

Senate Votes No Military Aid to Repressive Gov'ts

By TERESITA BAUTISTA

A major blow was dealt against the Marcos dictatorship last Feb. 17 when the US Senate passed the Human Rights Amendment to the 1976 Military Foreign Aid Bill. The amendment will prohibit the Ford administration from giving military assistance to any country found to be consistently violating the human rights of its citizens.

The significance of the amendment was underscored by Severina Rivera, Washington Liaison of the Anti Martial Law Coalition (Philippines), who said: "The amendment to the military aid bill is considerably stronger than the amendment to the economic assistance act passed last year, inasmuch as it includes specific provisions for its implementation and even calls for the creation of a special office to implement it."

The Human Rights Amendment was passed by a margin of 70 to 21 votes. Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), sponsor of the amendment, specifically mentioned the Philippine martial law gov't. as repressive during the heated Senate floor debate that took place. When Sen. John Towers (R-Texas) proposed another amendment that would dilute the strength of the "human rights" proviso, Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.) argued strongly against Towers' proposal, stating that military dictatorships should no longer be allowed to violate the human rights of their citizens.

Last summer, the Philippines, together with S. Korea, was clearly established to be a repressive gov't. by the House Subcommittee in Int'l Organizations during its hearings in June and July, 1975.

Passage of the entire military aid package with the "human rights" amendment is contingent on a similar version passing in the House, then going on to the Senate-House Conference Committee on

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Ang KATIPUNAN

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF KDP

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 2 FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 25, 1976 25 CENTS



MASS ARRESTS, TORTURES CONTINUE UNABATED

By MA. FLOR SEPULVEDA

The regime's punitive campaign launched last month against the growing opposition mounted by striking workers, students, squatters and clergy, has showed no sign of let-up. Despite the news blackout imposed by the dictatorship, reports smuggled out of the country reveal mass arrests of more than 500 patriots and the merciless torture and incarceration of some political prisoners in secret military "safehouses."

Among those recently arrested was Nelia Sancho, an ex-detainee and former international beauty queen, who is reportedly being tagged as head of the finance committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) in Cagayan de Oro. Her arrest led to the capture of seven other suspected CPP members who came to her apartment.

During the same period, the gov't. began a crackdown on elements opposing the construction of the controversial Chico River Dam Project in Kalinga-Apayao. (The dam threatens to displace thousands of northern tribesfolk who occupy the land projected for the dam's site. Among those arrested were Mirafior Parpan and Steve Magganon, both anthropologists, and Silverio Dalupi, a religious worker. The arrests were made in accordance with a Marcos directive on Jan. 11, ordering the detention of anyone interfering with the operations of the hydro-electric power project.

Further reports reveal the use of torture on those recently arrested, especially leading elements of the anti-fascist resistance. Jose Luneta and Satur Ocampo, tagged by the regime as top CPP officials are reportedly being tortured in an undisclosed military "safehouse," in an effort to make them di-



Jose Luneta

Nelia Sancho

vulge the whereabouts of other top ranking CPP officials.

A relative of Luneta described his condition as critical: his legs were covered with cigarette burns and his neck was turning black from electrocution. Another detainee, an NPA woman commander, Lu Roque, is reportedly receiving intravenous dextrose feedings after being severely tortured in Camp Olivas.

Informed sources in Thailand have also reported the arrests of three churchpersons, Linda Santiago, Winnie Zamora and Eliseo Talles Jr. The latter person is reportedly being held incommunicado in an undisclosed military camp. Charged with subversion and murder, his distraught wife and relatives fear he might be killed because of the gravity of the charges against him. It is also suspected that Linda Santiago, wife of Dr. Roger Posadas a physicist and suspected head of the CPP's explosives movement,

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Jan. 25 Statement WORKERS DECRY GOV'T HARASSMENT

The following statement was reprinted from Sign of the Times, publication of the Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines.

Fellow Workers:

Thousands of us are prepared to assemble today to ask the President the following demands: An P8.00-across-the-board increase in workers' wages; the lowering of the prices of commodities, especially of oil and gasoline; and the granting in full, of the one-month bonus.

These demands are not excessive. These are not enough to alleviate our living conditions. There are but to soften the impact of worsening economic situation on our already miserable conditions.

However, several incidents occurred recently which only affirms the military's policy of preventing workers' collective action in pushing their demands, whatever the cost may be.

ARRESTS, HARASSMENT

Leaders of workers who have fought for the release of their one-month bonus were either threatened, dismissed from work, or arrested and detained by the military. These happened in Genbag, Riverside Mills Corporation, Synthetic Textile, Greenfields Shirt Factory, La Suerte Cigar and Cigarette Factory, Gelmart Industries, Solid Mills, La Tondena, Lirag Textile and other factories.

