

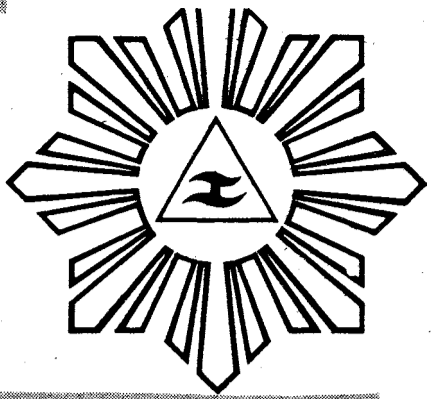
Ang KATIPUNAN

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National Newspaper of the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP)



Crackdown Intensifies:

Marcos Stops Church Publication

By VICTORIA LUNA

The Marcos regime recently intensified its campaign against the Philippine clergy by closing down the weekly mimeographed publication of the Association of Major Religious Superiors, Signs of the Times. The "underground paper" had led a tenuous life throughout its three-and-one-half-year existence. Appearing initially under the title Various Reports, the publication consisted essentially of reports by clergy working in different sectors of Philippine society and in various parts of the country spiced with reprints from foreign magazines and newspapers which were critical of the Marcos regime. Although unregistered, the paper was handed about openly and was sent through the mails.

Predictably, the publication provoked the ire of the administration. In December, 1973, Sec. of Defense Juan Ponce Enrile ordered the Major Superiors to discontinue publishing Various Reports. They responded by simply changing the name to Signs of the Times. The administration was unwilling to take more drastic action until this last Dec. 5, when armed police sealed off the offices of the Major Superiors.

ANTI-CHURCH MOVES

The closing of Signs of the Times was widely anticipated in the light of the anti-church moves the government has taken within the last few weeks. In addition to deporting two American priests, (AK, Dec. 1-15), the government recently expelled Sister Jean O'Brien, a Maryknoll missionary, barred Father Francis Houtart, a Belgian priest, from



Nuns participate in Oct. 10 rally against the referendum. The participation of the progressive clergy in events such as these, is being sharply curtailed by repressive measures against them.

re-entering the country, and denied an exit permit to Bishop Fernando Capalla. Bishop Capalla has in the past signed statements openly critical of Marcos' policies and the two foreign missionaries were accused of links with subversive groups.

The recent anti-church events have focused particularly on the Mindanao clergy. Of the church's National Secretariat for Social Action (NASSA), the strongest and most progressive of the regional member groups has been the MISSSA, the Mindanao-Sulu Secretariat for Social Action. Of the 17 bishops who last month released a paper, Ut Omnes, Unum Sint, articulating the need for Chris-

(continued on page 4)

Military Bases Talks in Limbo

Dictator Rebuffs \$1-B Aid Offer

News Analysis

By MA. FLOR SEPULVEDA

In a move that caught many by surprise, the Marcos regime rejected a \$1 billion aid package offer by the U.S. for continued use of its military bases in the Philippines. The move confounded certain quarters who thought the \$1 billion was "an offer too good to be refused." The \$1 billion package was reportedly a major concession from the U.S. which formerly was only willing to pay \$500 million.

Most shocked was the U.S. State Dept. which claimed that the rejection was tantamount to a reversal of the Kissinger-Romulo agreement reached in Mexico City early this month. Officials of the State Dept. contend that Philippine Foreign Minister Carlos P. Romulo, head of the R.P. negotiations panel, reneged on his acceptance of the Kissinger offer after Marcos overruled him.

Romulo, however, denied that such an agreement was reached, adding that while he accepted the agreement in principle, he was against the Kissinger stipulated term, dividing the \$1 billion package evenly between military and economic aid over a five year period.

Whoever misunderstood whom, it was clear that the agreement was rejected because Romulo was under orders to secure a larger allocation in military grants.

Ironically, the Marcos regime will undoubtedly publicize its rejection of the U.S. offer as another proof of its so-called "independence" and "nationalism" to the international community. However, it is doubtful if the Third World countries, particularly the Organization of Non-Aligned Nations, will take such an anti-U.S. overture seriously. Rather, they are most likely to regard the currently strained relations between the U.S. and the Philippines as a temporary phenomenon brought about by the attempts of a shrewd dictator to exact unreasonable demands from its main backer. No one believes that this latest development signifies that the Philippines is breaking away from the U.S.

TURNABOUT EXPECTED

As the aftershocks of the Manila rejection subsided, the true reasons for Marco's quick turnabout rapidly surfaced. Evidently, the move was mainly dictated by objective realities rather than by choice. The U.S.-R.P. Military Bases

(continued on page 3)

In Los Angeles:

Scandals Mar Filipino Community Elections

By DOLCE DE PRIEST
AK Correspondent

LOS ANGELES — The Filipino-American Community of Los Angeles (FACLA) is still reeling from its Dec. 5 election of officers for 1977. The elections, the most controversial in FACLA history, has become the target of a number of scandals, a pending lawsuit, and reports allegedly linking highly irregular registration and election proceedings to certain presidential candidates.

Since its beginning in the early '40s FACLA has been recognized by the Filipino community in Southern California — and even by state and local government bodies — as the oldest, largest and most active Filipino organization in the area. FACLA can also boast of several community contributions:

- a federally-funded nutrition program for senior citizens providing hot lunches for the elderly, Monday-Friday;

- an affirmative action program in alliance with other Filipino groups to continue the struggle for equal opportunities for Filipinos;

- an information and referral service with a Filipino staff from the L.A. County Dept. of Social Services;

- a scholarship program for Filipino youth;

- and its own monthly newsmagazine, the FACLA bulletin.

Before this year's highly controversial elections, FACLA had reached a membership peak of 2,000 in 1975. The figures, however, literally "soared" to 5,000 in this year's registration.

But this is merely the surface of the "irregularities," because underneath lies the kind of election corruption and manipulation that truly shames the Filipino community here in L.A. As a Filipina involved in this community's affairs, this writer has personally observed some of those events which have brought FACLA its scandalous notoriety in the last few months.

REGISTRATION CORRUPTION

Every year, new officers are elected to the executive positions (president, vice-president, etc.) and the Board of Trustees, an 8-member governing body that oversees FACLA. Anyone of Filipino ancestry, a resident of L.A. County and at least 18 years old may vote. Registration is done yearly and requires a \$5.00 fee per applicant.

In the community, however, it is commonly known that "registration buying" goes on during the election period. This practice has unfortunately been tolerated for years. Candidates (usually the one running for president) offer to pay the \$5 registration fee for an individual as a "personal favor."

Though not explicitly "vote-buying," this practice has the same effect. It is "understood" that if a candidate pays your registration fee, you "owe" that person your vote. In fact, the corruption is so

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AMLC (Philippines):

Carolers Raise Money for Filipino Workers Movement

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Death Penalty Controversy:-

HUNDREDS FACE EXECUTION

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(KDP) Union of Democratic Filipinos

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 America.

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 to working in close cooperation with all progressive Filipinos to build a strong Filipino people's movement in America.

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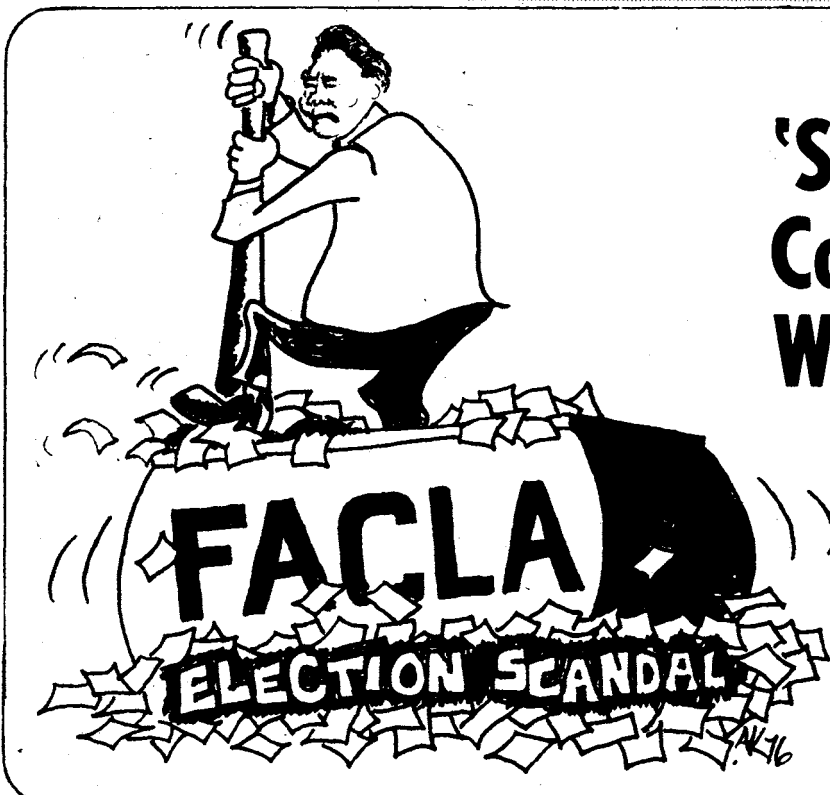
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EDITORIAL



'Small-time' Corruption Will Get You...

"No one will know that I stuffed
the ballot box, since most of the
other candidates are doing the
same thing!"

By KDP Regional Executive Board
Southern California

For many, the news of the "scandal" surrounding the Filipino-American Community of Los Angeles (FACLA) elections last Dec. 5 was both shocking and disheartening. The "small time corruption" exposed during the election ran from alleged massive "vote buying" and bouncing checks, to illegal registrants. (See news article, front page.)

What is unfortunate about this "turn of events" is that FACLA has been recognized by many Filipinos as a fairly well-organized community group... a model of sorts in the evolution towards more relevant community organizations. In recent years, the FACLA has taken more active concern with serving the interests of the community, such as its work for the senior citizens center and youth program in L.A.'s Temple St. area.

Apparently, the "voting irregularities" which surfaced this last month are just a gross exaggeration of similar "irregularities" which have been tolerated for years! In fact, the practice of candidates paying for membership/registration fees right before the election is quite common — "everyone does it. The fact that this is just a form of "vote buying" did not seem to bother anyone before now.

In part, this helps explain the relative silence by L.A. community leaders around this issue. With the election over, very few seem willing to step forward and denounce this corruption. Even FACLA's Board of Trustees has chosen to ignore the evidence placed before it and has ratified the election results. Could it be that the Board and/or certain of its members are busy covering up their own wrongdoings, or is it that they just can't "afford" another election! Maybe the saying, "Let he who is without sin cast the first stone" can explain why FACLA's Board of Trustees is paralyzed and indecisive in the face of such an obvious scandal!

Early rumors alleged that "Marcos money" was being used to pay certain mass registration applications. Some people have charged that Marcos is trying to stifle the anti-martial law sentiments voiced by several L.A. community leaders. While these allegations remain unproven and circumstantial, the KDP has no doubt of Marcos' capacity to go to such lengths to suppress the Filipino community's open opposition to his regime.

However, to us, Marcos's involvement is not the main issue in this scandal. The question remains — how could Marcos or his cohorts have even made such attempts in the first place unless there was already "fertile ground" for possible manipulations. We feel the responsibility rests squarely with FACLA leaders and members (ourselves included) for allowing this petty corruption, year after year, making FACLA "an easy target" for such manipulation.

But what can be done now. It seems a handful of people are moving to file a case in civil court — a process which will certainly drag on for months and maybe years. In this instance, we feel a lawsuit is nonsense! In fact, similar suits have long been a sore spot in Filipino community squabbles and many of the most serious and long-standing feuds dividing communities can be traced back to some

lawsuits. Let's face it — court decisions will never "settle" political problems internal to the Filipino community. Instead, court actions will only serve to deepen the rifts and consume energy which could be spent more productively in reforming and building up the FACLA.

Of course, the only body which could have exerted some leadership in the midst of this controversy, the Board of Trustees, has done nothing. Instead, the Board, which has the power to nullify the elections, has recently ratified the election results as legitimate and binding! This shameful behavior of "bowing to corruption" has already built some pessimism among community members who complain that "nothing will happen" to put a stop to this bastardization of the democratic process.

The KDP is convinced, however, that the honest and democratic FACLA members are capable of mounting a "reform movement" to assure that such election corruption is not tolerated again next year. One immediate step to be taken would be to form a special committee to review the constitution and election by-laws and re-write them if necessary. This would prevent any "vague wording" from allowing future election abuses. Of course, this itself will not "solve" the problems of corruption, but it is an immediate way to "close up" some of the "legal" loopholes.

In the long run, we feel that only way to assure a fair and democratic process of elections is a reform movement which can gradually transform the entire character of FACLA. Even now, the only reason that "vote buying" is possible is because the membership is still very "loose." For example, if members of the Filipino community truly related to FACLA as "their" organization, if FACLA activities and services were more a part of their day-to-day lives, then the members would take a more active concern with these elections. Although there has been some progress in recent years, it is not completely the case. FACLA is still mainly preoccupied with one or two social functions a year. As a result, a great majority of members do not actively participate in FACLA activities all year long — and this allows the seeds of petty corruption to flourish.

To the extent that FACLA continues to champion the current issues and address the concrete needs which face the Filipino community, more and more people will become interested and active in FACLA on a regular basis and the real membership will be "easy to identify." Genuine members will be willing and proud to pay for their own membership registration! Those who "sell themselves to the highest bidder" will become the conspicuous minority to be scorned and isolated by the active membership. In the long run, the KDP feels that this is the only way to get at the "root cause" of such anti-democratic and corrupt practices.

To carry on such a reform movement will certainly be a big challenge for FACLA. But it is a task we feel confident that many community members are prepared to take up. For the future of FACLA, the "real leaders" must step forward to help lead the community away from the shameful practices just witnessed in this past election. Many claim they will support a movement to "reform" FACLA — surely just as many can step forward to lead it!



Buod ng mga Balita

(Gist of the News)

Philippine, Indonesia Dictators Sign Pact



Marcos and Suharto confer on areas of cooperation during the former's state visit to Indonesia last year.

In line with the growing military cooperation among ASEAN nations, the Philippines and Indonesia signed a five point border agreement, purportedly to "strengthen the security of both countries in the border area."

The border pact is the second military agreement between the two countries. Earlier this month, the Marcos and Suharto regimes signed an extradition treaty, the first such treaty between the Philippines and any foreign nation. The increasing military ties between the two dictators is aimed at combating the internal insurgency which threaten both unpopular governments.

The R.P.-Indonesia agreement includes provisions for improving the communications and electronics system of both governments and setting up a more responsive intelligence operating system.

This latest arrangement is definitely in the spirit of "ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) cooperation" which militarily means containing what the five ASEAN nations view as the "communist menace" in Asia. Indeed, what is now just a bilateral arrangement between the Philippines and Indonesia will soon be a formal ASEAN security arrangement on a regional scale. This development would contravene with ASEAN's lofty principles of "freedom, peace and neutrality," reviving the unpopular militarist reputation of the now defunct South East Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO).

U.S. Counter-Insurgency Bases Installed

Concurrent with the sham negotiations between the U.S. and the martial law government regarding Philippine sovereignty over American military bases in the Philippines, American military installations are burgeoning in the Bicol region.

This was the gist of the report of Balita ng Malayang Pilipinas (BMP), Nov. 30, 1976. The report said that at the last count 10 military installations had been established by U.S. Armed Forces in Bicol. These surveillance installations monitor the resistance movement in Bicol and send messages by radar to the American base in Sangley point, Cavite.

The installations are reported in the following areas: Barrio Tawog and Bo. Balite, Bulusan; Bo. Bilaoyon, Gubat, Bo. Sta. Magdalena and Bo. Owang, Matnog in the province of Sorsogon; in the towns of Tiwi, Tabaco, Pio Duran and Legaspi in Albay; and in the island of Biri nearby Samar.

The increased military activity in the area is the U.S.-Marcos dictatorship's response to the steady advance of the revolutionary movement in the Bicol region. The counterinsurgency efforts have also been stepped-up in other areas. In Negros, Gov. Montelibano announced that more civic action units will be sent out to the southern town of Negros Occidental where, according to him, "dissidents used to roam." Montelibano said the team will include "information dispensers" who will acquaint the people with the development program of the government. These joint U.S.-R.P. civic action teams will also gather information on NPA activity in the area.

