KDP. The students from Laney were in Delano that weekend to help with the construction of Agbayani Village (see page 5), but with their trip coinciding with Bonifacio Day, they prepared a program of speeches, a slide show, patriotic songs and a historic skit on Andres Bonifacio. Through the active support of various Delano Filipino Community persons, the presentation was given in the Filipino Hall with about 75 people attending. Leaflets were even handed out in Chinatown, Manilatown, and the response of many, especially the Manongs, was that their own fathers and uncles were in the *Katipunan* and fought against Spain and then the American troops when the U.S. took over the Philippines.



In spite of the rain, we worked on the Village, moving materials, putting up sheetrock and moving tiles onto the roof.

UNITY... Magkaisa!

PROPER "CLASSIFICATION" DEMANDED FOR FILIPINOS

SANTA ROSA—On November 25 in a meeting sponsored by the Filipino Community of Sonoma County, about 60 people gathered together for a program which introduced the Filipino Voters League (presently organized and operating in San Francisco) and its platform for the proper classification of Filipinos. In the Federal, state and local censuses, Filipinos are now classified as Spanish surnamed, Oriental or "other" and as such, Filipinos do not receive fair government funding for "minority" projects, programs and services.

The Filipino Voters League (FVL) has recently pledged to take politically aggressive actions to carry through the issue of proper classification along with comprehensive voter registration; programs which would educate people on the important current political issues (federal, state or local) effecting Filipinos; and to encourage and support qualified Filipinos to run for elective government positions on all levels.

The main points brought out in the presentation were: (1) the need to be politically organized and to participate in the community, especially on those issues that effect the welfare of Filipinos; (2) to be informed and have opinions on state and national affairs; and (3) in the area of electoral politics, for Filipinos to know who they are voting for, what they are voting on and how it will effect them.

The FVL is hoping to develop itself as a statewide organization and similar presentations in other local areas are being planned.

PHILIPPINE CULTURE WORKSHOP HELD AT LANEY COLLEGE

OAKLAND — An educational program on Philippine culture was presented on December 8 in an afternoon workshop sponsored by the Ethnic Studies Department of Laney College. The workshop was led by Luis Hoffman, Filipino Studies instructor at Laney College, students from the Filipino Studies classes and some individuals who are involved in the Oakland Filipino community. About 30 people attended, mostly students from Laney College, teachers and people from the Oakland community in general.

The purpose of the workshop was to educate people about the Philippines and the Filipino experience in America as a basis for a better understanding of Filipinos among people of different races and cultures. Speeches, songs, skits and slide shows were used to explain the history and culture of the Philippines and the experiences of Filipinos here in America. One point made very clearly was the Philippine-American War (in the early 1900s) and the aggressive and imperialist role of the U.S. government in the Philippines, a significant fact in having a correct understanding of the Philippines.

A slide show and speech was also given on "Project Manong," a low-cost housing project for Filipino elderly presently underway in Oakland. The project is being undertaken by the Pilipino Youth Development Council (PYDC) who are renovating a 22-unit building with plans for the building to be used as low-cost hotel for the Manongs (see Vol. 1, no. 3, page 5). The hotel will open sometime in January and about \$70 in donations for the hotel was collected during the workshop.

ENERGY CRISIS: Attack On Independent Businessmen

On Nov. 25, President Nixon imposed restrictions upon the American people as part of his program to "conserve energy." In this program, six points were emphasized.

1. a 15% cutback in gasoline deliveries from refineries to wholesalers and retailers.
2. the closing of gasoline stations from 9 p.m. Saturdays till 12 p.m. Sundays.
3. reduction in highway speed limits to 50 miles per hour nationally.
4. cutback in airline fuel by 25%.
5. ornamental lighting will be banned both in homes and business, except for commercial establishment.
6. a 15% cutback in home heating oil, and 68 degree maximum temperatures in homes.

These measures place the burden on the backs of the people and Nixon himself has said that these restrictions will not solve the so-called energy crisis. While all these restrictions are being implemented, oil monopolies continue to gain their profits, some 35 billion dollars worth a year.