At the San Felipe Neri Church, the military detained and grilled all those who attended the peaceful assembly of workers, where the abovementioned demands were discussed.

In San Rafael, Navotas, where almost all fac-

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U.S. GROUPS PROTEST MASS ARRESTS IN THE PHILIPPINES !



Nationwide pickets were held to protest the recent waves of arrests of workers, students, squatters, and clergy in the Philippines. Demonstrators in New York (L) and in Chicago (R) demanded the release of the 500 Filipinos arrested by the martial law gov't early this year. See back page for complete coverage.

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The Struggle for Freedom page 10

Foreign Correspondent Reveals Massacre, Tortures in Philippines page 3

Political Prisoners Artifacts on Exhibit

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

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EDITORIAL

Despite Recent Crackdown RESISTANCE MOUNTS AGAINST MARCOS

By K.D.P. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

Over the past four weeks, we have witnessed some of the most turbulent political developments in the Philippines since the imposition of martial law in 1972.

The recent turn of events began with the arrest of 40 leading elements of the resistance movement who were captured in military sweeps of Manila last Jan. 23. These arrests sparked off a series of protests, eventually resulting in the arrest of over 500 persons in the last several weeks.

Those first arrested included active leaders from among the workers, slum dwellers and students, along with some members of the resistance who were deeply underground in leading positions of the New People's Army and the Communist Party of the Philippines.

The arrests, however, were the first blow in Marcos' response to the recent upswing of democratic protests mounting over the last several months and challenging the martial law regime in almost open and legal confrontations.

Despite the martial law illegalization of strikes and union organizing, the resistance movement had gained considerable influence among workers, and by December a full-scale workers strike movement began to unfold in the Greater Manila area. Even Marcos' subsequent ban on all strikes and assistance to workers' organizing (Pres. Decree 823) was quickly withdrawn after 12,000 people protested against it on Dec. 17 during US Pres. Ford's visit to the Philippines.

The slum dwellers, considered "eyesores" by the dictatorship, have also been organizing against Marcos,

especially to stop the forced eviction of "squatters" in the Tondo area of Manila.

Student activism also fired up again at the University of the Philippines when last December, a slate of progressive students won the elections for the advisory Student Conference, and then called for a return of an autonomous, decision-making Student Council.

Over the past several months, these critical urban sectors, with the active support of progressive religious forces, seized at every opportunity available, no matter how small—prayer vigils, petitions, "freedom" masses, etc.—to open up any channel of mass opposition and force Marcos' fascist grip to loosen.

With the momentum steadily building up against martial law, the dictator was increasingly faced with the paradox of conceding to the people's demand to protect his "image" abroad as the "smiling martial law," or increase repression and further the hatred of the masses for his regime.

The crackdown that began in Manila last month, then was essentially a reassertion of the fascist character of martial law. With vicious hatred for the masses, Marcos lashed out to destroy the people's resistance movement, with not only dragnets of massive arrests, but brutal tortures of certain political prisoners to force them to reveal the whereabouts of top resistance leaders.

The distinction with this latest reign of terror, however, is that the people fought back, immediately confronting Marcos with even more demonstrations and mass protests.

Each series of arrests thus far brought wave after wave

of new protests from the masses — a demonstration of 5,000 at U.P.; a strike by 5,000 workers after 250 other workers were arrested for demonstrating against the arrest of one of their leaders. Even former Pres. Diosdado Macapagal and other oppositionists have called for a return to constitutional democracy.

Being rocked one after the other by these open and public confrontations of martial law, the dictatorship was forced to resurrect the most brutal repression that has characterized its regime. The recent mass arrests, torture and indefinite detention has only added to the 50,000 already detained since martial law. A complete news blackout was also placed on the media in the midst of this crisis, part of a long history of strict censorship and control by the dictatorship.

Though the arrest of many of the people's leaders has created some setbacks to the resistance movement, it is by no means any "fatal blow" as the regime has tried to project. First, the armed struggle being waged in the Philippine countryside is continuing unabated, and the workers, students and squatters organizations have remained intact despite this repression.

The storm which has just passed did not overthrow Marcos nor secure the release of those recently arrested—but it did confront Marcos with the cold fact of the people's potential strength to eventually topple his dictatorship.

In this latest round, the resistance was not yet powerful enough to succeed, but like the "rumblings" of a live volcano, these recent events are a sign that the people's hatred for the dictatorship will eventually "explode" and this much hated regime will see an end. □

FMG and Philippine Medicine THE WHOLE SYSTEM MUST BE OVERHAULED!