The military installations and civic action teams are ominous signs that direct U.S. military intervention may not be far from happening. □

Pollution Forces 6,000 to Relocate

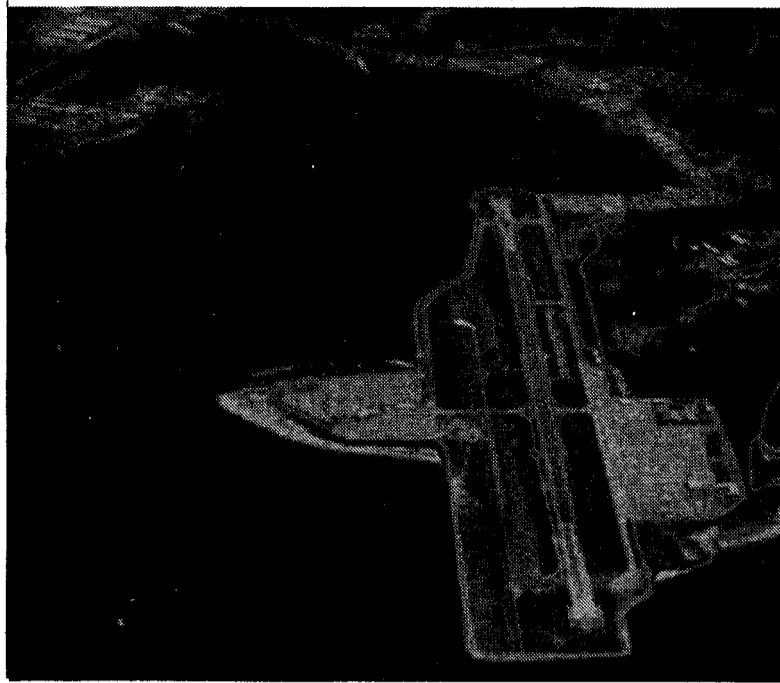
LIMAY, Bataan — 6,000 residents of Barrio Lamao this town face relocation. Residents of the barrio have complained of the high level of air and water pollution caused by Planters Products Inc., a petro-chemical plant. 35 deaths have already been reported as a result of the pollution.

While denying that the deaths were caused by pollution, the Marcos regime announced the relocation as a "pollution safeguard." The barrio officials have refused to close the plant as the residents demand, claiming the plant closure would affect the country's food production. (PPI is one of the major fertilizer manufacturers in the country.) Instead, the residents of Barrio Lamao are being uprooted from their homes and relocated to another site.

Officials of PPI have refused to pay compensation for the deaths caused by the plant's pollution, giving the excuse that these claims were under the jurisdiction of their main office in the United States. They have, however, expressed their willingness to assist in relocating the residents, hypocritically stating: "We are willing to help in any undertaking that will redound to the benefit and happiness of the Lamao residents."

The majority stockowner of PPI is reported to be the dictator Marcos through his crony, Alfredo Montelibano. □

Marcos Rebuffs U.S. Offer on Bases ...



Aerial view of Subic Naval Base, home base for the U.S. Seventh Fleet. Clark and Subic are the largest U.S. installations outside of the U.S. mainland, with the exception of Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. As such, it is unlikely that the U.S. would relinquish control of them.

(continued from front page)

Renegotiations which began in January appeared to be coming to a satisfactory conclusion by the latter half of the year. It was rumored that a settlement had already been reached and only a few minor details remained to be worked out. This agreement would have been finalized had the Ford administration retained office. In fact, the smooth proceedings of the talks seemed to indicate optimism on Marcos' part that Ford would be elected. However, the outcome of the November presidential elections set a different tone to the talks. The regime became uncertain of its standing with the Carter administration, especially since, as a presidential candidate, Carter preached about "a moral and decent foreign policy" intolerant of "tinhorn dictatorships." While Carter's pre-election rhetoric has yet to be proven in his performance, it certainly gave Marcos some suspicion.

KISSINGER FIASCO

The Kissinger deal inadvertently added to Marcos' anxieties. Kissinger, perhaps over-eager to chalk-up another diplomatic coup before resigning his post as Secretary of State, bungled the job, causing him some isolation from certain Washington circles. According to Walter Andrews of the Reuter Press Service: "Dr. Kissinger did not consult President-elect Carter's staff... (and) since the senate still in recess, would have to approve any treaty, Dr. Kissinger would have put the Carter administration in the awkward position of defending a deal it did not negotiate."

Defense Dept. officials were also infuriated by Kissinger's unilateral offer of \$1 billion. Although the U.S. set a costly precedent by paying Spain \$1.5 billion for the continued use of its bases there, it was felt that a similar offer for the Philippine bases would affect upcoming U.S. bases renegotiations pacts in Panama and the Azores who would then make equivalent demands. Furthermore, what Kissinger considered as "minor" details

in the treaty, other government officials viewed as major issues. Among these unresolved issues were warship and aircraft operating rights, U.S. jurisdiction over criminal cases involving American servicemen, payment of taxes and the use of American contractors.

The controversy sparked by the Kissinger deal reduced the chances of its passage. Rather than be caught in an embarrassing position of having agreed to a deal, which no matter how attractive, was being questioned for its validity, Marcos decided to pull out at the last minute. This likelihood would then lend credence to the allegation that Romulo indeed reneged from his previous approval of the Kissinger deal.

UNFRIENDLY SCENARIO

The Manila rejection, however, is expected to reinforce the increasing unfriendliness of Washington towards the regime, leaving the future of bases talks in limbo. The repressive reputation of the regime abroad, as well as its high-handed threats during the early part of the bases talks has alienated both liberal and conservative U.S. officials. The regime's known violations of human rights has made it difficult for the predominantly Democratic legislature to approve assistance to the regime without facing public censure. The recent passage of the Human Rights Amendment curtailing assistance to repressive regimes abroad may be the liberals' way of warning the regime to ease domestic repression.

Though the Carter administration has yet to declare its official stance vis-a-vis the Marcos regime, it is nonetheless expected to be more critical of future dealings with the dictatorship. The conservatives on the other hand, are irked by Marcos's high-handed threats to take over the bases if the former does not bend to his demands. Although the conservatives have no scruples about backing a repressive and unpopular regime, they apparently consider Marcos' demand for sov-

ereignty and jurisdiction over the bases as tantamount to insubordination. Notwithstanding the unfriendly posture of Washington, there is no question about the future of U.S. bases in the Philippines. Both the liberals and the conservatives unite behind the strategic importance of the Philippine bases in preserving its interests abroad. Where they differ, however, is on the terms they are willing to concede to Marcos to retain U.S. control of the Philippine bases.

POSSIBLE TRUCE

Until U.S. policy makers achieve unanimity on their future approach to the bases talks, and the presently cold U.S.-R.P. relations thaws, Marcos has no choice but to adopt a wait-and-see attitude. However, with the present scenario, it is likely that Marcos will reconsider some of his more bellicose demands. It would be no surprise if Marcos junked the sovereignty and jurisdiction demands altogether, along with that his "nationalist" stunts to the Third World.

His main concern, after all, is how to get more military aid from the U.S. and this consideration outweighs the disadvantages of being internationally identified as a U.S. client state.

It is even likely that Marcos would back off from suppressing more prominent figures of the opposition in a bid to please the reputedly liberal Carter administration. Once Marcos agrees to these pre-conditions, it would come as no surprise if the liberals softened their line of the regime. This move would surely disappoint some so-called Filipino leaders who have pinned their hopes on the Carter administration. Carter, despite his liberal gestures, serves the U.S. ruling class and is dedicated to preserve and strengthen U.S. domination throughout the world. The presence of overseas U.S. bases serves this purpose and it is unlikely that Carter would jeopardize U.S. interests at any time.

U.S.-R.P. STRATEGIC INTERESTS THE SAME

Whatever twists and turns the future U.S.-R.P. talks may take, the outcome is a foregone conclusion. Irregardless of who is at the helm of the U.S. government, a Ford or a Carter, U.S. control of the Philippines bases will remain intact. It is in the interests of the both the U.S. and Marcos to maintain such an arrangement.

From the U.S. point of view, the bases as its largest overseas installations are necessary to maintain U.S. supremacy in the Pacific region and watch-dog the Soviet Union in that part of the globe.

Faced with a growing internal insurgency, Marcos cannot do without the military support provided by the U.S. bases which currently shore up his repressive rule. □

Worsening Since Martial Law: SUGAR INDUSTRY IN CRISIS



Sugar hacienda in Kabankalan, Negros Oriental. The *sacadas* (sugar workers), the most underpaid rural labor force are expected to be the hardest hit in the current sugar-export slump.

By SAMUEL P. BAYANI

All is not sweet with the Philippine sugar industry, long-time leading dollar earner of the country and an essential ingredient of the Marcos regime's export-dependent economy.

The Philippine sugar industry is facing its worst crisis since the martial law government took over the industry in 1973 and centralized sugar trading in the hands of the Philippine Exchange, a subsidiary of the Philippine National Bank (PNB). Not only has the price of sugar dropped to 7 cents per lb. (from a record high of 65 cents per lb. in 1974) but because of a gamble that backfired, Marcos is sitting on a huge sugar stockpile of at least 1.8 million tons. To further exacerbate the crisis, the United States tariff on Philippine sugar recently tripled to 1.875 cents per lb., thus cutting further into the rapidly diminishing sugar earnings.

UNSTABLE ECONOMY

The impact of the sugar crisis is shaking the already unstable Philippine economy. According to Marcos, the PNB is losing about P1 billion for every million tons of sugar sold in the world market at the present level of prices. Running short of cash to finance the industry, the PNB has suspended sugar payments to millers and planters. In turn, planters have stopped paying the workers.

In an effort to reduce the overstock, the martial law government signed long-term contracts with three United States refineries earlier this year, which it did by secretly underselling other Third World sugar producers, despite its initial rhetoric of "Third World solidarity in face of capitalist price manipulations."

Despite these sales, no relief is in sight and over 2.5 million tons from this year's sugar crop are expected to add to the already rotting stockpile of sugar being stored in schools, swimming pools, and pelota courts because of inadequate storage facilities.

Sugar has been the country's top export for years, accounting for about 22% of the country's overall foreign exchange income. In 1974, the sugar export to the United States was worth \$737.7 million, a third of Filipino exports; in 1975 the same volume earned only \$580 million. This year's return is expected to be much lower and copper has in fact replaced sugar as the country's leading export good. The price drop has been sharp and devastating. The present price of 7 cents per lb. converted into an equivalent peso price would be P50 per picul. This is still short of the average production

cost of P70 to P75 per picul.

The Marcos regime has export-led "growth" as one of the pillars of its economic program, making the Philippine economy more dependent on the industrial capitalist economies of the United States and Japan and thus, more vulnerable to international price fluctuations, depressions and other crises of these countries. However, instead of re-assessing the direction of its economic scheme, the regime blames the present crisis on all but the essential reason.

The present economic woes are blamed on the decline in export prices, high production cost, low productivity and remoteness of the country to export markets compared to other competing sugar exporters. To ease these woes, Marcos has announced several stop-gap measures. Three cargo vessels were recently purchased from London to transport Philippine sugar to its United States and Japanese markets. Agriculture Secretary Tanco has ordered sugar planters to cut production costs and find new techniques to boost the industry. The regime has also set aside 500,000 tons of sugar for an experiment to transform sugar into alcohol for use as motor fuel. The biggest economic cloud hanging over the regime's head, aside from the sugar overstock, is the impending increase in the price of oil by OPEC. When this happens, the country's import bill will escalate. By mixing sugar-turned to alcohol with gasoline, Marcos hopes to solve two of its nightmares.

SELF-SERVING INTERESTS

The regime's inability to deal with the country's economic crisis because of its self-serving interests is most evident in its plan to further expand the sugar industry. The hectareage allotted for the sugar crop is being increased to 750,000 from its current 514,000. Moreover, plans have been approved to finance new sugar central mills. The current milling capacity of the country's 38 centrals is 160,000 metric tons daily. With five new mills and three projected ones, the total will reach 190,000 metric tons daily.

The logic of this move in face of the present sugar glut and depressed world prices can only be understood when viewed from the regime's interests. According to Bernard Wideman (FEER 11/26/76), the regime's concern is not whether the new mills make money or that the added output inevitably will find its way to the present sugar surplus. The regime's reason is simple. To quote Wideman: "Kickbacks are apparently the name of the game in the sugar industry here."

Church Crackdown...

(continued from front page)

tian involvement in politics, five were from Mindanao. The paper reads, in part: "... The less involved in politics the church professes to be, the more it is actually involved—but in a way that is most detrimental to its primary task of preaching the Gospel. For silence can mean condoning political oppression. We cannot conceive of a Church that preaches a gospel which has nothing whatever to tell people in the political aspect of their life."

DAVAO CLERGY PROTEST ARRESTS

Consistent with this stand, the five Mindanao bishops recently sent a letter to Pres. Marcos protesting the closures in mid-November of two Catholic radio stations and related arrests of three priests and 48 lay leaders in Bukidnon and Davao. More significantly, immediately following the raids, 200 priests and nuns in Davao held a demonstration to protest the actions and to demand speedy trials, humane treatment, and visiting rights for those arrested.

At a time of increasing repression, progressive clergy, like those of Davao, are quickly learning who are their allies. The thunderous silence of the American Embassy over the deportation of its nationals underscores American complicity in Marcos' actions. The embassy, in fact, is under orders from the State Dept. not to protest the deportations. Meanwhile the Vatican has taken an unsympathetic position, urging the clergy to stay out of politics.

Closer to home, Cardinal Jaime Sin, who had always been regarded as moderately progressive, revealed his conservatism in an interview with the Far Eastern Economic Review. When asked why he didn't take any action over the recent deportation of the American missionaries, Fr. Gerlock and Fr. Boo Booms, Cardinal Sin had this to say: "... I ask myself that out of 4,000 missionaries here, only four have been deported. Why are they not touching others? You have to give the authorities the benefit of the doubt. If they [the deported priests] are doing these things, then they should be punished. If the time comes when missionaries who we know to be very good are deported, then we will intercede."

AFFIRM SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE

The 200 priests and nuns of Davao who went to the streets to express their outrage at the recent wave of repression have set a tone and a precedent for response to the forces of reaction in the Marcos government and within the church itself. The only solution—and salvation—is to affirm their support of the people, to unite with them, and, together, to resist oppression. □

Of the five mills approved by Marcos, three are directly connected to Roberto Benedicto, Marcos' crony and front-man. The sugar mills, costing \$65 million, will mean a windfall to the plant suppliers (Hitachi Engineering, which has close ties with Benedicto). Local contractors (one of which is Construction and Development Corporation of the Philippines, rumored to be owned by Marcos) will also receive \$40 million of the total price. An estimated 12% of the contract price will also go to kickbacks—either directly to Marcos or coursed through Benedicto.

SACADAS—WORST HIT

Not surprisingly, the worst affected by the crisis will be the Filipino masses, particularly the sugar workers. These seasonal migrant workers, called *sacadas*, receive wages as low as P2 a day. Because the pay is so low, all family members—even the children—have to work. Their subhuman conditions were documented in a 1969 study showing that out of 100 deaths in Negros (the heart of sugarland where enormous fortunes were built), 70 did not receive medical aid. Under martial law, their conditions have not improved but have worsened. Attempts to unionize the *sacadas* have been met with force and intimidation by the sugarlords and the local Philippine Constabulary. A labor union which held a demonstration last September had its registration revoked and its leaders jailed.

The slump in the sugar market will also certainly mean an increase in the domestic price of the commodity to reduce the losses of the PNB.

The present sugar crisis victimizes not so much the sugar barons, who have been muttering "ominous" threats against Marcos, but the Filipino masses who will ultimately bear the brunt of the regime's distorted economic priorities. □

NEW RELEASE

What's Happening in the Philippines?

Background and Perspective on the LIBERATION STRUGGLE

By Samuel P. Bayani

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WHAT'S HAPPENING
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LIBERATION STRUGGLE
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BEHIND 'POPULATION CONTROL' — Boon or Burden for Filipino People?



The larger numbers of the poor, instead of its lopsided economic priorities, is the regimes convenient excuse for poverty. **AK 12/26**

By VICTORIA LUNA

The Philippine government recently escalated the subtlest and most sophisticated of its counter-insurgency efforts by expanding its population control program and taking a step closer to compulsory sterilization. On Nov. 29, Pres. Marcos approved funds for sterilization. He also limited maternity leaves for female government employees to four days and revised the number of children allowed for tax exemption purposes.