The "energy crisis" affects the American people in the form of restrictions and higher prices. However, for a segment of American society, the independent gas retailers and truckers, the "energy crisis" is costing them their livelihood.

"Energy Crisis" Squeezes Out the Independent Gasoline Retailers

Up to date, more than 10,000 of the country's gas stations have closed permanently. The majority of them were independent gasoline retailers who used to own their own stations and would buy their gas from one of the major oil companies. Generally, the independents would sell their gas at cheaper prices to the consumer, though this practice would constantly undercut the price of gas sold at the stations owned and operated by the major oil companies themselves. In the past 10 years, this has meant a substantial loss in profits for the major oil companies.

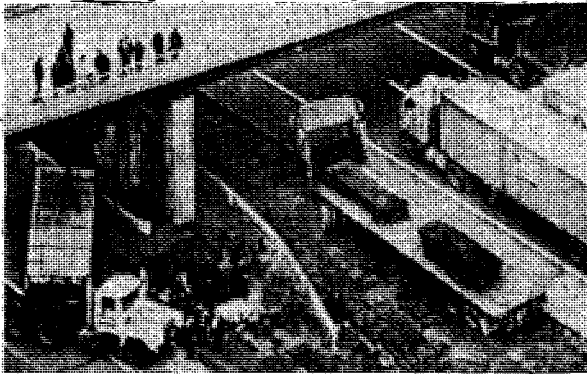
But under the present situation, many independents are rapidly being driven out of business. First, the supply of gasoline to the independents bought wholesale from the majors has been drastically cut. Secondly, in selling wholesale, the majors charge exorbitant prices to the independents. Therefore, in order for the independents to

break even, or receive some profit, they must charge a high price to the consumer. In turn, the majors set up stations in strategic locations, sell at lower prices and thus drive the independents out of the gas market.

Truckers Protest Nixon's Restrictions

Along with the independent gas retailers, another group of small businessmen affected are the independent truckers. These are people who own their own truck and make the hauling of goods their livelihood.

These independent truckers have asserted that the energy restrictions will literally drive their business to bankruptcy. The reduction of the national speed limit to 50 mph means less mileage per gallon (diesel engines operate more efficiently on higher speeds). Many say that instead of being able to fill up their tanks, which can take up to 200 gals. at a time, they have to wait for hours in long lines to get 20-30 gals. because of the so-called shortage. Also the diesel fuel has catapulted to an average of 51 cents a gallon.



Independent truckers, exasperated over high diesel fuel prices and lower speed limits, caused havoc.

The total consequence of the restrictions means the expenses for trucking operations have risen over 100%. What used to cost \$247 in expenses from Vermont to Los Angeles, now costs \$386.

The independent truckers, in an effort to save themselves, have organized nation-wide blockades. As many as 3000 truckers have participated in the protests.

Leaders for the truckers protest have stated that the problem of the truckers is the problem of the American people. The protest against increased prices on gas, the rationing of gas, and the reduction of the speed limit, affects not only the truckers but the general public as well.

Japanese Community Organizes Redevelopment Plan Opposed

SAN FRANCISCO—Over the last 12 years, Nihonmachi (Japantown) has shrunk to a 4-square block area. It consists of family residents and small Japanese stores. However, if the city's Redevelopment Agency and some big corporations from Japan have their way, the community will be completely dispersed and replaced by a shining and profitable "showcase" selling packaged "Japanese culture" to SF's tourists.

The "master-plan" calls for the eviction and dispersal of the Japanese people who have lived in the area for years.

For example, the building of the Japan Trade Center resulted in the eviction of 1,000 residents and small businessmen. As the "tourist scene" continues to develop, it makes it difficult to live in the neighborhood as commercial re-zoning has made property assessments and rents skyrocket.

In response to this, the Japanese people last year formed a community association called Committee Against Nihonmachi Eviction (CANE). It is committed to preserving the residential character of Nihonmachi; defending the residents from eviction, and calling for the Redevelopment Agency to build a much needed low-cost housing project in the neighborhood.