By K.D.P. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

Ever since the Foreign Medical Graduates (FMGs) issue became known in the Filipino community, several people have asked KDP members why we are fighting alongside FMG doctors for their right to stay in the US when doctors are so badly needed in their home countries, especially the Philippines.

First of all, KDP is not taking up the issue because we oppose any medical personnel going back home. Rather, KDP is involved because an injustice has been committed—the State Dept. is implementing a policy retroactively which it previously waived; thus, a number of Exchange Visitor FMGs are under threat of deportation! (see details on the injustice against FMGs on pg.6).

While fighting against this injustice, we are also keenly aware that many Filipino doctors have left the Philippines, despite the great need for physicians there. In fact, 40% of the country's doctors practice medicine outside of the Philippines, and mainly in the U.S.

While the documents of the Emergency Defense Committee for the FMGs has shown that this phenomena occurs because of the need for more physicians in the US, the massive exodus of trained Filipino doctors does harm the medical care system in the Philippines. For example, recent statistics reveal that there are 350 municipalities (one-fourth of the total) with no physicians at all, and another 370 municipalities with only one physician each. (Population for a municipality is usually 5,000 or more).

However, the emigration of trained medical personnel from the Philippines is only part of the problem of inadequate medical care. Even if all our doctors returned

home today, they, by themselves, could not solve the medical problems of the Philippines. Why? Because doctors are only part of the medical care system in the Philippines and the whole system is directed to cater to the upper classes, and not the Filipino masses. It is the overall medical care system that has to be fundamentally changed in the Philippines. Take these facts, for example:

•Health care personnel and facilities are largely concentrated in urban areas. 20% of the practicing physicians are in the Greater Manila Area while another 13% are in other cities. This also means that most of the basic equipment and supplies that a doctor needs to practice are also concentrated there — laboratories, hospitals, pharmacies, etc.

•With a population of about 42 million, there are about 900 hospitals with a combined bed capacity reaching 51,000. Only about one-third of the hospitals are government, so there is a large reliance on private hospital facilities.

•Medical costs at private hospitals are so high that only the wealthy can afford regular care and treatment. Hospital care at the Makati Medical Center for example, is P300 a day — several months wages for the average worker and probably a whole year's earnings for a poor peasant.

•The Marcos gov't. has done nothing to change these inequities. Take for example, Imelda Marcos's new "Heart Hospital" in Manila that she just built — well, there's only 100 beds in it because the wealthy are expected to be its only patients. And despite the fact that tuberculosis, rabies and malnutrition are the major

afflictions of the Filipino masses, a heart hospital was built instead because the elite has a high incidence of heart trouble (due to alcoholism, over-eating and nervous tension).

These examples expose the more fundamental problems with Philippine medicine in its present direction and priorities. It is clear that it intends to solely cater to the wealthy who can afford the sky-rocketing costs of medical care. There doesn't seem to be any plans either to improve or expand health care services to outlying areas in the provinces and barrios besides already existing under-equipped/under-staffed clinics. If the problem of medical care needs in the Philippines is to be resolved, the present direction and priorities have to be drastically reversed.

In fact, KDP believes that only a revolutionary gov't. could fundamentally re-organize Philippine society and tackle our home country's health care problems head on. For example, after a revolutionary gov't was established in China in 1949, a massive program to train peasant-doctors was implemented to bring medicine to the vast countryside and remote mountain areas. There are now 1,300,000 "barefoot doctors" (called such because the practice started in the south where they often worked barefoot in the paddy fields) — a new and rapidly developing force in New China's rural-medical and health services.

Similarly in the Philippines where inadequate health care stems from the overall inequities of the society, only a revolutionary New Philippines could "sweep away the old" and establish a health care system that truly serves the needs of the Filipino masses. □



Ang KATIPUNAN

Published By
Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino
(KDP) — Union of Democratic Filipinos —

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

KDP is a mass organization based in the US 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 US 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 US, 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 US. KDP members understand that the US 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.

KDP has chapters in most major cities where there are Filipino communities. Inquiries regarding KDP should be sent in care of Ang Katipunan.

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MASSACRE IN MINDANAO



Massacre victims, many with their hands still bound, as they are being claimed by relatives.

By HARVEY DINGILIUS

Reprinted from *THE ISLANDER*, Guam

MINDANAO, Philippines — The stocky man stood resolutely and unwound his peculiar turban. His hair was shaved close to his head, and where his ears had been appeared only flat, reddish scars on his baldness. Fleeting expressions of anger, pain and despair swept across his tortured face as he recounted the events that led up to his scars and the massacre of 58 men, women and children from his village in northern Mindanao.