The population control effort has been intensifying since Pres. Marcos declared martial law in September of 1972 under the direction of the Population Commission of the Philippines (POPCOM). POPCOM—like other organizations of its ilk throughout the Third World—is funded by government sources and the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID), Ford, and Rockefeller Foundation grants.

POPULATION CONTROL?

The Western and Western-trained social scientists who design population programs, U.S.-AID, the big American foundations that fund them, and the repressive Third World leaders who implement them believe that one of the chief catalysts which hastens the development of national liberation struggles is growing population pressure.

This process has become noticeably acute in the Philippines since the 1960's, by which time accessible virgin lands had been exhausted. This same constellation of forces also knows that the peasantry forms the chief source of fighters for national liberation struggles like that led by the New Peoples Army. Population control is consciously perceived by most of them as a way of cutting down the numbers of the disaffected in order to maintain the existing economic order.

The Philippine government and its backers choose to see overpopulation as the cause of underdevelopment rather than as a symptom of the lopsided economy typical of a neo-colony. This definition gives both local government and First World political and economic interests an excuse for not making basic changes in Philippine society. The Philippines' population campaign chips away at

manifestations of a deep-seated problem without attacking the problem itself. Population planners work at changing values, not realizing that values are reflections of the actual conditions of people's lives and are unlikely to change until the conditions themselves change.

INDIA MODEL

Recent studies from India, which has a particularly intense and disturbing population program, reveal that, to a peasant, having many children is the most sensible thing to do. High infant mortality rates make it unlikely that a small family of two or three children will survive at all. The level of privation the average family faces makes it necessary to produce as many potential workers as possible. And the prospect of old age in poverty is eased by the possibility of a large number of children to share responsibilities for the aged parents. On the other hand, the studies show, development is the best contraceptive. Families in the most developed areas have the lowest number of children. This same example proves true in the developed West.

These studies, which advocate full-scale development as an incentive to voluntary birth control, are obviously unpopular in circles dominated by U.S.-AID and its clients. True development is a revolutionary undertaking which would dislodge from power those who currently monopolize it. So governments like that of the Philippines continue to blame the victims of underdevelopment for their predicament and to create more and more stringent "incentives" to family planning and "disincentives" to large families.

FORCED STERILIZATION IS NEXT

Marcos' most recent move was to further increase incentives for sterilization by making funds from the Social Security Service (SSS) available for payment to private doctors performing tubal ligations and vasectomies. This enhances a previously-existing program of free sterilization performed in rural clinics.

From the government's point of view, sterilization is the most desirable method of birth control. A study released in June showed that "successful family planning programs in East Asia appear to be found in those countries where sterilization has gained much headway. Standard contraceptive techniques are unlikely to work in a situation where the parties whose reproduction is to be controlled view birth control as detrimental to their interests." Such is the view of the Filipino peasantry who form the bulk of the population. In contrast, sterilization—a one-shot deal—is, by its very nature, easy to enforce.

Recent developments in India, where compulsory sterilization is up for consideration in a number of state legislatures and where many peasants have already been forcible sterilized, provide a grim forewarning by illustrating the logical conclusion of the current trend in the Philippines. Voluntary sterilization will undoubtedly lead to forced sterilization. □

Coming Soon in 'KOMIKS' 'Heroic Adventures' of Ferdinand Marcos

By VICTORIA LUNA

A true comic book character has finally found his rightful place in world literature. The Philippine Bureau of National and Foreign Information announces that it has serialized the life of President Ferdinand E. Marcos in "Komiks" (comic book) form. The thrill-packed series promises to unearth little-known facts about young Ferdie and his early life in Ilocos Norte, his unequalled bravery as a resistance fighter, and his meteoric rise to congressman, senator, President, to, finally, Dictator.

And what could be more appropriate? How else to trace the adventures of a super-president, who, at the age of 58, is photographed on the beach, slim, trim, belly tucked in neatly, and dressed in skimpy bathing trunks alongside no less than Gina Lollabrigida? Who, in addition to single-handedly administering the affairs of a nation, manages to find time after hours to write a how-many volume history of the country with footnotes in six different languages?

The possibilities for intrigue and romance are endless. Imagine a "Komiks" style treatment of the Nalundasan incident, in which a filial son murders the victorious opponent of his father in a senatorial race, studies for the bar exam in prison while awaiting trial, defends himself, AND tops the bar! One shudders with anticipation of the famous whirlwind courtship, in which an aspiring young congressman, by all accounts already married (or almost, judging by the four offspring produced by the union) meets the fair Imelda, ex-beauty queen—the Rose of Tacloban City—selling pianos in a showroom. He finds that her sky-high ambition is equal only to his own, resolves to have her for his wife and helpmate, and within eight days, marries her.

The full-color 48 page treatment of Imelda's explosive reaction to President Ferdie's various paramours (proof, of course, of our super-presidents super-virility) promises a thrill a minute. We will tremble with suppressed emotion as we watch bold but tender Ferdie bestow upon his beloved wife the ultimate gift, the San Juanico Bridge, billed throughout the media as the "Bridge of Love."

With this brilliant contribution to Philippine literature, designed exclusively for the "bakya crowd," the Bureau of National and Foreign Information hopes to create hero-worship for the "beloved President."

However, the "bakya crowd," consisting largely of the workers and urban poor, is now in the forefront of the urban resistance and is strongly anti-Marcos. Thus it is doubtful this latest propaganda ploy, which crassly underestimates the political consciousness of the common tao, will work.

In fact, it is more likely to be a source of Marcos' ridicule than worship, making it all the more enjoyable. □

Pagbabalikwas (In revolt)



Jose Luneta

Political Prisoners Forcibly Taken from Camp

CAMP BICUTAN—Five political detainees in this camp were forcibly removed Nov. 4 following a 13-day hunger strike to the Youth Rehabilitation Center in Fort Bonifacio and to Stockade 4-b in Camp Crame.

The transfer order came from the office of Defense Undersecretary Carmelo Barbero.

The five—Temario Rivera, Julius Giron, Siegfried Deduro, Dean Melvyn Calderon and Antonio Ty—were either dragged or carried bodily to waiting military vehicles.

Detainees in Bicutan and Crame scored the transfers as unjust punishment for legitimate issues. The October 1-13 fast was launched to secure the release of five women detainees whose husbands are also detained. According to a military policy a married couple may not be detained at the same time.

As of this writing, the five female political detainees are still detained.

In a related development, Satur Ocampo, former assistant business editor of the defunct *Manila Times*, was released from isolation ward to a regular detention center last October 1. Ocampo is now detained at Stockade 4-n in Camp Crame.

Meanwhile, the Luneta brothers—Domingo, Ernesto and Francisco—remain padlocked in an isolation cell denied of "sunning" and visits from relatives.

Another Luneta—Jose—has been kept in isolation since his arrest last January 16. □

CPP Expansion Continues, Despite Recent Losses

In response to the capture of several leading members of the Communist Party of the Philippines over this past year, Ang Bayan, the official party organ recently released a statement stressing that despite these losses, the party is intact and in a position to replenish and reinforce its ranks. The statement was signed by Amado Guerrero for the Central Committee.

The Party Chairman reveals that the movement in the Philippines has seen far worse crises than the current series of arrests and emphasizes that there are scores of Party cadres qualified for leadership. "They have the ideological, political and organizational qualifications. They have the advantage of experience and tempering that did not belong to . . . [Party] members . . . in 1968 [the year in which the new Party was reestablished]."

He stresses that the source of Party leadership is the people themselves who

form an inexhaustible supply: "The leadership of the Party lies in its correct ideological and political line. So long as the masses are aroused, organized and mobilized for their own just revolutionary cause, we will continue to reap victories and we will never run short of capable Party leaders at every level. Party cadres continually emerge from the revolutionary masses and are tempered and developed in the course of revolutionary struggle."

To illustrate these very facts, the New Peoples Army has recently scored major victories, belying Pres. Marcos' claim that, with the capture of Victor Corpus and Commander Dante, "the NPA has been practically decimated." The most dramatic of these was the raid on five towns outside of Clark Air Base in Pampanga. More recently, two weeks ago, the New Peoples Army staged a well-laid ambush on the outskirts of Mambusao, San Ignacio, Davao Oriental. Eight Constabulary troopers were killed and their arms taken. In the words of Amado Guerrero, "So long as there is oppression, the peoples resistance will continue and the party will have the conditions to thrive on." □



FILIPINO Community

Many Filipino Workers: Dole Charged with Unsafe Conditions

Dole BANANAS & Dole PINEAPPLE
PRODUCTS FOR THE WORLD MARKETS

In the island of Mindanao, southern Philippines, lies an expanse of cultivated lands from where Dole products for the world markets come. Fresh Hawaiian Variety Pineapple. Canned Pineapple Products. Cavendish Bananas. All sporting the world-famous Dole brand.



Taken from an ad in Fortune Magazine. Dole makes more profits by relocating to countries like the Philippines where labor and land come cheap. Thus Dole avoids the demands pressed by workers at its Hawaii-based operations.

By **RUSSELL VALPARAISO**
AK Correspondent

HONOLULU — The Dole Pineapple Company — one of the giants in the agro-industry business — is faced with a legal suit for its failure to ensure that employees wear protective helmets where the danger of head injury exists through the impact of flying or falling objects.

Anthony H. Rogers, worker at Dole and one of the plaintiffs in the suit, targeted the unsafe and hazardous health conditions that workers face in the bin area of Dole.

The bin area is where welding and repairs of pineapple bins take place. Rogers stated that many Filipino immigrants work there at high risks for

\$2.45 an hour. In a seasonal period there can be up to 80 workers there. Rogers charged that the company does not maintain and properly supervise an effective accident prevention program (i.e. periodic training in safety, no written safety reports are prepared, and inspectors are not well informed of the safety standards.)

The bin issue is centered around Dole's failure to follow the regulations of the State Occupational Safety and Health Agency (OSHA). "Many workers have been injured by unsafe conditions at Dole," said A. Rogers, "I have been specifically injured twice in the period of four and a half months. Young workers are losing their fingers, broken hands, serious burns, and the company still refuses to do anything about conditions."

Currently, the Federal Government is inspecting the findings of the State OSHA since plaintiffs have also charged that the State has failed to make Dole comply with safety regulations. At the same time, Ms. McElgrath of the International Longshoremen and Warehouse Workers Union (ILWU) has said she will call the attention of Dole Company and the union stewards to the bin area to investigate the complaints.

"The main thing," says Rogers, "is that the company be made to provide us with proper safety clothing against burns and protective head gear from falling debris. The workers need some security against these hazards and unsafe working conditions. The company should not only provide preventive safety and health education in English but also in Ilocano, the language of many of the workers."

Rogers further charged, "We demand that OSHA impose stiff penalties against companies who violate health and safety regulations to protect the young workers who risk their lives for \$2.45 an hour." □

DESPITE SUPERVISORS' SUPPORT:

I-Hotel Eviction Threat Still On



Rallies such as this one in front of the San Francisco City Hall have kept the International Hotel issue alive over the past eight years. AK photo

By **JEANETTE LAZAM**
AK Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO — When the Board of Supervisors recently voted to allocate the \$1.3 million to the Housing Authority to purchase the International Hotel under eminent domain, many thought that the tenants were finally on the threshold of ending their eight-year battle against eviction.

However, the very next day, the I-Hotel's owner (Four Seas Company) took the case back to court. Judge Ira Brown then demanded that Sheriff Hongisto carry out his earlier eviction order within ten days or be held in contempt of court.

In the face of this new eviction threat, the tenants and members of the I-Hotel Support Committee approached the Commissioners of the S.F. Housing Authority to stop the eviction by declaring eminent domain. Instead, the Housing Authority was unable

to come to a unified vote, and essentially reneged on their promise to support the purchase of the hotel.

"It comes as no great shock to us that the City would vacillate on its promise to the tenants, since it took over eight years of mass pressure through demonstrations, pickets, and letter writing campaigns to even get them to take a position on the I-Hotel," said a member of the Support Committee. Stressing the need not to rely on the "kindness" of city officials, he added, "We must continue to demand that the City intercede in the Four Seas eviction and fulfill its responsibility to provide decent, low-income housing in Chinatown-Manila-town Area."

IN 'LIMBO'

In the meantime, the fate of the tenants remains in limbo. On one hand, the judicial branch of the city, the courts has consistently supported the landlord in carrying out the eviction. Sheriff Hongisto, however, is wary of taking action on such a widely-supported issue.

On the other hand, the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors and the Housing Authority are at odds with one another around the hotel issue.

What is key at this moment is the understanding that it has been public pressure which has created this temporary wedge within the city government. It is of utmost importance to build that mass support to force the city to take a stand against Judge Brown's eviction order and immediately proclaim eminent domain.

A public hearing of the Housing Authority regarding the I-Hotel is slated for Dec. 23. The I-Hotel Tenants Association, along with the Support Committee is actively requesting people from various communities come before the Commission in support of the I-Hotel, and to hold the city government responsible for providing quality low-income housing for all residents.

For more information, please contact I-Hotel: 982-4249, or visit 848 Kearny St., Rm. 110. □

University of Hawaii:

Administration 'Bending' under Growing Support for Ethnic Studies

By **DEAN ALEGADO**
AK Correspondent

HONOLULU — Acting under tremendous pressure from faculty, students and community groups, University of Hawaii President, Fujio Matsuda conceded to a public meeting with the People's Committee to Defend Ethnic Studies.

The announcement of the President's decision was made Dec. 1 when 300 supporters of the Ethnic Studies program (ESP) rallied in front of the administration building. Refusing to appear before the University community himself, Matsuda sent Asst. Vice-President Dewey Kim to read his response to the demonstrators demands.

"This represents the third important concession that the administration has made to the People's Committee since Nov. 19, 1976," said a member of the People's Committee. Opposition to the administration's moves to abolish Ethnic Studies have been so strong, they were not only forced to accept public testimonies in support of Ethnic Studies, but have scrapped the Ashton Report. (Vice-Chancellor Ashton's review recommending the abolition of Ethnic Studies; the report was later criticized for distortions and inaccuracies. — Editor).

ADMINISTRATION TIED TO BIG BUSINESS

"The consistent opposition of the UH administration to ESP since 1972 is not accidental." This is what Charlotte Kaluna, chairperson of the United Public Workers—UH Custodians said in her testimony at the Oct. 20 public hearing on ESP. "Most courses here teach management, big business' point of view, not the laborers. Ethnic Studies is one of the few programs that teaches about our needs and struggles. You (ESP), teach our children their real history, all about what Hawaii's laboring people and ethnic groups have done. This is what management doesn't want. That is why they're trying to get rid of your programs."

It was revealed that former UH President Thomas Hamilton, after establishing the tourist industry management program at the UH, was handsomely rewarded with the presidency of the Hawaii Visitors' Bureau. He was also made "advisor" to the Bishop Estate, one of the largest ruling monopolies in Hawaii.

Current UH President Matsuda sits on the Board of Directors of six corporations, including United Airlines and C. Brewers Company.

STRUGGLE FOR A DEMOCRATIC UNIVERSITY

With the administration operating in the interest of big business, a large part of the struggle to make Ethnic Studies permanent has been focused on student-faculty input in decision making on important university issues.

From the onset, the UH administration has shown its arrogance and contempt for students, faculty and community people who are concerned about Ethnic Studies. They refused to meet with ESP supporters or to participate in any public forum on the future of the program.

While this year their arbitrary use of authority was aimed at abolishing the Ethnic Studies Program, other issues arose regarding the denial of tenure for Oliver Lee in 1968, Coalition to Rename Porteus Hall, and the Coalition for Full (maintenance) Staffing in 1975; and the Committee for Decent Education in 1976.

Making Ethnic Studies Program at the UH permanent appears to be a long, drawn-out struggle. The strength and solidarity of the students, faculty, and community supporters will be key in the final determination of the future of the ESP. □

National Anti-Martial Law Coalition (AMLC):

Carolers Raise Funds for Filipino Workers Movement

NEW YORK — A Christmas caroling campaign to support the workers in the Philippines is being launched by the Anti-Martial Law Coalition (AMLC).

"We intend to raise \$2,000 to help finance eleven workers' seminars in the greater Manila area sponsored by the militant Bukluran ng mga Manggagawang Pilipino (Alliance of Filipino Workers) in the Philippines," stated Rene Cruz, AMLC National Coordinator in a recent press release.