However, most recently, the city has issued a demolition permit to allow Kintetsu Enterprises to begin construction on another tourist hotel for Nihonmachi (Kintetsu is a subsidiary of a giant Japan-based corporation that already owns 25% of the neighborhood.) CANE swung into action, opposing the demolition permit and issuing a press release.

In its statement, CANE cites that its membership at a recent general meeting unanimously approved a proposal to oppose the corporations plans to evacuate residents and built the Kintetsu Sunflower Motor Inn.

There are two major reasons for CANE's opposition. First, CANE is opposed to selling Nihonmachi to Big Business, because tourism and "Japanese culture" that these businesses are promoting in the area is superficial commercialism and is detrimental to the community spirit and atmosphere of Nihonmachi. Second, the proposed site for the hotel should be used to provide low-cost housing for families in Japantown.

CANE feels that these are just and reasonable demands and intends to mobilize the Japanese community as well as other progressive people in S.F. to oppose the destruction of Nihonmachi by Big Business.

America In Turmoil

LAW SUIT FILED AGAINST DISCRIMINATION IN ALASKA CANNERIES

SEATTLE—A group of Asian and Native American cannery workers filed a lawsuit on Nov. 29 against the New England Fish Company (NEFCO) and its subsidiary NEFCO-Fidalgo Packing Company. The lawsuit is sponsored by the Alaskan Cannery Workers Association.

Six plaintiffs charged that NEFCO hired minority workers from Seattle for summer cannery work in Alaska and excluded minority workers from more desirable and higher paying positions, in particular Asian workers who constitute more than 80%.

The Alaska Cannery Workers Association was formed this summer after the cannery workers returned to Seattle. Nemesio Domingo, spokesman for the group, said that conditions in the Alaskan fishing industry are uniformly inferior for minority workers, and Asians have been discriminated against by the industry for more than 50 years.

The suit cites concentration of minorities in lower paying, dirty and unskilled jobs, as well as poor housing and dining facilities. Non-whites are usually barred from desirable, higher paying jobs such as fishermen and machinists.

The group hopes that the suit will bring this situation to public attention and be instrumental in improving the living and working conditions for Asian and other minorities in the Alaskan Salmon industry.

LOS TRES DEL BARRIO RELEASED ON BAIL— CASE UNDER APPEAL

LOS ANGELES—Three young Chicano community activists, Rodolfo Sanchez, Juan R. Fernandez and Alberto Ortiz were finally released in November on \$50,000 bail each. This is after 2 years of imprisonment on a frame-up by the LA police and court.

The 3, better known as Los Tres del Barrio, were leading members of Casa de Carnalismo (House of Brotherhood), an organization whose goals were to combat drug traffic in East Los Angeles.

In early July 1971, a drug dealer named "Bobby Parker" was attempting to sell heroin in the community. A meeting was arranged by Los Tres to persuade Parker not to deal drugs in the community. In that meeting, Los Tres told Parker to leave the community and encouraged him to donate the money he got from dealing to the Casa de Carnalismo. Pretending to comply, Parker dropped his wallet, but then drew a gun and attempted to fire at Ortiz and Fernandez. However, they drew their pistols in defense, fired two shots and Parker fell wounded.

After the arrest of Los Tres, it was discovered that "Bobby Parker" was really Roberto Canales, an informer for the government and police agent. In the mock trial that followed, the activists were sentenced to a total of 75 years in jail (Sanchez was sentenced 40 years, Fernandez to 25 years and Ortiz to 10 years). The charges were: conspiracy to commit crimes against the U.S.; conspiracy to commit assault on a custodian of mail matter, money or other property of the U.S. with intent to steal with the use of weapons.

However, the case is now under appeal with Los Tres having new attorneys who understand the political significance of the case. The Defense foresees a reversal of the conviction.