After three months of hiding, waiting for President Ferdinand Marcos's administration to take action against the guilty persons, the lone survivor, Hadji Macarambon Tanggo, emerged to make public his story:

"On Thursday, Aug. 7, 1975, we evacuated our village at Upper Fort Wao, Lanao del Sur. We were on our way to Cagayan de Oro. We fled since had heard rumors that our place was to be the seat of a search and destroy operation by either the Philippine Army or Philippine Air Force attempting to round up Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) rebels.

"Our truck arrived at Mansalano, along the highway in Ticalaan, Talacaag municipality at 5 p.m. "Here," said Hadji Tanggo, his face twisting, "we were surrounded by more than 100 armed men in civilian clothes. Two were wearing Philippine army fatigue uniforms.

"On stopping, we were ordered down from the truck. They began to tie people up, hand and foot. Some of the women started fighting the armed men but were bound anyway. I called out to fight against them, but one of us, Gammie Panacoga, said 'do not fight them, they are my friends, coworkers.'" Panacoga worked for the Timber Industry of the Philippines, Inc. (TIPI).

VILLAGERS KIDNAPPED BY MILITARY

"After saying we'll fight, I was hit on the back of my head with the butt of an ML Garrand rifle," Hadji Tanggo said. I became very dizzy. On regaining my normal condition, my hands were already tied behind my back. We were ordered to

board the truck we'd ridden in, separated from the women who were boarded on a smaller truck belonging to our assailants.

"Continuing toward Cagayan de Oro, 20 minutes later, the truck stopped. We were ordered down and forced into a small hut. We could not see the women at all, which greatly alarmed us. We were kept here until 10 p.m., when one of us asked why were being kept there.

"The Ilagas (term used by natives of Mindanao for recently arrived Christian settlers from the northern islands of Luzon and the Visayas who are backed by the Government) said 'we are going to cook your food.' They spoke to us in Visayan. Panacoga then demanded of Mr. Havier, an Ilocano and leader of the group, that we be allowed to speak to Mayor Elazor of Wao and Andres Tan, field manager of TIPI, a native of Samar, in the Visayas.

"Instead," Tanggo said, "we were ordered to again board the same truck. I saw only four women sitting in the cab of our original truck. After three more hours of travel toward Cagayan, they stopped the truck and the massacre began, firing and stabbing.

"Later, when I regained a state of half-consciousness, realized I was piled on the truck, with the bodies of my fellow villagers, I noticed my ears had been cut off. Then the whole truck was pushed over a ravine about 30 meters deep. I lost consciousness again," Tanggo recounted slowly.

"About 7 a.m. the following morning natives of the place, Civilian Home Defense Force and Philippine Constabulary from Talacag brought the bodies up.

ONLY ONE SURVIVOR

"I was the only one alive," Tanggo said, raising tortured eyes, almost in shame, "I was brought to Cagayan General Hospital where I spent 22 days, treated by internals specialist Dr. Ocena, I underwent operations on my head, for intestinal damage where my stomach was ripped open for 12 inches by a bayonet and two broken bones in my left foot, the result of a five-inch bolo knife cut. Both my ears

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Victim of False Arrest SHOEMAKER TORTURED TO DEATH

By ARNOLD ZEITLIN
Associated Press

MANILA — At about 5:10 P.M. on Jan. 22, Mang Juan S. Adriano, a 61-year-old shoemaker, was handed a subpoena. Melchor Verastigue, 21, a student, said he saw two men in a blue car with a radio antenna on the roof drive up and hand the piece of paper to Adriano in his little shop where he made shoes for the last 22 years.

The subpoena said that at the order of Maj. Rolando N. Abadilla, Adriano's wife Salome was "cordially requested" to report by 6 P.M. that same day to the headquarters of the Metropolitan Constabulary's intelligence and investigations group at Camp Crame in nearby Quezon City.

The document added that Mrs. Adriano was to have a "confrontation-investigation" of an official complaint filed by Juanito Camalig, a tenant in a house owned by the Adrianos and under notice to move out. But when the subpoena was served, Mrs. Adriano was home in Quezon City, about eight miles from the shop. The men advised Adriano to go instead, Verastigue recalled.

No one noticed Adriano leaving; the family says it assumes he departed for Camp Crame in the blue car.

Mrs. Adriano says she remembers it was 6:25 P.M. in their house in Cubao, Quezon City, about 10 minutes drive from Camp Crame, when she received a call from the emergency section of the camp's station hospital to come for her husband. By 7 P.M. she was there. Mang Adriano was wrapped in a blanket in the emergency section.

He was dead.

"I tried to examine my husband," she said, "and found injuries on his forehead, his eye was bleeding, there were bruises around his wrist and his fists were dirty." A doctor told her the body had been found outside the camp gymnasium, and that Adriano had been dead on arrival. She asked for more details, she said. "All I got were blank stares and negative replies," she added.