The fundraising campaign was unanimously endorsed by the national planning conference of the AMLC last Nov. 27-28 held in the S.F. Bay Area. The delegates discussed the importance of the projected seminars which are being undertaken by the Bukluran to brief workers on their legal rights

and to give them a deeper understanding of the strength of united action.

According to Rene Cruz, the Bukluran has led strikes and mobilized for the more recent demonstrations of thousands of students, slum-dwellers, and clergy despite Marcos' strike bans, mass arrests and tortures of key labor organizers. In June alone, workers in five factories in eastern Rizal, namely — Greenfields, Southseas, Synthetic Textiles, United Textile Mills, and Riverside Mills Corp. went on strike.

In a letter to the AMLC, the Bukluran stated: "With the creation of Presidential Decree 823, repressing the right to strike and the right to organize freely, the workers saw the need to deplore these acts of the state in order to

survive. . . although strikes have been restricted (by the Marcos regime) the workers persisted in conducting them in order to demand what is theirs."

The campaign to raise money for the seminars will be coordinated nationally by the Seattle Anti-Martial Law Alliance which will send out a brochure introducing the Bukluran to the Filipino community as the most militant force in organizing urban workers. The AMLC coordinator expressed his assurance that the Filipino community will support the Christmas campaign the same way it supported last year's fundraisers for the political prisoners and their families. "The whole AMLC is confident that the community will welcome this opportunity to give concrete assistance to a fighting people's organization that is in the forefront of the danger-fraught urban resistance against the Marcos dictatorship."

Caroling teams and task forces for ecumenical services have been formed in New York, Philadelphia, Seattle, San Diego, Los Angeles, Honolulu, S.F. Bay Area, Chicago, Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver. For more information about the Christmas caroling/ecumenical service contact:

Christmas Campaign Coordinating Center: Seattle AMLA, 2417 So. Eddy ST., Seattle, WA 98108, (206) 725-5673; or Rene Cruz, AMLC National Coordinator, 41-32 56th St., Woodside, NY 11377, (212) 898-1969/5673. □

Celebrate the Holiday Season by Supporting the Workers Struggle Back in the Homeland



Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino (Confederation of Filipino Workers) is seeking monetary assistance to finance their seminars on the role of the laboring sector in changing the deprivation and overcoming the repression that plagues the Philippines today.

Raising this request through the Anti-Martial Law coalition (Philippines), a **Christmas Caroling Campaign** has been launched to raise the money needed by Bukluran.

This Christmas, let us sing some carols in your home and tell you more about the cause of the Filipino workers.

Call the number nearest your home below:

San Francisco	(415) 731-7732
Berkley/Oakland	(415) 848-1364
Chicago	(312) 728-8341
Honolulu	(808) 537-1326
Los Angeles	(213) 483-3608
San Diego	(714) 582-4690
New York	(212) 335-6345

Philadelphia	(215) 474-2405
Sacramento	(916) 428-8657
Seattle	(206) 725-5638
Montreal	(514) 737-3774
Toronto	(416) 699-9316
Vancouver	(604) 327-0958

Boston, Philadelphia Forums:

Critics Target Marcos Regime



Peter Stanley (left) and Arnold Zeitlin (right) during the question and answer period in the recent forum on the Philippines held in Boston.

AK photo

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — About 80 people attended an educational forum on the Philippines here at the University Lutheran Church last Dec. 4. The guest speaker, Peter Stanley, discussed his views on the future of U.S.-Philippine relations. Stanley called for the return of the Philippines to the Filipino people and redefining the relationship between the Philippines and the U.S. Currently an assistant professor of history at Harvard University, Stanley has written a book on the Philippines entitled "The Nation in the Making."

Also unexpectedly present was Arnold Zeitlin, Associated Press bureau chief for Manila who was recently barred re-entry into the Philippines by Pres. Marcos for his truthful news coverage of the martial law situation. Both Stanley and Zeitlin participated in the lively question and answer period that followed.

The forum was concluded by a cultural presentation of Filipino folk dances and revolutionary songs from the Philippine resistance.

The event was sponsored by the Friends of the Filipino People (FFP) and KDP.

(continued on page 10)

National Council Report

FFP Maps Out 'Stop Aid' Campaign

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Reiterating its stand to cut off U.S. aid to the repressive martial law government in the Philippines, the National Council of the Friends of the Filipino People (FFP), formulated exhaustive strategies to carry out its campaigns in 1977. The December 11-12 meeting, held in this city and attended by 15 representatives from various cities from all over the U.S., also made provisions for opposing the congressional approval of the renegotiated U.S.-R.P. bases treaty.

The congressional and mass campaigns which will be coordinated through the Anti-Martial Law Coalition (AMLC) will revolve around the application of the Human Rights Amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act which stipulates that economic and military aid be denied to repressive governments and where such aid does not benefit the people of the country.

The Marcos demand for millions of dollars of rental payment in return for continued use of U.S. bases in the Philippines was carefully studied and assessed as just another conduit to funnel U.S. aid into the country. The strategy in opposing the passing of this renegotiated bases treaty in Congress was carefully laid out to insure that Marcos does not fall back on this scheme if aid is denied through the human rights amendment.

The council wrote up a letter to President-elect Jimmy Carter demanding the recall of William Sullivan, U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines, for his overt act of interference in Philippine affairs. Sullivan, in an earlier statement, discouraged the Philippines from aligning with third world countries and rather rest content on its dependence to the U.S.

The FFP also summed up its successful joint-AMLC effort which resulted in the declassification of the U.S. State Department report on the conditions in the Philippines. The report, which the State Department tried to quash must be provided to Congress by the Human Rights Amendment.

Severina Rivera, the FFP Congress Education Project Coordinator, also reported on her new radio program with Radio Pacifica, this city. The 15-minute news analysis and interviews with people active in the anti-martial law movement is aired once every two weeks.

To tighten up its organizational set-up, the council transferred its national office from Boston to the newly reestablished chapter in New York and appointed Andrew Seigal as tentative national coordinator with enthusiastic unanimity. □

POLICE HAD NO PROOF:**Charges Dropped Against Rocamora**

Community supporters outside the Hall of Justice in San Francisco following one of Ric Rocamora's pre-trial hearings. Ric Rocamora (first row, center) was assaulted by the police when he attempted to deliver a letter protesting the Oct. 16 sham referendum to the Philippine Consulate. *AK photo*

By RUBY HOWING
AK Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO — At the fourth pre-trial hearing last Dec. 9, 1976, the charges against Mr. Ricardo Rocamora (trespassing and resisting arrest) were dismissed. The long-awaited decision came after an intensive investigation by the District Attorney's office and Police Dept. who concluded that the prosecution would not be able to sustain the burden of proof.

Commenting on the decision, the Bay Area Anti-Martial Law Alliance, which spearheaded the campaign to defend Rocamora, stated: "There was never any doubt that they did not have a case. That is why they had to postpone the pre-trial three times. We strongly feel that the charges were dropped mainly because of the strong and consistent support from the community."

Since the first pre-trial hearing in November, letters of protest and petitions demanding that the charges against Ric Rocamora be dropped, poured into the Mayor's Office, the D.A.'s Office and the Chief of Police.

After the hearing, Mr. Doren Weinberg, of the National Lawyers Guild and attorney for the case said: "Even though it took a long time, it is good that the D.A. dismissed the charges. I think this is mainly because of the tremendous amount of community support forcing them (D.A. and Chief of Police) to conduct an honest investigation that he (Rocamora) is not guilty of a crime, but in fact, that he was a victim of police brutality."

POLICE ENCOUNTER

The well-publicized incident occurred last Oct. when members of the local Anti-Martial Law Alliance, staged a picket to protest the sham Oct. 16 referendum and the violent attacks inflicted

upon 12,000 demonstrators by the Marcos police in Manila.

Despite the unprecedented appearance of riot police in front of the Philippine Consulate building, the group proceeded to picket peacefully.

When a small delegation of the Alliance, including Rocamora and two reporters, attempted to deliver a statement to the representatives of the Marcos government (a procedure used many times before with no untoward incident) they were ordered from the building before they could even reach the elevator.

The group immediately proceeded to exit from the building. However the police began shoving them out the door and clubbed Rocamora across the face without any provocation.

To the further amazement of the demonstrators watching across the street, Rocamora was arrested and carted away in a paddy wagon. It was only when they went to bail Rocamora out of jail that they found he had been charged for "trespassing, resisting arrest, and assault on an officer!" Rocamora sustained three stitches over his eye and bruises on the face and neck.

Mr. Rocamora, obviously relieved that the ordeal is over told the *Ang Katipunan*: "We have proven to the SFPD and the Philippine Consulate that they cannot intimidate us in any way from expressing our anti-martial law sentiments here in the U.S."

To many, however, the issue does not end here. Mrs. Vitin, another Alliance member, summed up the situation: "The SFPD really didn't have any evidence to bring this case to court. Even though the hearings were postponed so many times, I have seen more and more people from the community coming to support our issue. The community cannot take this issue of police brutality very lightly. We have to demand that our rights are respected too!" □

**Narciso-Perez
Hearing Postponed**

By ESTER SIMPSON
AK Correspondent

CHICAGO — The trial of the Narciso-Perez multiple murder case has been postponed from January 7 to the first week of February. Instead, during the first week of January, disclosures of evidences by both the prosecution and the defense will be held, reported Ms. Perlas Makim, information officer of the Narciso-Perez Legal Defense Committee. This will give the defense lawyers more time to study the case and map out their strategy especially after the disclosure of evidences, added Ms. Makim.

Meanwhile, the two accused nurses are awaiting trial in their homes in Ann Arbor. Mrs. Leonie Perez, one of the accused, gave birth to a boy last November 19. Both recently had their phone disconnected after receiving many harassing calls.

SUPPORT BUILDS UP IN CHICAGO

Starting with 16 members at its formation last September 23, the Chicago support group for the defense of the Narciso-Perez case has now expanded to 33, the majority of whom are Filipino nurses from 13 major hospitals in the Chicago area. The *(continued on page 9)*

**HAWAII: Youth Problem
Community Demands
More Filipino
School Personnel**

Among the many problems that afflict the Filipino community in Hawaii, the problem of the youth has reached acute proportions and demands serious concern and attention.

Community concern led to the formation of the Oahu Filipino Community Council Task Force on Education (OFCC). The OFCC was set up to curb the incidents of violence involving Filipino youth in schools, and to counter racist ideas against young Filipino immigrants spreading throughout the island. While gang fights are a common occurrence among all ethnic groups in Hawaii, whenever a Filipino is involved it is blown out of proportion. Much of this hostility seems to reflect prevailing racist attitudes in Hawaii blaming immigrants, particularly Filipinos as the source of unemployment.

"These accusations are utterly false," stated the OFCC Task Force on Education, which has conducted thorough investigations on this problem. "A large part of the problem is that the school system failed to adjust to meet new conditions since the arrival of immigrants from the Philippines, Korea and Samoa."

According to the findings of the OFCC, 17 per cent of the student population are Filipinos and only an appalling 2.6 percent of Filipinos are hired as teachers, counsellors and librarians.

The OFCC, an umbrella organization representing 63 standing Filipino organizations in the island of Oahu, rejected the Dept. of Education's (DOE) Affirmative Action plan for dealing with this critical situation. Charging that the plan does not remedy the problem of under representation, the OFCC accused the Affirmative Action plan for lack of provisions in hiring qualified Filipinos to offset this imbalance.

Illalo Parayno, president of OFCC, stated: "The position we are taking is not motivated by satisfying statistics or by playing the numbers game. We have evidence to prove that the lack of Filipinos in the Dept. of Education has deep implications in the education of our children." Parayno asserted that they are not demanding any preferential treatment. "We do demand however, that our children be taught by teachers who can understand them, who can relate to them and who are keenly aware of their learning styles which makes the difference in the educational process of our children," stated Parayno.

The OFCC emphasized its opinion that a good educational system must create optimum conditions under which students can learn. "Of utmost importance is the presence to instructional staff who have a good knowledge of the culture and language of the students." □

Seattle Youth Mount Campaign for Center

Youth took an active role in the meeting held here at the Filipino Community Center. *AK photo*

By DAVE DELLA
AK Correspondent

SEATTLE — In the aftermath of recent violent encounters between groups of Filipino and Chinese youths here in this city, Filipino youth are taking active steps to get themselves a center. "We are determined to make a center for the youth a reality," said Edgar Silverio of the International District Youth Council (IDYC) at a meeting last Dec. 9. "We have no concrete activities nor a place to develop the needed program, such as tutoring, recreational activities and relevant education programs," said another IDYC member.

Called by the 1976 Filipino People's Far West Convention (PPFWC), about 40 people, youth, students, parents and elderly — gathered at the Filipino Community Center to discuss the youth problem and take up the proposal for

a center being put forward by the youth. Filipino Community council president, Silvestre Tangalan, Mrs. Tangalan and Pastor Alan Ocampo of the Beacon United Methodist Church were also present.

A slide show, narrated by Tony Guloy of the IDYC, opened the meeting. Depicting some of the problems of Filipino-American and immigrant youth, Guloy said: "Whether Filipino immigrant or American-born, we should not let our differences come between us and obscure our common problems. We can learn from each other. Some of us speak different languages, but for all of us, our skin color is the same, and thus we commonly face racial discrimination."

Then citing concrete examples, Guloy proceeded: "In schools, we face the same problems. We learn about George Washington and Columbus, but nothing about our ethnic heritage, like Andres Bonifacio. In addition, many immigrants have difficulties learning in school because the teacher is speaking English too fast and does not explain the lesson well."

Much of the discussion that followed then focused on the three-part proposal for the center drawn up by the youth. This was a direct outgrowth of the Youth Workshop held at the Seattle Far West Convention this past summer. The proposal, which was approved and implemented by the assembled body, called for:

1. That a community body be formed that would work to establish a center to meet the immediate recreational, educational and cultural needs of the youth;
2. That this work begin immediately under the organizational structure of a steering committee and two working sub-committees;
3. And as the youth are part of the community, that these concerns and efforts be fully supported by the Filipino Community of Seattle. □

State Dept. 'Interference' Revealed—

LECHOCO GETS NEW TRIAL

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Napoleon Lechoco, the disgruntled Filipino lawyer who held Philippine Ambassador Eduardo Romualdez hostage in exchange for the release of his 18-year old son in the Philippines, was released November 26 pending a new trial on his insanity plea.

Lechoco's controversial indictment despite a 12-juror decision to acquit him (8 in favor, 3 abstinence) was traced to the State Dept. "inevitable intervention" in the case. Lechoco's court-appointed counsel, Stewart Miller argues: "The only real objection set forth by the government in the State Dept.'s desire for Mr. Lechoco's incarceration." During the Nov. 18-19, 1974 Philippine Embassy siege, the State Dept. publicly announced it was going to intervene and set up a special task force to work with the FBI purportedly to advise the U.S. courts on what to do. Then acting attorney Earl J. Silbert, also sought guidance from the State Dept.

Although the State Department publicly denied exercising undue influence in the trial, Stiller told the appeals court that while the State Dept. "is obviously concerned for foreign policy and not the bail reform act," and that the court "is not required to endear itself to the government of the Philippines."

Information beginning to surface confirms earlier suspicion that Lechoco was railroaded to jail by strong State Dept. pressure.

An improper trial, ineffective defense set up by a negligent counsel who has since withdrawn from the case, and a faulty jury selection further aggravated the court proceedings against Lechoco.

Jacob Stein, the new defense attorney, charged that Lechoco's former counsel had not only failed to offer evidence of his insanity plea but also failed to rebutt the prosecution's position that Lechoco's son was "free to leave the country" and that Lechoco's action was intended only to embarrass President Marcos.

Dorothy Hays, one of the jurors in the case, said that Lechoco could have been acquitted had the defense countered evidence that Lechoco was a terrorist. (Lechoco was tried under the Terrorist Act and subsequently found guilty on a recently expanded federal kidnapping law.)

Another mitigating factor in Lechoco's case was the unsequestered jury selection in which jurors



Almost 16 months at a federal prison in Connecticut, Napoleon Lechoco (right), appears with his wife, Letica after his release. Philippine Times photo

who could have been externally pressured were not disqualified. It was later revealed that the jury foreman was a government employee; therefore with the government's overriding interest in the case, could be susceptible to outside pressure. In fact, he was instrumental in unduly influencing the rest of the jurors according to Ms. Hayes. Ms. Hayes works at St. Elizabeth Hospital and her bosses were the same psychiatrists who testified in court that Lechoco lied to them.