MARTIAL LAW REGIME WEAKENS

People's Resistance Grows

Located between China, the Soviet Union, and Japan, Korea is a key outpost in the U.S. military strategy in Asia. Since 1945, Korea has been divided by U.S. military occupation of South Korea. Like Marcos in the Philippines, President Pak Jung Hi of South Korea feels threatened by the rapidly changing situation in Asia. The month after martial law was imposed in the Philippines, Pak declared it in South Korea. Like Marcos, he used this period to impose a new constitution which will allow him to remain dictator for life. The South Korean people's struggle, like that of the Filipino people, is to restore democracy in their homeland. It is also a struggle for the reunification of their divided nation.

During the past three months, massive student demonstrations have threatened the dictatorship of Pak Jung Hi in South Korea. The demonstrations, the first in South Korea in over two years, began on October 2 at Seoul National University, South Korea's most prestigious school.

About 400 students held a rally on campus, demanding the end of fascist rule and the establishment of democracy in South Korea. Other demands included the dismantling of the South Korean CIA, an end to South Korea's growing economic dependence on Japan, and the establishment of an independent national economy.

Following the rally, students marched into the streets chanting, "Down with the Dictatorship!" U.S.-equipped riot police armed with teargas bombs and clubs attacked the students, arresting nearly 150. Students then staged a sit-in around the monument commemorating the Student Uprising in 1960 which overthrew the dictator Syngman Rhee.

This marked the beginning of a wave of demonstrations which spread to nearly every college and university, and even many theological seminaries, in Seoul and throughout the rest of South Korea. During October and November, tens of thousands of students boycotted classes and took to the streets day after day, demanding an end to Pak's fascist rule.

Kim Dae Jung Kidnapping

The fascist tactics of Pak Jung Hi and the South Korean CIA have been brought to international attention in recent months through the Kim Dae Jung kidnapping. Since the declaration of martial law in South Korea in October, 1972, opposition leader Kim Dae Jung had become one of Pak's most outspoken critics. Travelling between the U.S. and Japan, Kim rallied many previously pro-Pak forces against the South Korean dictatorship and in support of peaceful reunification with North Korea. Because of this, Kim was kidnapped on August 8 from a Tokyo hotel by South Korean CIA agents and taken back to Seoul. Although Japanese police have proof that the head of the South Korean Embassy in Tokyo took part in the kidnapping, Pak still claims that his government and the CIA were not involved! In the recent student demonstrations, a consistent demand has been that the truth behind the kidnapping be revealed.

UN Debate on Korea

In the international arena, Pak could hardly afford these demonstrations which coincided with the United Nations debate on Korean reunification. National reunification is the greatest desire of the Korean people who have been divided for over 28 years by U.S. occupation of South Korea. Every year since the Korean War, the UN has taken up the question of Korean reunification. This year, however, was the first time that both North and South Korea were allowed to participate in the discussion. (In past years, only South Korea was invited.)

This year South Korea, backed by the U.S.

and Japan, pushed a "two-Korea" policy at the UN. They called for the admission of both North and South Korea to the UN as separate states in an attempt to prolong the division of Korea. This would strengthen the possibility of Pak remaining in power indefinitely, as well as guarantee continued U.S. military and Japanese economic presence in South Korea.

North Korea, supported by Algeria, China, and other progressive countries, proposed that the UN Command, an obstacle to Korean reunification, be dissolved. The UN Command is in reality the U.S. command with over 40,000 U.S. troops operating in South Korea under the UN flag. Dissolving the UN Command would expose the U.S. military as the primary obstacle to Korean reunification.

Neither of these proposals reached the floor of the UN General Assembly for debate. Instead, a consensus statement on Korea was approved by the UN political committee. It called upon North and South Korea to continue their reunification talks, based on their Joint Statement signed on July 4, 1972. In this Joint Statement both sides agreed that the reunification of Korea should take place peacefully and independently, and that national unity should be promoted. The UN also dissolved UNCURK, a UN commission which has long supported the South Korean dictatorships and continued U.S. military presence there.