She said she fainted.

Sudden invitations from the military are part of martial law in the Philippines where in Manila 121 persons were known detained during January, in addition to 196 strikers driven by constabulary bus from the factory they occupied a few days later.

But this was a little guy," said an American Roman Catholic priest who knew Adriano. "He had no connection with anything political. He was the kind of man you never hear about."

Many of those who have been detained refuse to discuss publicly the sudden arrests and other treatment under martial law. The government rarely discusses the 4,000 detainees it says still are being held without charge under martial law. □



Buod ng mga Balita (Gist of the News)

PURGED OFFICIALS RETURN TO OFFICE

About 300 of the 2,000 gov't employees purged during the regime's September "clean-up" have been reinstated into office. This move, not altogether unexpected since the firing of former Executive Sec. Alejandro Melchor, has paved the way for the return of the disgraced officials and the retrenchment in power of certain political factions within the regime.

Melchor's "anti-corruption" purge was seen as a power play, aimed at undercutting his political rivals, notably Defense Sec. Juan Ponce Enrile and Imelda Marcos, by ousting their proteges. His attempt was aborted and only succeeded in creating considerable furor, forcing Marcos to oust Melchor instead, in order to appease the disgruntled factions. □

NATIVIDAD TAKES OVER NAPOLCOM, REPLACES ENRILE

Former congressman Teodulo Natividad was appointed new head of the National Police Commission NAPOLCOM replacing defense Sec. Juan Ponce Enrile. At the same time, the NAPOLCOM was decreed by Marcos to administer and supervise the Integrated National Police (INP). This shifting of authority over the 43,000-strong INP forces from Enrile to Natividad may indicate that Marcos is trimming down the powers of Enrile. □

INTENSIVE TAX DRIVE TARGETS PEASANTS

The barrio folks will be the target of an intensive tax collection drive of the Bureau of Internal Revenue this year. The bankrupt regime, which has been subsisting on

foreign loans and budget deficits, has chosen to further tax the already poor peasantry in an effort to meet the financial requirements of its lopsided economy.

The tax drive is going to mainly affect the peasantry, who constitute 80% of the population and whose per capita income of about P130 last year is not even within subsistence level.

Marcos has decreed 193 tax laws in the last 33 months to maximize revenues from the people. □

45 AFP SOLDIERS KILLED IN ENCOUNTER WITH MNLF FORCES

Forty-five AFP soldiers were killed during recent encounters with the Moro Bangsa Army, the military arm of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in Zamboanga del Sur. One of the encounters was in an American-owned plantation while another encounter took the lives of two rebels-turned-informers.

The renewed fighting has been an indication that despite Marcos's claims, the rebellion in the south has not been contained. □

ANOTHER PESO DEVALUATION PROJECTED

The possibility of another peso devaluation seems likely, an event which will further deteriorate the Philippine economy. Under martial law the peso has steadily declined and the present exchange rate has fallen to P8.00-\$1.00. The imminent devaluation will trigger skyrocketing inflation which will mean another decline in workers' real wages.

The devaluation of the peso is stipulated by international lending institutions if the country is unable to pay-off its loans. Presently, the regime's balance of payments is already in the red by about \$500-M. Aggravated by another trade deficit of \$20-M and an expected cash deficit of \$285.7-M, the projected deficit by the end of the fiscal year alone adds up to \$583.7-M.

Although a constant flow of credit loans are being frantically negotiated to pay-off other loans (debt service burden for 1976 is \$516-M), the crumbling reserves can barely withstand the present level of deficit. □

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Model Community a Sham GOV'T DEFRAUDS SETTLERS

By FRANCISCO OCAMPO

CAGAYAN DE ORO — One hundred eighty-three families are being displaced in Bo. Nabacaan, this province, to make way for the new Japanese Kawasaki Sintering Plant. The families are being relocated to Bo. Kalingagan, now renamed "Andam Mouswag" or "ready for progress." The gov't has said that relocation will "change the thinking of these Filipinos and weld them into a self-contained community."

Dubbed by the gov't as a "model relocation community" supposedly offering low-cost housing and job security, the new barrio's "low-cost" houses are actually P27,000 each, an amount well above the means of the peasants, even though payable over a 30 year period.

The settlers were also cheated by PHIVIDEC, a gov't agency that transacted the sale of the property they vacated because they were only paid P3,000 per hectare while Kawasaki actually paid the gov't P6,000 per hectare. The amount was even cut lower when 10% of the sale (P6.9-M) was paid to former senator Emmanuel Pelaez, who allegedly "intervened for the settlers" to PHIVIDEC.