Also anomalous was the manner in which the trial was conducted, which was supposedly intended to give the defendant a fair trial. However, due to government intervention, a determination as to whether Lechoco committed the alleged act and was therefore criminally liable was made. Undoubtedly, the act was committed, but the judge improperly excluded all evidences during the insanity portion of the trial.

Because of these factors, the Appeals Court recently ruled that Lechoco has to be tried again, "in light of the importance of the pre-offered evidence." But whether he is found guilty or not remains to be seen. (Source: Philippine Times) □

Nurses Hearing...



Filipino community supporters from Chicago visit Leonora Perez and Filipina Narciso, (second, third from right), two nurses accused of killing several patients while working at the VA hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan. AK photo

(continued from page 8)

group has been involved in the dissemination of information on the case and collection of donations to the defense fund. They have given out educational brochures on the case and sold raffle tickets for fund raising where they work, in apartment buildings that house a lot of Filipinos, in Filipino stores and even at the airports to reach out to Balikbayan travellers.

For the majority of the members of the Defense Committee, organizing around an issue like the Narciso-Perez case is an entirely new experience. One member, in summing up her door-to-door leafletting in high-rise apartment buildings, said: "The warm reception of Filipino families and their enthusiasm in giving donations brings a lot of satisfaction to the support group members." Another observed that whenever they conduct door-to-door leafletting "they usually end up sharing their experiences on how they are discriminated upon in their jobs."

Many creative methods have been used to fund raise such as transforming a birthday party into a fundraiser; instead of gifts friends wrote out checks to the defense fund.

On January 8, the Philippine Study Group (PSG) will hold a forum on the Narciso-Perez case. Representatives of the Ann Arbor defense committee, Philippine Nurses Association of Chicago (PNAC), and members of the local support group will be on hand to discuss the nationwide efforts and give an update on the status of the case. The Forum will be held at the Uptown Center Hull House auditorium at 4520 North Beacon, Chicago at 3 p.m. □



Sulong! (Forward in the Struggle!)

PSG Spearheads Filipino Curriculum Study

CHICAGO — Another first for the Filipino community in the Midwest is in the offing.

A one-year research project to develop curricula for Filipino pre-school and primary school children is being launched by the Philippine Study Group (PSG) in coordination with the Philippine Forum of New York, the purpose of which is to contribute towards developing ethnic identity among Filipinos.

The proposed areas to be covered are art, literature, politics, culture, history, and economics; all aimed at reflecting the experiences of both the Filipinos in the Philippines and Filipino immigrants in the U.S. A multi-media presentation is suggested to allow for flexibility and effectiveness in teaching; thus, comic books and other printed materials, slides, video tape, and records will be utilized. The project also covers training teachers to handle the materials and implement the curricula.

The PSG was founded on Sept. 16, 1972. It was the first Philippine organization in Chicago to focus its attention on issues affecting the conditions of Filipinos in the U.S. and in the Philippines. In the words of its constitution, the PSG will "create, develop and sustain" the "Filipino national consciousness" of its members and other Filipinos in the greater Chicago area. In its four years of existence, it has sponsored 38 forums on topics in Philippine literature, politics, history, economy, labor, and assessment of the martial law regime.

In 1973, in cooperation with the Philippine Times, the PSG conducted a survey of Filipinos' attitudes towards martial law in the Philippines, the results of which were published in the Times.

The most significant contribution of PSG is the publication of the Filipino Guide to Chicago which even NBC's local Channel 5 acclaimed as "the first comprehensive directory of Filipino-oriented services and resources."

For more information on the PSG, write P.O. Box 871, Oak Park, IL 60306. □

Seattle Law Students Protest Unfair Bar Exams

"The community is relevant!" shouted protesters at a recent picket at Seattle's Federal Courthouse last Nov. 30 targeting the Washington State Bar Exam.

"Our aim is to expose the arbitrariness of the State Bar Exam to the public," said Iwamoto, spokesperson for the Coalition for Justice in the Legal Profession. "As it stands now," said Gary Iwamoto, himself a second year law student at the University of Washington, "the three-day exam, in effect, discriminates against minority lawyer applicants in a disproportionate number."

In 1976, only one out of seven Chicano applicants passed and between 1975-76, two out of 25 Black applicants passes. Few Asians even applied.

The Coalition, made up of Third World and progressive white groups, mainly students and lawyers, drew up a list of alternatives to the bar exams and present-

ed it to the State Bar Association. The Coalition's alternatives included the addition of more minority examiners, the exams themselves be administered orally and made more factually relevant to Third World people, and that law students have one year work in legal services to the Third World community.

According to Iwamoto: "The exams should begin to test the competence of lawyers in the fields that mainly affect Third World and low-income communities. This includes employment discrimination, immigration problems, civil law and housing discrimination." □

ELAINE KO

Union Drive Unsuccessful at Garment Factory

BERKELEY — Snow Lion Workers voted 88-49 against union representation at the Snow Lion plant. ILGWU (International Ladies Garment Workers Union) organizers were unavailable for comment at the time of writing. However, comments from workers at Snow Lion, answering why the union drive failed, gave varying opinions.

One reason offered was management's harassment and intimidation tactics. During the last two weeks of the organizing drive, Snow Lion owner, Barry Salloway, held several "Stop Work Meetings" to voice his opinions on the current union drive. These "Stop Work Meetings" added up to nothing short of intimidating workers into withholding any support for the ILGWU, and slandering the organizations within Snow Lion Support Commit-

tee (Union Wage, Asian Law Caucus, International Socialists and Union of Democratic Filipinos) by questioning their motives for supporting the union drive.

Salloway was also able to sow more confusion among the workers by putting out company leaflets. One such leaflet centered around the wages of garment workers under an ILGWU contract, comparing these wages to those currently being paid at Snow Lion as well as other factories in the East Bay. The leaflet claimed that under an ILGWU contract, the worker's wages would be cut and that the existing wages at Snow Lion as well as other factories operating as non-union shops were higher. Actually the wages that Salloway cited from the said contract were based on a 35-hour work week, not a 40-hour week, and the contract itself was two years old and totally invalid.

Salloway has in the past utilized these tactics to keep Snow Lion workers unorganized. During the union organizing a year ago, he fired sympathetic supporters of the union as well as putting out leaflets he would move his entire operation to Taiwan if the shop were unionized.

A meeting with ILGWU organizers, the Snow Lion Worker's Committee, as well as the Support Committee is in the process of finalization. This meeting will summarize the organizing drive and problems that were met along the way to draw out the lessons that may help in the future organizing. For so long as the oppressive conditions exist in Snow Lion and in the garment industry as a whole, the workers will continue to organize. □

R. TOLENTINO

Filipino Trade Unionist: Part 2

Organizing Workers at Castcraft



Workers at Castcraft Industries in Chicago (left) involved in efforts to unionize. One of the workers, Hermes Vilar (right) relates this struggle from his own personal experiences. **AK photo**

The writer is relating his personal experiences in union organizing at Castcraft and the workers struggle for better working conditions. In the last issue of the **Ang Katipunan**, Mr. Vilar described the unequal treatment of employees, harassment encountered from the company while organizing, the successful union elections, and the firing of workers in retaliation. — Editor.

Special to the **Ang Katipunan**

By **HERMES V. VILAR**

(continued from last issue)

As of this writing, we have not yet reached an agreement with the Company's representative, with no prospects of reaching one. (This writer is a member of the Union panel in every negotiation with the management. So far we already had 10 meetings since June 10, but the management's representative is so uncompromising in the negotiations, his proposals are unacceptable, unreasonable and insulting to the workers at Castcraft.)

Our Union organizer, Mr. Sallas, is thinking of filing an unfair labor practice complaint against the company for repeatedly refusing to give the Union its full counterproposal. The Union has submitted its proposal on the very first meeting but the management has kept its wage proposal so ridiculously low, so that those who have been employed for more than two years won't even get a pay raise during the three-year period proposed by the company. The company likewise refuses to agree on a union security clause which would give job security to those workers who become union members.

DIGNITY VS. SUBSERVIENCE

The history of organized labor, whether here in the United States or in other parts of the so-called Free World, is replete with blood and tears. To some Filipinos who have not been part of organized labor or to those who shun it for self-serving reasons, the struggle of the workers may not be interesting. But to those, who by one reason or another have been victims of exploitation, it is worth exploring.

Most labor unions operate just like any other kind of business. But unlike commercial concerns, which is only interested in amassing huge profits, labor unions exist to fight for **SOCIAL JUSTICE** and **DIGNITY** of its members. What is ironic in the existence of labor unions is the fact that non-union members also benefit from their organizing efforts. Big companies, who fear the consequences of prolonged strike in case their workers are unionized, have given their employees wages and benefits comparable to those obtained by union workers. Thus, it is not surprising that a large portion of the American workers are not organized. Besides there are states that have **RIGHT TO WORK LAWS**, which means that such states do not subscribe to the union security clause.

The Filipino workers at Castcraft, like other immigrant hired hands, are being exploited by the management. Employers like Castcraft, spend thousands of dollars to resist union organizing drives. Those who voted against the union don't seem to realize that what the company has given them, or has promised to give them in exchange for their subservience, is just a drop in the bucket. While our compatriot would have us believe that Castcraft has been treating us justly, he does not

seem to realize that what is just to the company is not just to us. We work at Castcraft for our measly hourly pay and a week vacation after one year of service, and no more. This is what we have to swallow?

SELF-INTEREST VS. GENERAL WELFARE

The selfishness of some people sometimes plays an important role in winning or losing a labor contest. With respect to the Filipino workers at Castcraft, it is a very crucial factor even up to this stage of our struggle. The management's lackeys has astutely pitted one worker against the other. Those who think only of their own welfare have allowed themselves to be instruments of their fellow worker's downfall. Stepping on the fallen bodies of their comrades do not bother them at all. The number of union sympathizers has now dwindled as a result of the previous and recent firings.

Maintaining our unity and strength at this time and in the ensuing days is a big problem. The pressure of losing one's job has driven some of our co-workers towards the orbit of greed. We can only hope that by some stroke of luck, our complaint with the NLRB would be a success so that those who have been unjustly fired find solace. We are not, however, optimistic that the NLRB can help us in our plight, in as much as there are loopholes in the law itself which the management can use to its own advantage. □

Philadelphia, Boston Forums...



Patriotic songs from the Philippines concluded the educational forum in Boston on the martial law situation in the Philippines. **AK photo**

(continued from page 7)

On the same day in Philadelphia, a forum on the suppression of human rights in Asia was held at the Tabernacle Church. The audience of over 80 people, mainly from the Asian community, was drawn together for the first time in common recognition of the repressive nature of their respective homelands. The regimes of South Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines, and Thailand were cited as countries where severe repression of human rights, including the widespread use of torture, is practised. The keynote speaker, Russell Johnson of the American Friends Service Committee, spoke of the need to understand that the repression of human rights is directly tied up to the desires of multi-national corporations to have regimes wherein strikes are outlawed, wages are kept low, and where there is unlimited profit remittance.

In addition to the keynote speaker, Dr. Roy Kim of Drexel University, Amin Alforque of the Philadelphia Anti-Martial Law Alliance, and Dr. Jim Seymour of Amnesty International also spoke about South Korea, the Philippines and Taiwan respectively. One last minute addition was Rin Settakork, of the Union of Democratic Thais was added to the speaker's table. Thailand as the latest addition to the growing list of martial law regimes was sympathetically greeted to the forum by Rev. Ben Wu (moderator), "Welcome to the group."

The lively three hour forum was sponsored by the Formosan Human Rights Committee, Friends of the Filipino People, Korean Relief Fund, and the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP). □

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'Link the Past to the Present'

Filipinos Honor Revolutionary Hero, Andres Bonifacio



Audience views skit on the NPA during Andres Bonifacio Day celebration in Los Angeles. AK photo

By ROMY DE LA PAZ

The legacy of Andres Bonifacio—the Filipino people's hero who advocated armed resistance to win genuine national liberation—is still remembered to hundreds of patriotic Filipinos who celebrated Andres Bonifacio Day (Nov. 30) in seven cities across the U.S. The KDP-sponsored events featured a slide show, revolutionary songs and a skit that served as a highly educational experience to the Filipino community here in the U.S.

The celebrations, besides highlighting the spirit and revolutionary tradition of Bonifacio linked the past to the present, paralleling the Philippine revolution of 1896 against foreign domination to the present day struggles for national democracy. In the tradition of the old Katipunan founded by Bonifacio, the New People's Army in the Philippines today is continuing that "unfinished revolution," this time against the U.S.-Marcos dictatorship.

PHILIPPINES REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY

The history of the Philippines is a rich tradition of heroic resistance against foreign domination.

Oppressed for over 500 years by the merciless sword and cross of Spain, followed by American rule, the Filipino people fought back, generation after generation, to rid themselves of foreign oppression and fulfill their aspirations for genuine national independence.

This glorious tradition of revolutionary struggle, however, has remained relatively unknown, even to most Filipinos. This is not surprising, for it was the foreign conquerors who wrote their version of Philippine history deliberately obscuring this revolutionary tradition.

It is for this reason that Andres Bonifacio's role—an integral part of this glorious tradition—was similarly obscured, even denigrated.

Filipino resistance to foreign domination first took place when Magellan "discovered" the

islands in 1521 in a bid to annex it to the Spanish regime. Lapu-lapu and his followers put up a valiant and courageous resistance, which led to Magellan's death. Yet the people's bravery alone was no match for Spain's superior military arms and by 1600, most of the islands were under Spanish control.

Forced labor, excessive tributes, high taxes and military conscriptions were some of the countless oppressive conditions imposed on the Filipinos by the Spanish colonialists, nourishing the seeds of social unrest. This unrest sparked some 200 spontaneous revolts throughout the islands that continually challenged the Spanish empire.

During this period, the propertied and educated Filipino "ilustrado" class, suffering from discrimination and dissatisfaction with their share of the colonial spoils, demanded equality with the Spaniards.

A reform movement emerged, led by Jose Rizal, which clamored for the assimilation of the Philippines into Spain. By becoming a province instead of a colony, the reformists believed equality would be achieved. Not surprisingly, the Spanish authorities brutally suppressed the reformists leading to the execution of Rizal in 1896.

ARMED STRUGGLE—THE SOLUTION

The futility of the reform movement spurred Andres Bonifacio to organize the Katipunan in 1892 with the revolutionary program advocating complete separation from Spain through armed struggle.

The correctness of the revolutionary program can be gleaned from the fact that in a relatively short period of time, the Katipunan's goal was embraced enthusiastically by the Filipino people on a national scale. Indicative of this broad mass support, the ranks of the Katipunan swelled from 200 in 1892 to 30,000 members by 1896.

Significantly, it was this national revolutionary

movement supported by the Filipino people and led by a revolutionary organization that wrested political control from the Spanish colonialist regime.

However, at that time, Bonifacio lacked the scientific social principles to guide the revolution to its finish, a revolution that would put the interests of the Filipino masses above everything else. Bonifacio was inspired by the French revolution that advocated the struggle for national sovereignty, seizing power from feudal landlords and restoring it to the monarchy.

With this limited knowledge, Bonifacio also failed to realize that although the ilustrado class can be temporary allies of the revolution, they can also be potential enemies that would subvert the interests of the masses.

These limitations enabled the privileged "ilustrado" class to take over the leadership of the Philippine revolution.

OPPORTUNISM—HALLMARK OF THE "ILUSTRADO" CLASS

Emilio Aguinaldo's election to the Katipunan's leadership marked the consolidation of the "ilustrado" class' dominance within the revolutionary ranks. Opportunism—the hallmark of this class—inevitably led the Philippine revolution to its defeat, collaboration and surrender to the U.S. expansionists who had come to take over the decrepit Spanish empire.

This page in history proved that revolution to assert a nation's complete independence and sovereignty, cannot be led by land-owning or privileged class who have their own interests to protect, and not the interest of the Filipino masses.

"UNFINISHED REVOLUTION" CONTINUES

Today, the struggle for national liberation from foreign domination continues. As in the past, the Filipino people are recognizing the truth that only a revolution can topple the present day enemy, the U.S.-Marcos dictatorship.