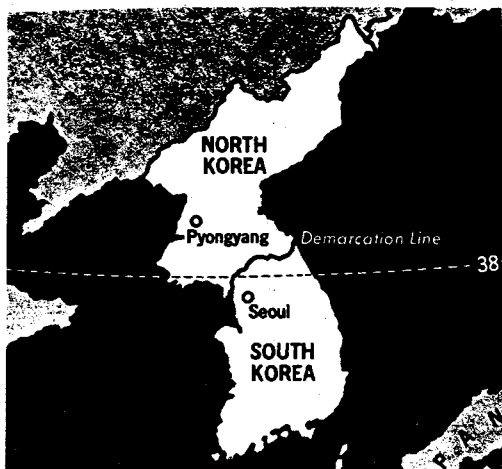
Pak's Concessions

Internationally, as well as at home, Pak Jung Hi is becoming more isolated every day. Pressed to move forward with the reunification talks, Pak was forced to fire Li Hu Rak, head of the South Korean CIA. Li had been South Korea's representative at the North-South talks. But because he was held responsible by Koreans of both North and South for the Kim Dae Jung kidnapping, the North refused to continue the talks until he was replaced.

Student demonstrators have won other important concessions from Pak, including the release of all arrested students. Those expelled from school have been reinstated. Pak has also promised the schools and press "autonomy" from government and CIA harassment.

Clearly Pak is bargaining on the chance that by making a few concessions, he will be able to keep his head above water and ride out the current tide of resistance. Having closed down many schools early, Pak hopes that the student discontent will die out before the next semester begins in March. However, it is more likely that the students who have pledged to "bring justice, freedom, and truth to this land at all costs," will use the ensuing months to organize support for their demands throughout the cities and countryside of South Korea. In the words of the October 2 Student resolution: "Our struggle . . . signifies an unextinguishable flame of justice . . . and the noble way out for the survival of the nation. Who dare attempt to stifle our shouts?"

by Committee in Solidarity with the Korean People



World in Focus

NEW UNITY REFLECTS ARAB CONFERENCE

The summit conference of 17 Arab leaders on Nov. 28, ended with a strong unity about major questions that had divided the Arab nations in the past. In the conference, three major resolutions were passed. (1) The recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), headed by Yasser Arafat as the sole representative of the Palestinian people. (2) The agreement to continue the use of oil as a political weapon. (3) The "sincere solidarity displayed" between the Arab and independent African nations.

the recognition of the PLO resolved the contradiction of who is the representative for the Palestinian people. This decision gave Yasser Arafat a victory over Jordanian King Hussein. Hussein has claimed that he had the right to Palestinian leadership.

The decision to use oil as a weapon was an important part of the conference. The oil would be used to pressure Israel and its allies, particularly the U.S.

The Arab-Afro solidarity has become perhaps one of the most important results of the conference. It calls for the severing of diplomatic, consular, economic and cultural relations with South Africa, Portugal, and Rhodesia. A full support of national liberation in Africa was asserted with a special fund to help developing African nations. This act has linked the importance of TW nations to unite against imperialism, colonialism, and racism. An immediate effect of the unity was the breaking of relations with Israel by 29 African countries.

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO STRIKE: VICTORY FOR PUERTO RICANS

On Monday, Oct. 15, the students of the 13 campuses of the University of Puerto Rico began a historic strike. The strike which lasted 25 days gained major victories for the students and workers over the Puerto Rican Council of Higher Education (CES). The strike when it first began had 5,000 student strikers. The following day an estimated 15,000 workers joined also. As the strike progressed, the ranks of the strikers reached an estimated 45,000 people. The strike is the first in 25 years in Puerto Rico.

The most immediate cause for the strike was the increase of government control of the university system. The reactionary government of Hernandez Colon was attempting to control the universities by appointing his men in major positions.

With an administration that follows the dictates of Colon, the students' demands for better education were suppressed. Following a rejection of student demands for overall participation in selection and policy regulation, the students called for a strike.

The strike with the militant unity between the workers and students forced the CES to give major concessions. The workers and students gained a special committee from which to voice their demands.

The committee will make recommendations regarding student activities, participation in the selections of the university president and other administrators. It will also investigate as to what would be best for the non-academic staff of the universities.

The strike also exposed the role of the Puerto Rican universities in perpetuating U.S. colonial rule.