Also, the jobs promised to the settlers involve construction that will end by the time the plant is finished. This will force the settlers back to farming, but with most of the choice farmlands already owned by Kawasaki, their future looks dim. The gov't has not made any provision for this eventuality.

The condition of the settlers is rendered even more bleak by the potential pollution capability of the sintering plant. Once operational, the plant will emit sulphur dioxide that becomes sulphuric acid when combined with the atmosphere. The only solution the gov't plans is to prohibit living within 6 kilometers downwind from the plant.

When the local officials exhibited signs of protest to having the plant, Kawasaki immediately appeased them by carting them away to an all-expense paid tour of Taiwan and Japan and awarding them subcontracts to the construction. This ended any protests. □

U.S. GROUPS PROTEST MASS ARRESTS...

(continued from page 12)

liance, called for continued vigilance on the part of anti-dictatorship groups, and encouraged their readiness to meet any further repressive moves in the coming weeks.

The Washington, D.C. action on February 10, included a picket by some 40 people at the Philippine Embassy and an attempt of an anti martial law delegation to see the Philippine Ambassador. The delegation of 7 representatives were unable to reach the ambassador, as they were confronted by heavy police resistance in front of the Embassy, along with SWAT teams standing by threatening the picket. The harassment by the police was so pronounced that one older woman picketing was even shoved roughly, causing the Anti Martial Law Coalition Spokesman Walden Bello to, "condemn this uncalled for treatment of a peaceful picket and lawful assembly," and requested a public apology from police officials. The delegation hoped to present demands regarding both the recent arrests in the Philippines, as well as, the recent manhandling of an Anti Martial Law Coalition delegation in the Philippine Consulate of New York during January 1 protests against martial law. Participants in the protest included the Anti Martial Law Coalition, American Christians for Socialism, Youth Against War and Fascism, Campaign for a Democratic Foreign Policy, United Church of Christ—Center for Social Action, and the Women's Strike for Peace.

In a release to the press issued February 3, Coalition Spokesman Walden Bello asserted that, "Marcos' current drive of increased repression represents a reassertion of the fascist character of his regime and has marked this period as the most politically turbulent week since his declaration of martial law in 1972." Bello commented further on these developments stating that, "the Anti Martial Law Coalition strongly condemns this new wave of arrests and the Marcos regimes' continued repression of the just demands for a restoration of democratic rights and civil liberties." □

from the Horse's Mouth...

Imelda's "Words of Wisdom"

By FRANCISCO OCAMPO

The art of "image building" is a vital tool employed by prominent figures to make themselves acceptable to the public. Oftentimes, deception is used to compensate for inadequacies and slight advantages are magnified to arouse interest and popularity. At the same time, while distasteful truths and facts are covered up, myths are created and in the process, a "new image" is invented... and a "star" is born.

The recent launching of Imelda Marcos into the international political arena has brought many Philippine observers to ask: Is she really the astute and witty politician that they say? Is she the "Jackie Kennedy of the Philippines"? Another "Kissinger-of-the-East"?

Here are a few anecdotes that will ascertain the truth about the First Lady of the Philippines, Madame Imelda Romualdez Marcos.

IMELDA—THE CULTURED PATRONESS OF ART?

ON COMPOSERS—Upon seeing a bearded bust of a man during a tour in a French pavilion, Imelda quickly identified him as Tchaikovsky (famous Russian composer). After wincing, the guide solemnly informed her that it was Louis Pasteur (a renowned French scientist). Haplessly embarrassed, she quickly replied, trying to regain her composure, "That is the trouble with these composers, they all look alike."

ON HER PORCELAIN COLLECTION—Imelda's extensive porcelain collection was reportedly being assessed by an expert one day. Obviously unaware that certain pieces are called Sung, Yuan or Ming depending on the ruling Chinese dynasty at the time they were made, she inquired: "Can you tell me whether this Ming belongs to the Sung or Yuan dynasty?"

ON PEARL HARBOR—Imelda was still recovering from the bolo cuts she received from an assassination attempt when she had the occasion to attend a ceremony observing the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Seizing the opportunity to "publicize her own suffering," she extended her bandaged arms before her and declared, "This is my Pearl Harbor."

MANILA GOVERNORSHIP— "ON TO BIGGER THINGS"

Ever since Imelda was appointed by her husband as Governor/General Manager of Manila, she has tried hard to live to her alleged fame as a "resourceful and effective administrator" (sic).

Supposedly meant to display her profound(?) sense of responsibility as Manila's top-politico, one of her first official statements was to announce her "solution" to Manila's problems. Thundering with the best overkill of the century, she naively announced that Filipinos must "revive Manila with love" and "work together in the creation of a city of Man... a Manila that is the inheritor and creator of our most cherished human values—the Manila we love."