Led by the New People's Army (NPA), the Filipino people are joining the swelling ranks of the revolutionary movement. Like the Katipunan, the NPA rank and file is expanding rapidly on a nationwide scale. Similarly, the rapid growth of the NPA is indicative of the fact that the Filipino people overwhelmingly accept armed struggle as key to revolutionary change.

It is in this light that the Andres Bonifacio Day celebrations are significant. Bonifacio, a worker, born Nov. 30, 1863 in the slums of Tondo, is an example of the Filipino people's courage and determination to fight for a genuinely independent Philippines. The heroic struggle waged by the New People's Army—carrying on the "unfinished revolution of 1896"—is proof that the fighting spirit of Andres Bonifacio lives to this day. □

SEATTLE: Lawsuit vs. Class Shutdown

Standoff Over Exclusion Policy in Asian-American Studies Dept.

FLASH! As a result of the present controversy, the Selection Committee of the Asian-American Studies Dept. has just recommended that the Philippine-American History class be postponed for the next semester. The Filipino students plan to challenge this and have already taken the issue to the community.

By SILME DOMINGO
AK Correspondent

SEATTLE—The Filipino Students Assn. (FSA) here at the University of Washington filed a lawsuit Dec. 13 against the Asian-American Studies Dept. (AAS) following a "no response" answer from AAS director, Dr. Tetsuden Kashima, on the policy of excluding the public from its meetings.

The exclusion rule has come under recent criticism by many Filipino students who object to the AAS criteria and procedure in hiring instructors but are not permitted to attend meetings. For last quarter's Philippine history class, an applicant with a Ph.D in literature was chosen over another applicant, Joselito Lalas, who had a master's degree in Philippine History. Although according to standard professional practices, one must be hired according to field of expertise, and not the highest academic degree alone.

The exclusion policy, according to FSA, is in violation of the Open Meetings Act, a Washington State law prohibiting closed meetings of any public

institution, except when in executive session.

CAMPUS, COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Before the lawsuit was filed, a picket supported by individuals and organizations from the Filipino community and broader campus community protested at the AAS Dept. Chanting, "Open Meetings Now," "No Representation Without Participation," and "Fight for our Legal Right to Participate," Asian, Arab, Black, Chicano, Puerto Rican and white picketers drew a lot of attention. The militancy of the FSA in fighting for the right of all students and the public to participate in meetings, especially in matters affecting them, received strong support from passers-by.

Despite the widely-supported picket, protest letters, telephone calls, and an educational forum on the issue, Dr. Kashima held his position: "I have no response. Talk to your attorney and this matter will be settled in court."

When confronted by a delegation from the picket, Kashima also implied that he was unclear about the issue. A spokesperson of the delegation said, "If this is true, it is even more evident that the AAS is irresponsible."

FSA, in the interest of the students and the AAS, had wanted to handle the controversy outside of court. But with Kashima refusing to discuss the

matter, there was no other recourse.

'SOMETHING FISHY'

Before Nov. 11 when the Selection Committee was convened, all the AAS meetings were open. Under closed session, however, the controversial criteria was maintained for the selection of an instructor for the next quarter's Filipino-American History class. The two student representatives to the committee disagreed, but were outvoted.

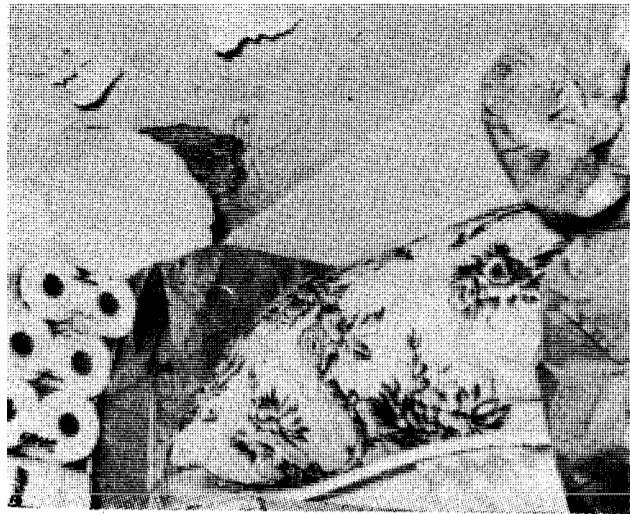
Said Jackie Agtuca, one of the student representatives: "They want to keep the meetings closed because they don't want any witnesses to the manipulation and undemocratic procedures going on. I raise objections, but I am not listened to. Sometimes, they outright laugh at me."

Ms. Agtuca's sentiments are shared by many other FSA members who have strong suspicions that there must be "something fishy going on," or why would they suddenly be closed meetings?

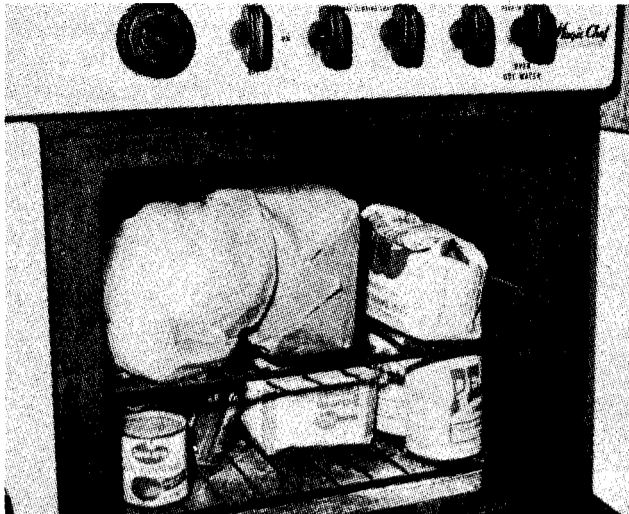
Joselito Lalas, an applicant for last quarter's instructor in Philippine history, is also contemplating filing charges of unfair hiring practice against the AAS Dept. Said Mr. Lalas: "I will not condone this undemocratic process by passively accepting the injustice dealt to me, personally, by the AAS. I unite with the students and their democratic right to participate." □

'Worst of all Hotels' in Seattle's International District

Tenants Force Landlord to Repair Milwaukee Hotel



The landlord of the Milwaukee Hotel has allowed the building to deteriorate so that cracked, peeling ceilings (left) are a common sight. The Hotel rooms are also so cramped that tenants are forced to pile their belongings against the wall. The boiler has not been fixed for so long, that this stove (right) cannot be used anymore, and instead, becomes a storage place for food. AK photo



By SHERRY WOO
AK Correspondent

SEATTLE — Members of the International District Housing Alliance (IHDA), lawyers and concerned residents of the Milwaukee Hotel met with George Lucker, architect for the Milwaukee Hotel last Dec. 2.

The meeting was in response to a letter from the IHDA demanding a definite time commitment from the hotel's owners to make the repairs necessary to bring it up to standards. (Last Oct. 5, 1975, the city's Building Dept. cited the hotel for 11 major health and safety violations.)

Through public pressure and hard work of the IDHA and Milwaukee Hotel residents, the owners have now committed themselves to make minimal repairs on the hotel. By Feb. 5, 1977, three major violations will be repaired; heating, electrical wiring and sanitation. By Aug. 5 of that same year, the nine remaining violations will be corrected. Without the active demands of the people, especially the Hotel residents themselves, the owners would have never committed themselves this far.

Deadlines for these repairs were set by the

Building Dept.; however, if unfulfilled, the Milwaukee will be closed down.

WORST CONDITIONS

The Milwaukee Hotel, built in 1909, has the worst living conditions of all the old hotels still open in the International District. Out of a total of 145 rooms, only 70 are occupied. Most of the residents are Chinese immigrants.

It is apparent that the owners of the Milwaukee have allowed the building to deteriorate so that today, it is unsafe, for the residents who live there. At the same time, the owners keep the Hotel open to "soak" as much rent as possible from the residents that remain. There has been little, if any, work done to keep up the Hotel. Basic maintenance has gone neglected for many years.

When entering the door to the Hotel, which has no lock, piles of trash lie strewn about the floor. The garbage smells so bad, that it's a wonder how even the cockroaches can stand it! Walking up the stairs to the second floor, Mrs. Toy, a long-time resident of the Milwaukee, commented: "A person's hand literally sticks to the banister, it is so filthy. But I'm so old now, I need to hang on to something to get upstairs." The elevator has been broken for over a

year, and the owners never bothered to fix it.

The hallway and windows have also been left uncleaned for a long time. The windows, if they are not broken, are so filthy, that one doesn't even want to go close enough to them to look outside.

The conditions inside the rooms are just as bad. Room sizes are only large enough for the bare necessities, like a bed, table, and a couple of chairs. It is so cramped, that the residents are forced to stack their belongings against the wall. In some rooms, these stacks almost reach to the top of the ceiling.

Forced to live cheaply like this, the residents cook and eat their meals in their rooms, using hot plates. Mrs. Louie, a member of the Tenant's Council commented: "the owners haven't fixed the boiler, so I haven't been able to use my stove for over two years now. I use the oven for storage space," and she opened her oven and showed canned food stocked in it. She said further, "the electrical wiring is so unsafe that we can't plug in more than one appliance at a time, which makes cooking very difficult."

The residents have also had no heat in their rooms for almost four years. Mrs. Wong, another resident of the hotel said, "I hate to get up in the morning, it's just freezing in my room. Sometimes, I use my hot plate to heat my room and also to dry my clothes."

RIGHT TO DECENT HOUSING

The living conditions in the Milwaukee Hotel are unbearable, but many of the residents are forced to live there because they are too poor to afford any place else. But even if they are poor, they know they have the right to decent housing.

Although just beginning to organize the Milwaukee residents, the IDHA expects that their future demands will be made to the city government for the total rehabilitation of the Milwaukee Hotel. The IDHA believes that the city government is ultimately responsible for providing low-income elderly and families with decent low-cost housing.

As one member of the IDHA said, "We are just beginning the struggle in the hotel. We know it will be a long one, but we are determined to stay and fight." □

'Isuda Ti Immuna' Drama Set for S. California

By A. BLANCO and P. PAYUYO

LOS ANGELES — For the first time in southern California, the well-known Filipino-American chronicle, "Isuda Ti Immuna" (They Who Were First) will be performed this coming year.

"Isuda, written in 1973, by students at U.C. Berkeley, tells the story of the bitter struggles and hardships of the first wave of Filipinos who came to the U.S. during the '20s and '30s. The play utilizes drama, dance and poetry, and a cast and technical crew of over 50 people.

The announcement was made by the S. Calif. Regional Council of the West Coast Confederation of Filipino Students following its second annual conference last October. Tentative dates set for the play's summer performances are: July 15-16, 22-23 in Los Angeles; July 29-30 in San Diego; Aug. 5-6 in Fresno; and Aug. 13-14 in Long Beach.

In the meantime, a core group of students have formed site, finance and production subcommittees to conduct the preparatory work. A budget is being developed, several theaters being contacted while one scene is under discussion for possible revisions to make it localized to Los Angeles. The core group is also soliciting community support for the play and is preparing a proposal to this effect to the umbrella organization, the United Filipino-American Assembly of S. Calif.

For more information regarding the "Isuda" production, call Pat Payuyo (213/629-8031) in Los Angeles or Alex Blanco (213/498-4821) in South Bay. □

Some Ideas for Holiday Gifts....



A. MAKIBAKA! 1977\$2.50
Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino (KDP)

A people's calendar that gives a historical and political perspective to the struggle of the Filipino people, both here and in the Philippines. The calendar includes important dates in Philippine, Filipino-American, and U.S./International history. A political and practical gift that can be used by the whole household.

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Far East Reporter

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C. BANGON! (Arise!)\$5.00
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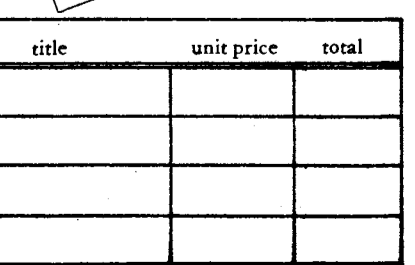
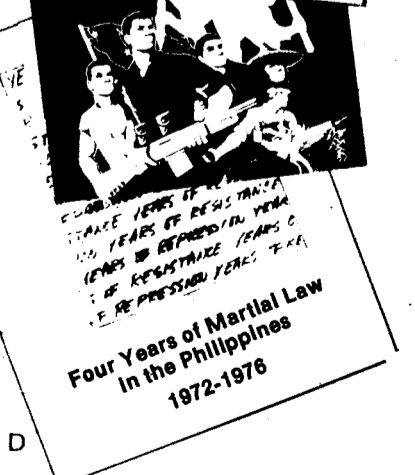
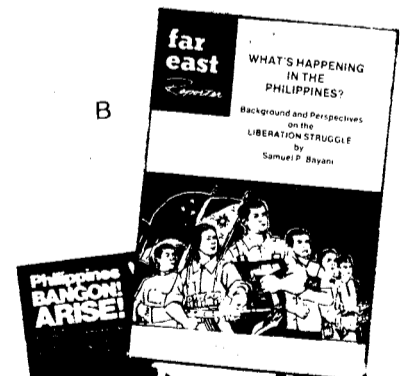
Three years in the making . . . a collection of 19 revolutionary songs from the Philippines dating back to the 1896 Revolution against Spain to the present liberation struggle against the U.S.-Marcos Dictatorship. Sung in Pilipino with words, English translation and chords included. A joint project of cultural workers from the KDP and Preparatory Commission for the National Democratic Front (NDF).

D. FOUR YEARS OF MARTIAL LAW IN THE PHILIPPINES.....\$1.50
Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino (KDP)

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The AK Staff will be on a Christmas/ New Year's vacation for two weeks. The next issue will be out on Jan. 15, 1977.

**Maligayang Pasko!
Manigong Bagong Taon!**

DOMESTIC / INTERNATIONAL

MORE LAYOFFS

Employment Rate Up for Third Consecutive Month

Over 200,000 persons swelled the ranks of the unemployed as the nation's jobless rate jumped to 8.1 per cent during the month of November.

The sharp increase, marking the year's highest number of unemployed, was due mainly to increases in factory layoff among adult men. As the third consecutive monthly rise in the unemployment rate, the November increase was a further indication of the nation's economic stagnation.

According to a Labor Dept. report, the 8.1 per cent figure represents over 7,750,000 unemployed persons. Real unemployment — counting those persons who have become discouraged and have stopped looking for work or who are involuntary part-time workers — is estimated at 10.9 per cent or 10.5 million persons by the AFL-CIO.

The unemployment rate among women, minorities and teenagers remained at record high levels. For Blacks, the Labor Department reported a 13.6 per cent unemployment rate and for teenagers a staggering 19 per cent rate.

A continuing high level of layoffs from jobs accounted for over half the number of unemployed. Some 3.9 million persons have thus lost their jobs and the nation's economy shows little sign of reversing this trend in the near future.

Economic spokesmen tried to point to other statistics showing increases in overall numbers of working persons or indications that real wages were rising as signs that all was not gloom with the U.S. economy. However, the fact that the unemployment rate was at the highest level since the 1975 recession belies any claims that the economic "pause" was going to be picking up.

The Labor Dept's latest report sparked new speculation as to steps the incoming Carter administration might take to bolster the ailing economy. Tax breaks and job programs have both been hinted at, but even these steps are seen as temporary measures which would not help ease unemployment long range. Carter has even been issuing statements recently that the jobless rate will remain high throughout much of his term in office, and that the American people should be prepared to accept this. □

Death Penalty Reinstated

Hundreds Now Face Execution



Prisoner just about to be electrocuted. 1967 was the last year when the death penalty was used.

By VICENTE SAN NICOLAS

The recently well-publicized case of Gary Mark Gilmore — a convicted murderer who has demanded that the state of Utah execute him — has focused national attention on the controversy surrounding the use of capital punishment in this country.

While claiming wide-spread publicity, however, the Gilmore case has tended to obscure many of the legal and moral arguments against the death penalty, a form of punishment that has lain dormant for almost ten years. Indeed, an almost circus-like atmosphere has surrounded Gilmore, including massive media coverage of his various court appearances, a \$100,000 offer by ABC's "Movie of the Week" to dramatize Gilmore's life and death, and even a request by television networks to broadcast the execution.

Yet, the threat of death by hanging, electrocution, firing squad or gas chamber hangs imminent

for more than 600 persons in the nation's death houses, and opponents of capital punishment have begun to take actions to stop the pending legal murders through petitions to the U.S. Supreme Court where the final constitutional questions concerning capital punishment are decided.