Her administrators, however, are finding it hard to practically implement this directive.



Mural of Imelda, depicted as the patron saint of the destitute masses adorns the First Lady's Heart Center.

ON INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS—Upon her assumption of office, Imelda embarked on the construction of multi-million dollar projects like the sports center, art center, cancer center, nutrition center, population center, and heart center. None of these projects, however, were planned for in the national budget!

Then when she was later queried by a correspondent on the necessity and ultimate goals of such projects, Imelda could only lamely reply, "These are the symbols of the good, the true and the beautiful."

ON BUSINESS—Then later addressing a group of businessmen in Manila, Imelda's "pearls of wisdom" spewed forth as she emphatically pronounced that "Business is in business precisely to keep business in business." (?)

ON FOREIGN POLICY—Later upon returning from China after the establishment of Sino-Philippine ties, Imelda was asked to explain the R.P.'s "non-alignment" stance. She said, "History may change, ideologies may change, and alliances may change, but something that never changes is geography"—a reply so profound (?) that many are still trying to understand it!

ON HER JET-SETTING WAYS—During a recent interview, Imelda responded to criticism about her association with the jet-set. She said, "Since the world has become smaller because of transport, people can now travel faster by jet... look, this is the funny side of my association with the jet-setters but this has been made inevitable by progress. There is no time now to row oneself on a boat..." □

BUOD...

(continued from page 3)



Nuclear reactor in Dillman, Quezon City. A multi-million dollar plant is slated to be built in Bataan.

NEW NUCLEAR PLANT MAKES RP DEPENDENT ON US ENERGY SOURCES

The \$800-M nuclear power plant scheduled for construction in Bagac, Bataan, is being deceptively publicized by the regime and its US financiers as an alternative source of energy that would break Philippine dependency on Middle East oil and make it self-reliant on domestic energy sources instead. In reality, this nuclear plant will make the Philippines totally dependent on US-manufactured nuclear fuel.

To date, 90% of the plant's financing has been footed by the US Export-Import Bank and the remainder by a consortium of various US banks.

The zealotry of US financiers and the nuclear power industry to generate public acceptance of the plant in the Philippines is part of a broader hard-sell campaign to capture the Asian market. The diminishing domestic demands for nuclear plants in the US and the ensuing controversy over its safety has forced this burgeoning industry to Asian and African countries. US-based corporations have a near monopoly of this industry in Asia, and just recently, they successfully blocked the purchase of a nuclear plant by South Korea from France. □

PHILIPPINE-JAPAN HIGHWAY CAUSES DISASTROUS FLOODS

Farm lands of Matina residents in Davao city are being flooded as a result of the faulty construction of the Philippine-Japan Friendship Highway. These disastrous floods, which ruined crops for the last harvest season, are caused by defects in the highway's drainage structures because engineers did not consider the higher elevation of the area.

Marcos has been giving priority to infrastructure projects like this one which are always constructed haphazardly and under time pressure, in Marcos' rush to show a facade of "progress and development."

P4.036-B was spent last year on infrastructure, an increase of 47.5% over the previous year. □

AGE LIMIT LOWERED FOR DRAFTEES

Pres. Marcos announced the lowering of age for draftees into the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) during a recent 5th anniversary observance of the Presidential Security Command. The new age limit, which has not yet been disclosed is meant to bolster the dwindling AFP forces which have been deployed all over the country to subdue the intensifying guerrilla resistance. □

NO MILITARY AID...

(continued from front page)
final negotiations.

VICTORY FOR ANTI-MARCOS GROUPS

In its press release to the Ang Katipunan, the Anti Martial Law Coalition (Philippines) hails the passage of the human rights amendment by the Senate as a victory for all those individuals and groups which have consistently worked for a cut-off of US aid to the Marcos regime, since the imposition of martial law in 1972.

"The AMLC is gratified at the fact that it has been a part of this effort to end the military support of the dictatorship through the mass demonstrations it has held the last 2 years, the witnesses it has presented at various congressional hearings, the studies it has undertaken to prove the repressive role of US military aid, and the lobbying activities it has conducted in the US Congress."

Walden Bello, Coordinator of the Coalition, went on, "Passage of the Amendment, however, is one thing; implementation is another. The AMLC calls on all anti martial law forces to maintain their vigilance and redouble their efforts to ensure that military aid is not smuggled to the Marcos gov't through illegal, underhanded measures—a tactic that the Administration has consistently employed to evade Congressional restraint on its actions." Bello reasserted, "We call upon all anti martial law forces to join us in other collective projects of popular surveillance over the implementation of the human rights amendment." □

WAO MASSACRE...

(continued from page 3)

were missing, and they had started to cut off my nose, but made only small cuts and decided to quit.