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS DEATH PENALTY

The prospects of the current Supreme Court striking down capital punishment as unconstitutional are not favorable, despite a number of recent appeals. Just this last summer, in the **Gregg** decision, the high court ruled that the death penalty is not inherently cruel or unusual, and is therefore a constitutionally acceptable form of punishment.

This July 2 ruling was a clarification of the court's 1972 **Furman** decision, which voided all existing death penalties as they were "wantonly and freakishly" applied to Blacks, other minorities and the poor, and thus a violation of the sixth amendment prohibiting cruel and unusual punishment. Since that decision, some 34 states have rewritten their capital punishment laws in an attempt to meet the high court's ruling.

The new laws, and challenges of those laws, provided a basis for the court's July 2 ruling. While finding the statutes of Texas, Florida and Georgia acceptable, it struck down those of North Carolina, Louisiana and Georgia. In essence, however, the court upheld the use of the death penalty.

More recently, in an affirmation of its July decision, an appeal by Leon Troy Gregg asking for a rehearing of the July ruling, was denied by the Supreme Court Oct. 4. Gregg, along with 31 other death row inmates in Georgia, now face imminent execution.

RACIST CHARACTER OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

When the 1972 Supreme Court found the death penalty unconstitutional, it was forced to recognize the racist application of capital punishment to Blacks and other minorities. Acting on a petition by the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund and under pressure from a broad anti-death penalty movement, the Supreme Court voided all existing death sentences.

The racist character of the death penalty was revealed in numerous briefs filed with the high

(continued on page 14)

Pregnancy Knocked from Disability Insurance

Supreme Court Ruling Attacks Women's Rights

By VICENTE SAN NICOLAS

In a major attack on the rights of American working women, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled Dec. 7 that employers may refuse to include pregnancy in sickness and accident disability insurance plans.

The high court's 6-to-3 decision ruled against 43 women plaintiffs in a suit against the General Electric Co. (GE), which has excluded payments for pregnancy from the company's health and disability insurance plan. Six lower U.S. Courts of Appeals had ruled in favor of the women bringing the suit, and supporters of the case charged that the Supreme Court has now "legalized sex discrimination."

Susan Rose, a lawyer for the Women's Rights Project of the American Civil Liberties Union said that the ruling has "denied millions of working women fair and equal treatment." She added that now "employers can treat pregnant as harshly as they like, firing them, refusing to hire them and forcing them to take long unpaid leaves of absence."

Prior to the Supreme Court's decision, every lower court found that exclusion of pregnancy from insurance coverage violated Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act which outlawed sex and race discrimination. In addition, the lower courts upheld guidelines of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) which said that benefits "shall be applied to disability due to pregnancy or

childbirth on the same terms and conditions as they are applied to other temporary disabilities."

The Supreme Court's latest ruling voided all previous rulings, making a more conservative interpretation of Title VII and throwing out the EEOC guidelines. The court ruled that "it is impossible to find any gender-based discriminatory effect" by an employer's refusal to include pregnancy in insurance plans.

In a dissenting opinion, Justices Thurgood Marshall and William J. Brennan Jr. said the ruling "offends common sense" and call "purely fanciful" the majority's opinion that the GE plan was neutral towards gender. They noted that the plan covered "risks such as prostatectomies, vasectomies, and circumcisions . . . for which there exist no female counterparts covered by the plan."

Voting in the majority were Justices Potter Stewart, Byron R. White, Lewis F. Powell Jr., Harry Blackmun, William H. Rehnquist and Chief Justice Warren Burger. The latter four were all Nixon-era appointees, and the decision reflects the conservative majority now on the court. Justices Thurgood Marshall, William J. Brennan Jr., and John Paul Stevens all dissented.

BUSINESS HAILS DECISION

Reflecting the attitude of business toward the ruling, the Chamber of Commerce issued a statement noting that the high court concurred with the

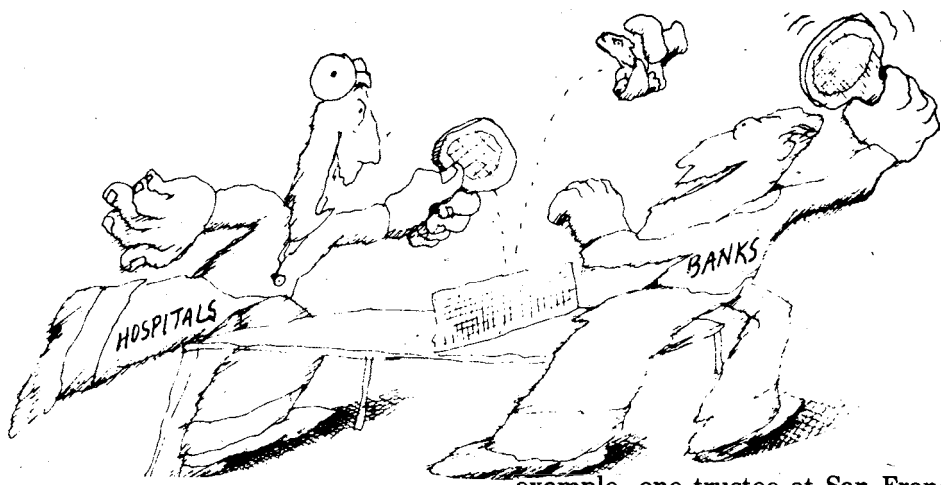
chamber's opinion and that the chamber's lawyer "hailed" the decision.

Throughout the case, GE had contended that inclusion of pregnancy benefits would cost industry millions every year, and that increased costs were the main motivation for excluding it from disability insurance plans. It is now expected that many companies that include such coverage for pregnancy will drop it, although most companies, such as airlines, utilities and insurance firms, do not carry such coverage.

Women's rights organizers have expressed shock and anger at the ruling, especially as the suit met with successive success until the Supreme Court's decision. Some organizers have announced plans to strengthen legislation outlawing sex discrimination, although this process will take years and would face legislative obstacles. Even the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution, which would strengthen the rights of women, is presently floundering in state legislative bodies and passage of the amendment is far from decided.

Generally women's rights advocates concede that the court's ruling will have broad ramifications, affecting millions of working women nationwide. In addition, observers note that the conservative interpretation of Title VII by the Supreme Court will have long-range negative effects not only on women, but also on racial and other minority groups covered under the 1964 Civil Rights Act. □

BANKS HAVE STRANGLEHOLD ON HOSPITAL BUDGETS



Bill Plympton

Liberation News Service

Did Wells Fargo Bank tell San Francisco's St. Luke's Hospital to shut down its clinic? Might the Bank of America close the outpatient clinic of your hospital? For all practical purposes, yes.

Banks wield enormous power over hospitals because the hospitals are heavily in debt. Charitable donations no longer cover hospital costs, so hospitals have turned to banks and insurance companies for loans.

The consequence of banks controlling social service has been shown most dramatically in New York City. In pursuit of bank profits via prompt repayment of loans, banks are insisting that New York City close schools, hospitals, fire stations and libraries. Similar cutbacks, though not so apparent, are affecting private hospitals around the country.

Hospitals, squeezed for money, put economic considerations before health care needs. In order to repay loans, the hospital boards of trustees cut the less profitable services. From this viewpoint, surgery rooms and X-ray departments are valuable since they produce money. Outpatient clinics are not valuable since they lose money. Free and part-pay clinics for the poor are the worst of all from the banker's point of view.

THE BANKS' STRANGLE

Banks have three kinds of economic hold over hospitals: (1) multimillion dollar construction loans — the hospital's biggest obligation to the bank; (2) short-term loans required by a shortage of money caused by over-expansion and empty beds; and (3) renting major equipment from the banks.

In these transactions, banks impose conditions: the hospital can't take out another loan without the bank's okay; it can't purchase or lease expensive equipment without bank review, etc.

The final 'straw in hospital dependence on banks is the "locking in" of a hospital to one bank. Years ago, a hospital might deal with several banks; today, most hospitals have one primary bank. For

example, one trustee at San Francisco's Mt. Zion Hospital declared bluntly: "We're locked into Wells Fargo." The administrator of St. Luke's Hospital said "Wells Fargo is the bank of St. Luke's."

Bank of America required this kind of locking in as part of its recent construction loan to St. Mary's, another San Francisco hospital. St. Mary's is \$24 million in debt to the bank.

Often the economic relationship is solidified by a banker who sits on the hospital board of trustees. These people may help the locking in of the hospital to their bank. But once the loans are made, the bank's power comes less from the board and more from its economic leverage.

"UNPROFITABLE CARE"

In San Francisco, St. Luke's Hospital is indebted \$8.7 million to Wells Fargo for construction of an unneeded doctors' office building. As a result, the hospital is so short on cash that it has been borrowing more money.

The St. Luke's outpatient clinic, used primarily by working poor people in the predominantly Latin community, is subsidized by the hospital at about \$400,000 a year.

Wells Fargo and the hospital's trustees and administration, looking for a way to stop this "drain," planned to close the clinic. Faced with community opposition, they cut the clinic adrift instead, making it a separate corporation. It is unlikely that the clinic will survive in this way.

Mt. Zion Hospital, \$5 million in debt to Wells Fargo, is also cutting back on services. As board member Peter Arnstein said: "Free and below-cost clinic care will be first to go."

When asked if the bank suggested closing the outpatient department, Arnstein explained: "The banks don't need to make direct suggestions. To get permanent financing hospitals need to show cash flow and to show cash flow they need to cut free and part-pay services and keep occupancy up. So they don't tell us what to do but we know what to do if we want to get financing." □

DEATH PENALTY...

(continued from page 13)

court for the 1972 decision. For example, an analysis of more than 3,000 convictions for rape between the years 1945 and 1965 showed that Blacks were almost seven times as likely to be executed for that crime than their white counterparts.

Also revealed was the fact that of 3,859 persons legally executed between 1930 and 1967, 54 per cent were Black. Almost all of those executed were poor, thus having less access to competent legal counsel.

Even at the time of the Supreme Court's latest ruling condoning the use of capital punishment, the vast majority of those on death row were Black (58 per cent), Chicano (3 per cent) and American Indian (2 per cent). Of 611 persons currently on death row, 312 are Black, and all come from poor families or backgrounds.

The court's Gregg decision, issued under Nixon-appointed Chief Justice Warren Berger, has now ruled that revised statutes providing mandatory death sentences for some crimes, such as murder, while providing sufficient judicial procedures for judges and juries to hear all aggravating and mitigating circumstances, are constitutional.

RACE AND CLASS INEQUALITIES REMAIN

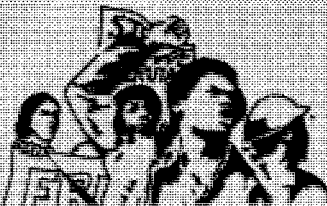
While ruling that these so-called guided discretion laws governing the use of capital punishment are constitutional, the Supreme Court's ruling has failed to correct the inequalities which led to the 1972 Furman decision. Race and class inequalities remain, and have in fact been aggravated during the latest economic crisis. More persons now fill the death row prisons in Georgia, Florida and Texas alone than were executed in the entire U.S. during any year since the 1920's.

Opponents of capital punishment have renewed efforts to again challenge the constitutionality of the death penalty, pointing out that even constitutional death laws are handled arbitrarily and capriciously in violation of the court's 1972 ruling.

The newly formed National Coalition Against the Death Penalty, comprised of three dozen religious and legal organizations, has recently begun a massive educational and lobbying campaign to abolish the death penalty. Most recently, an anti-death-penalty day was declared Oct. 23 by Atlanta's Mayor Maynard Jackson, in an effort to stop pending executions in the state of Georgia.

Besides attempts to spark nationwide concern over the death penalty, opponents of capital punishment have undertaken numerous legal maneuvers to stop an impending deluge of executions. Haywood Burns, former director of the National Conference of Black Lawyers and opponent of capital punishment pointed out: "The simple fact remains that the decision to permit reintroduction of the death penalty was a decision to kill hundreds of persons, mostly racial minority members." □

Dare to struggle...



Guardian Photo



New York City demonstrators against political repression in Taiwan.

Demanding the urgent release of Chen Ming-Chung and 17 other political prisoners secretly arrested in Taiwan July 4, about 100 Asian-Americans — wearing shackles and simulated prison garb — demonstrated in front of U.N. headquarters in New York, Nov. 29.

Chen Ming-Chung, a drug plant worker in Taiwan, was secretly arrested by the Koumintang government for allegedly reading science and technology books from the People's Republic of China. Though no formal charges, trial or sentencing was made public by the KMT government, Amnesty International confirmed reports from London that Chen Ming-Chung was sentenced to death Nov. 10 at a secret trial that even barred his family and lawyer. Reacting to the interna-

tional publicity on Chen Ming-Chung's case, the KMT-controlled China News Agency issued a statement that Chen's execution is now commuted to 15 year's imprisonment. □

'LABOR SPY' FRAMES TRADE UNIONISTS

A growing movement in Massachusetts has been gathering support for two trade unionists facing trumped up conspiracy charges brought about by the activities of a government labor spy. Alex Markley, a member of the United Electrical Workers Union (UE) and Tony Soares, a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) are charged with conspiring to dynamite trucks during an 11-

week strike at the Worthington Compressor Co. All of the conspiring, however, was done by T.G. O'Reilly, who approached Markley as a "friend of labor" with a plan to blow up any truck which crossed the picket line.

Markley never agreed to any such action, but was later arrested on conspiracy charges. O'Reilly turned out to be an agent for the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms division of the U.S. Treasury (AFT) and has "evidence" that Markley and Soares were planning illegal activities. The two now face a possible 60 years in prison and a \$60,000 fine.

Recently, a rally was organized by UE local 259 to support Markley and Soares. Besides gathering large local support, speakers from other struggles, such as the striking Washington Post pressmen and the Wilmington 10 came to support the two. A speaker for the Wilmington 10 pointed out that the AFT was also involved in framing-up 10 civil rights activists in North Carolina. All ten are presently in jail with sentences averaging 30 years. □

NATIONWIDE MEMORIALS HONOR KAREN SILKWOOD

Numerous activities were held nationwide to mark the second anniversary of

the death of Karen Silkwood. Silkwood, a representative of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers union (OCAW) was murdered Nov. 13, 1974, as she was driving to meet a New York Times reporter. She had been active in exposing the gross safety violations of her employer, the nuclear fuel processing company Kerr McGee, and she had documents proving her charges when her car was forced off the road by another vehicle. Besides this last fatal attempt on her life, it was later discovered that her home had been contaminated by radioactive materials, presumably by the company.

Many small vigils, forums and marches were held in a number of New England towns demanding that an investigation be opened into Silkwood's death. A coalition of anti-nuclear power groups sponsored the activities which were also held to support a court suit by Silkwood's father, charging Kerr McGee with conspiring to violate Silkwood's civil rights. The FBI is also charged in that suit with conspiracy to cover up the facts behind Silkwood's death.

Besides raising questions of nuclear safety, supporters of Silkwood noted that "the right to work in a safe and healthy environment and the ability to exercise rights as union members are at stake." □

SHAH MOUNTS REPRESSION AGAINST IRANIAN STUDENTS ABROAD

By ROMY DE LA PAZ

A systematic plot to step up repression against Iranian students in the U.S. and Europe has been launched by the Shah of Iran, concurrent with the Shah's efforts to stifle international mass opposition against his regime.

The Shah's notoriety for brutal repression against Iranian dissidents at home and abroad is widely known. The London-based human rights organization, Amnesty International, fingered Iran this month as the world's worst violator of human rights. Amnesty's secretary general Martin Ennals charged that Iran has the "highest rate of death penalties in the world, no valid system of civilian courts and a history of torture which is beyond belief."

More recently, the Shah zeroed in on the mounting opposition initiated by the Confederation of the Iranian Students (CISNU) in the U.S. and Europe.

On Nov. 3, 1976, the CISNU headquarters was raided by the French police in Paris, four members of whom (including the International Affairs Secretary of CISNU) were deported and two were charged with "shooting and wounding an Iranian diplomat."

On Nov. 9, 1976, a peaceful demonstration in Houston, Texas, protesting the raid in France was attacked by the Houston police; 300 demonstrators were brutally beaten, causing broken ribs and skulls. The following day, the Houston Post reported: "With nightsticks swinging, the police wrestled demonstrators to the ground before handcuffing them and shoving them into the waiting vans; at least one demonstrator had his arms pinned behind him by a police officer while another officer hit the man in the face with his club; at least one officer drew his gun, though no shots were fired."

SAVAK 'HIT' SQUADS COMING TO U.S.

Not satisfied with the apparent collusion of police authorities abroad, the Shah of Iran has planned to intensify the activities of the dreaded SAVAK, Iran's secret police.

In the U.S., where the Iranian Student Association (ISAUS-member of CISNU) is particularly strong, the SAVAK is very active and has always been protected and helped by the CIA, FBI, local police and government officials. The Washington Post, Sept. 6, 1976 states: "SAVAK was created in 1956 with the help of the American CIA . . . It has developed into one of the world's most formidable and feared secret police forces, with agents and informers estimated to number in the tens of thousands — more than 100,000 . . ."

Having formed SAVAK, the CIA has given protection and assistance to its protege in the United States. Columnist Jack Anderson in his daily column, (Oct. 26, 1976) writes: "The CIA not only has provided financial support to some of the world's most notorious secret police, but has condoned their operations within the U.S. One



Houston police assault Iranian student during recent anti-Shah demonstration.

intelligence source, whose reliability has been tested, told us that SAVAK agents hound and harass Iranians in the U.S., with full assistance from the CIA."

In recent months, this collaboration is taking more dangerous forms and includes the assassination of active members of the Iranian Student Association in the U.S. and other Iranian dissidents. In the same column, Anderson states: "Dr. Richard Cottam, a political science professor at the Univ. of Pittsburgh, told our associate, Joe Spear, that a trusted State Dept. source had warned him that Iranian 'hit squads' are on their way to the U.S. . . . I was told by someone I completely trust," alleged the professor, "that SAVAK had made the decision to send assassination squads into Europe and the U.S. The guess within the government is that any executions will be designed as muggings. These men will appear as ordinary muggers and kill Iranians one by one."

IRON-FISTED RULE

Iran's heavy arms purchases and increased militarization has given the Shah the iron-fisted rule necessary to keep his corrupt regime in power. Following the CIA coup in 1951 which installed the Shah as head of a monarchical regime, all democratic and progressive organizations were banned with thousands imprisoned and killed.

The recent creation of the Shah-backed "National Resurrection Party," which every Iranian must join under threat of imprisonment, further increased the repressive character of his regime. As Jack Anderson in the same column states, "Iran has developed the most feared secret police agencies in the world. It uses terror and torture to achieve its ends."

U.S. STAKE IN MAINTAINING THE SHAH

Widespread reports attest to full U.S. support in maintaining the Shah and his repressive policies. On Oct. 24, 1976, the Shah himself revealed the U.S. government's cooperation in his drive to stifle his opposition abroad.

In an interview on CBS's "Sixty Minutes," the Shah acknowledged that his secret police are active in the U.S., "checking up on anybody who becomes affiliated with circles, organizations, hostile to my country," all with U.S. blessings.

The recent arms agreement concluded between Henry Kissinger and the Shah worth some \$55 billion underscored both immense U.S. profits and military commitment in the region. Besides being the defender of U.S. corporate interests in the Persian Gulf and the Mideast, the Shah has become the top buyer of U.S. arms, buying over 50 per cent of total U.S. sales abroad. Total arms sales to Iran since 1972 have amounted to over \$10.4 billion with much of this expenditure for sophisticated and complex armaments. According to a recent congressional report, there are currently 27,000 American military advisors and defense/intelligence personnel in Iran and the number will "increase to 50-60,000 or higher by the end of the decade."

Despite the immense U.S. support, the Shah continues to face militant and widespread opposition from the Iranian people both at home and abroad. A member of the Iranian Students Association in the U.S. underscored the importance of Iranians abroad exposing the truth about the unpopular Shah's regime. He said: "If the American people understand the Shah's regime, the U.S. government will be forced to curb its support." □

WORLD IN FOCUS

U.N. ADMITS ANGOLA

UNITED NATIONS N.Y. — In an overwhelming 116-0 General Assembly vote, the People's Republic of Angola was admitted Dec. 1 as the 146th member of the United Nations. Although no country opposed Angola's entry, the U.S. abstained, citing the continued presence of Cuban troops in Angola.

After the vote, Foreign Minister Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola criticized the U.S. for its position. "What morality," the Angolan representative asked, "permitted the U.S. — which had massacred the people of Vietnam — to question Angola's right to have sought outside help?"

In June this year, the U.S. vetoed Angola's application for U.N. membership in the Security Council. Last month, however, the U.S. — bowing to international pressure — announced that it would abstain instead of blocking Angola's membership, "in deference to African wishes to see the West African country admitted."

Significantly, the U.N. vote admitting Angola came barely three weeks after the Angolan people celebrated their first independence anniversary Nov. 11, which, according to journalist Wilfred Burchett, was marked by "an atmosphere of joyous enthusiasm throughout the country." □

TALKS CONTINUE ON ZIMBABWE

GENEVA — Proposals that Rhodesian whites be allowed to control the army and the police during the transition to Black majority rule were rejected here Dec. 1 by Zimbabwe nationalist leaders. The Patriotic Front — an alliance of Zimbabwe leaders Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo — maintained that any interim government must be controlled by Zimbabwe national liberation movement leaders with full legislative and executive powers.

The shift on the interim government issue came after Britain and Zimbabwe leaders agreed to temporarily shelve the independence date issue, which has been deadlocked since Oct. 28. While the Patriotic Front agreed to initiate discussions on the structure of the interim government, they issued a statement asserting that they stood firm in their demand that Zimbabwe's independence should come no later than Dec. 1, 1977.

Despite an arrogant and racist attitude by the Ian Smith delegation, Britain and the Zimbabwe leaders reached agreement that the former should take a more active role in the transition period to Black majority rule. The British Foreign Secretary Anthony Crossland acceded, as the nationalists have demanded, to appoint a governor general to supervise the transfer to Black rule.

The Patriotic Front also rejected a proposal that an interim prime minister be elected by Zimbabwe's 6 million blacks and 270,000 whites. A spokesman for the Patriotic Front said that an election was opposed only because "it was impossible in the present situation in Rhodesia to hold one under democratic conditions." □

S. AFRICAN POLICE KILL 2 IN ANTI-APARTHEID RALLY

CAPETOWN — Brutal efforts by the South African white minority regime to suppress popular anti-apartheid sentiments resulted in the fatal shooting of two Black demonstrators Dec. 1 by police in this city's ghetto-like Guguleto district.

The killings occurred after three days of anti-government protests. The placard-waving demonstrators — many of whom chanted militant slogans — were viciously attacked by truncheon-swinging South African police. "Are the whites the only people created by God?" one placard asked. "They killed more than 95 in Capetown and more than 600 in the whole of South Africa," another said.

After the shooting of the two Black activists, a force of 600 policemen sealed off Guguleto in armored cars, arresting scores of demonstrators and anyone whose papers were not in order. All Blacks in South Africa over 18 years old need passes to live outside "bantustans," so-called tribal homelands. Other harassment tactics imposed on Guguleto residents included numerous patrol units cruising the district in camouflaged armored personnel cars; and men, women and children taken off in government trucks and "grilled" by detectives. Widespread mass illegal arrests and rampant tortures by South African authorities have also been reported.

Several hundreds of Blacks have been killed in unprecedented mass anti-apartheid demonstrations that began in June in Johannesburg's Soweto district and spread rapidly to other parts of the country. More than 100 persons have been killed in Capetown, South Africa's largest city after Johannesburg. □

Coal Wildcat Targets Safety Hazards

By VICENTE SAN NICOLAS

Nearly 18,000 coal miners in southern Ohio and northern West Virginia staged a wildcat strike in an effort to enforce mine safety standards. The strike, over a week old, was sparked when a miner was fired by the Consolidated Coal Company (Consol) for demanding the correction of a safety violation. Seven miners were previously fired for the same "offense."

The last firing, however, was met with a walkout by the mine's 800 employees. Other miners in the area, especially those working at other Consol mines, staged sympathy strikes, thus sparking the wildcat which involved thousands of miners. Under pressure from the massive walkout, Consol agreed with the United Mine Workers Union (UMW) to rehire the fired worker.

Solidarity among the nation's 250,000 coal miners has been a long tradition. Last year over 200 miners were killed in different mine explosions and accidents. □

Election Scandal...

(continued from front page)

embarrassingly blatant that candidates often turn in whole "lists of friends" and pay their registration in one lump sum! There are no FACLA regulations which prohibit such a practice, and it is common knowledge in the community that a candidate should expect to spend hundreds of dollars to run for office. And this practice had been going on without any question until this year when thousands of dollars — reportedly from the Marcos government — made its entry in the FACLA political scene.

On Nov. 21, the last night to accept registration applications, presidential candidate Dominic Juntilla, was reportedly seen peeling crisp \$100 bills from his wallet to cover the registration costs of his lists of applicants. (Oddly enough, his \$5 personal check for his own registration later "bounced" due to insufficient funds.)

Another presidential candidate, Virgil Vascos, issued a \$3,500 personal check for the registration fees of 700 applicants. (And oddly enough again, Vascos' check "disappeared" from the safebox the next day.)

'IRREGULARITIES' CROP UP . . .

On top of this flurry of "registration buying," were these additional irregularities:

- though Nov. 21 was the deadline, registration applications were still being accepted afterwards, as late as Nov. 29; and receipts for these late registrations were deliberately back-dated to Nov. 21;

- representatives of some of the presidential candidates were entering these names into the registry, instead of Registration Committee members;

- the safebox containing the list and registration fees of the late applicants was accessible to some people who were not members of the Registration Committee. One of these persons, in fact was a presidential candidate, Tony San Jose (who later won the presidency).

All of these irregularities were permitted by the chairperson of the Registration Committee, Dolly de la Flor, despite the protests of five other Committee members. A week before the elections, several community members asked that the elections be postponed in view of the obvious irregularities. The Board of Trustees, however, could not find the courage among themselves to take action and instead voted to continue everything as planned.

These irregularities were the source of tension and arguments often broke out during FACLA meetings, though the problems were not settled. Various leaflets and periodicals also appeared, mysteriously left unsigned, claiming to have the "truth behind the FACLA elections."

Then throwing the whole community into complete chaos, Vascos suddenly withdrew from the race three days before the elections saying that his life was being threatened. Vascos even armed himself with a pistol on the day of the election and warned that there was going to be a "violent disruption of the election proceedings."

A 'CIRCUS' OF DEMOCRACY

There was no "violent disruption" as Vascos predicted, but the election day itself was like a "circus" of problems.

Five thousand names were registered, which included the late registrants, despite the protestations of the Registration Committee members. But only half were allowed to vote because 14 registration books mysteriously "disappeared" the day of the elections, so the master list was subsequently incomplete.

Serving as one of the election inspectors, this writer saw many people whom I could personally vouch for, turned away because their names were "missing" from the registry. But then, some people (who must have been "bused in" by one of the candidates) came from San Diego and the San Joaquin Valley to vote in an L.A. Filipino community election! They had registration receipts which listed them with an L.A. address, although their identification showed they were not L.A. county residents.

To top it off, there were misfiled, misspelled and misaddressed registration cards, unclear balloting procedures and disagreements on counting the votes.

Needless to say, there is still great uneasiness and divisions in the community over the elections. Tony San Jose and Dominic Juntilla, came in first and second respectively, with San Jose winning by a slim margin of nine votes. □

AFTER 39 DAYS

Cook County Nurses Strike Over



Strike supporters from the Filipino community sing during Chicago nurses sit-in over wage increases and sick-leave benefits. AK photo

This is an update on the nurses strike at Cook County and Oak Forest Hospitals that ended recently. Due to partially available information at press time, a more thorough report and analysis on the strike and the new contract agreement cannot be provided yet. This will be done in the next issue of the Ang Katipunan. — Editor

By GELINE AVILA and NENA HERNANDEZ
AK Correspondents

CHICAGO — The 39-day old nurses strike at Cook county and Oak Forest hospitals, the longest and most militant to take place in this city, is over and expected to set a precedent on the improvement of benefits for other employees of Cook County. Voted in by a "narrow margin" were seven per cent wage increase per year for two consecutive years (the contract is up for bargaining again in two years) and 25 per cent paid sick pay benefit for the first sick day of a 12-day yearly sick leave.

Although the terms of this new contract are considered concessions from the earlier demands of the striking nurses, the terms were considered substantial enough to stave off further cutbacks in what was already considered inadequate medical facility at Cook county. (See last issue of the *Ang Katipunan*, Dec. 1-15, 1976).

On the other hand, a sizable number of nurses felt that the outcome of the strike was unsatisfactory. "The terms of the contract are unjust and I voted 'no' because of this. We should not have settled for this contract; our victory is not complete," criticizes one of the nurses interviewed

by the *Ang Katipunan*.

Because of the dissatisfaction over the new contract, a number of nurses were reportedly thinking of leaving the hospital; in fact, some already quit. The leadership of the strike was also criticized for creating confusion by failing to give thorough reports on the bargaining and taking a firmer stand on the demands of the strikers.

Another target of the criticism was the Illinois Nurses Association (INA) for "leaving the striking nurses just because of the \$10,000 fine if they continued their support of the strike." Said one nurse, "although this did not destroy our unity, it created confusion since the INA represented the nurses in the bargaining committee." Another nurse insisted that "the INA should not have buckled down; it could have, in fact, pressured the American Nurses Association (ANA) into getting support from other ANA chapters in the other cities."

Some of the striking nurses also criticized the Philippine Nurses Association of Chicago (PNAC) for not responding to their call for support. PNAC officers who work at the hospitals reportedly did not join the strike but instead scabbed.

On the other hand, a nurse who joined the strike summed up the nurses efforts thus: "Although the strike did not end in a complete victory, the collective work that the nurses put in during the strike has laid the seed for more collective action and unity in the future as we battle against the unfair labor practices of the governing commission." □

COMMUNITY BRIEFS...

Complete and immediate cut-off of further U.S. support for the repressive Marcos regime was the demand of the Presbyterian ministers during a recent conference. Attending were ministers from 111 Presbyterian churches in the greater Detroit area.

The \$28 million purchase of the Ahmanson Bank, by a group headed by Roberto Benedicto, Philippine Ambassador to Japan and a Marcos' financial advisor has raised a lot of suspicion in Los Angeles. Aside from the obvious use of "New Society" money to buy the bank, the government's motives in buying the bank is suspect.

Glendale Community College in the Los Angeles area is offering a course in Philippine History this spring semester starting Feb. 7. The class, offered on a continuous basis since Fall, 1974, is a survey course for community college undergraduate students which considers, in addition to general historical themes, cultural minorities, economics, political science, the current martial law situation and related matters. The course is also open to students living outside the Glendale Community College District. Class will meet M/W/F mornings at 10:00 a.m. For information concerning this course, call Prof. Marshall E. Nunn at (213) 240-1000, ext. 271 or 272.

In a related matter, the Philippine History classes to be taught by Ms. Remedios Galedo that were announced in the last AK have a few

changes. The UCLA class will begin Jan. 10, the Community class on Jan. 12; and college credit can only be obtained by taking the UCLA class.

A threat of professional discrimination as a result of the Narciso-Perez indictment was observed by a Dr. Norberto Portugal who is in the U.S. to look into the plight of the two accused nurses. One of the hospital patients he saw who was hallucinating kept murmuring, "Filipinos are here to kill Americans."

"The Nurses deserve a just and fair trial," says the newly-formed Narciso/Perez Defense Committee in Seattle, Wash. Organized by the Filipino Nurses Assn. of Seattle and Asian Nurses Assn., the Committee is raising money to contribute to the \$350,000 needed for the legal defense of two Filipina nurses indicted in Ann Arbor, Mich. for the murder and/or poisoning of some 15 VA Hospital patients.

Sr. Heidi Parreno, spokesperson for the Committee, said they are concerned that the case against the accused nurses is largely circumstantial. "One (witness) gave testimony under hypnosis and the other contradicted himself and changed his statement several times," she said. Sr. Heidi also cited the nurses' harassment by the FBI and unfair publicity. "They have appeared in handcuffs and chained in newspapers and television all over the country, and yet these women are by law presumed to be innocent."

Contact Sr. Heidi Parreno (662-9650 or 634-0819) or Ms. Rose DeGarcia, 8430 SE 35th Ave., Mercer Is., Wash. (626-6200).

Source: INTERNATIONAL EXAMINER