"All this was reported to Provincial Governor Mamarinta Lao, who was placed in his position by Marcos after removing duly elected governor Tarhata Lucman from office for suspected rebel sympathies.

The massacre also was reported to the Philippine Constabulary Commander Adel Sambolayan, Col. Santa Romana from General Headquarters in General Headquarters in Manila, and Provincial High court Judge Pueunum. Some 102 days later, no action has been taken.

The ill-fated Moslem villagers fled from Wao, fearful for their lives in the wake of a fresh outbreak of fighting in the province between Philippine Government Forces and Moro National Liberation Front rebel guerillas in a war for local autonomy which has, according to MNLF figures, claimed the lives of more than 40,000 natives of Mindanao and rendered 500,000 homeless since 1971. □

ARRESTS CONTINUE...

(continued from front page)

may have been subjected to torture and harassment in order to get to her husband. Posadas was among the first batch of 48 suspected dissidents to be arrested.

RASH OF PROTESTS PANICS REGIME

The regime's sudden crackdown came on the heels of the increasing protest actions launched by workers, students, squatters and churchpeople early this year. The teeming labor unrest which recorded no less than 70 strikes in December alone; the upsurge of student activism in Manila's campuses; and the indignant squatter protests over the wholesale demolition of their homes, culminated in mass actions spanning the week of Jan. 19-26.

During this week, a joint squatter-labor march to Malacanang was planned for Jan. 25. It was estimated that the rally was to be attended by 15,000 workers, squatters and their supporters. Organized mainly by the Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino (Federation of Filipino Workers) the march planned to raise the workers demand to increase the minimum wage from P8 to P16 and the squatters demand to halt all demolitions on their homes until an acceptable relocation scheme is provided. (Shanties occupied by Manila's 1 million squatters will be demolished to make way for Gov. Imelda Marcos' "beautification drive.")

But, the rally was sabotaged when the military began picking up labor and squatter leaders the week before. Busloads of workers from the provinces were intercepted and sent back. While Gov. Imelda Marcos, fearful of the prospect of confronting throngs of her angry and homeless "constituents," invited a few squatter representatives to a conference on Jan. 21 to talk them out of joining the march. During this conference she promised to temporarily halt the demolitions and scheduled another meeting on Jan. 25 (the day of the rally) to meet with a larger group of squatters.

Soon after, however, six squatter leaders were arrested and two Italian priests who worked actively against the demolitions, Fr. Francis Alessi and Fr. Luigi Cocquio were arrested and immediately deported to Italy.

ARRESTS SPUR MORE PROTESTS

These mass arrests only succeeded in unleashing a new wave of mass protests which transpired in rapid succession.

In the labor front, the secret arrest on Jan. 10 of union leader Felix Mananzala of General Electric Philippines, prompted a factory take-over by some 103 GE workers on Jan. 13. The action forced the military to disclose Mananzala's whereabouts and allow his wife to see him.

Earlier, the arrest of 200 striking Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific workers incited a march to Malacanang



Policemen beat up a demonstrator during the Dilliman barricades in 1971. This scene was re-enacted on Jan. 25 when 3,000 student demonstrators from the University of the Philippines clashed with Quezon City policemen after several student leaders were arrested by the military.

by some 250 more AG&P workers. When some of these marchers were arrested, the remaining 5,000 AG&P workers followed suit and went on strike.

Meanwhile, squatter organizations, undeterred by the arrests of their leaders, succeeded in circulating a petition describing their plight to delegates of the Group of "77" international conference being held in Manila the same week.

The waves of protests crested on Jan. 23 when 3,000 students of the University of the Philippines stage a rally urging the freedom of all those arrested. Earlier, six student leaders and staff personnel of the campus newspaper, "Philippine Collegian," were arrested for supporting the workers' cause.

Metrocom troopers who were sent in to disperse the rally got overwhelmed when the students regrouped into a bigger rally, this time attended by 4,800 students and 200 workers.

TROUBLE AHEAD FOR MARCOS

While the regime boasts that the recent arrests have knocked the resistance "off-balance," the mass movement is far from being dissipated. According to the New York Times, Jan. 31, 1976: "... The sudden increase in opposition is largely the result of serious economic grievances. Over the last 10 years, real wages have fallen by as much as two-thirds as the Philippines has experienced the highest inflation and the legal minimum wage has been frozen. ... Few Filipinos believe that the economic unrest and political opposition yet constitutes a real threat to Mr. Marcos. But as a former Senator of the now defunct Senate commented today, echoing a widely held sentiment, 'Unless Marcos does something this year to improve the situation, he could be in trouble.'" □

WORKERS STATEMENT: "Continue Our Just Struggle..."

(continued from front page)

tories are actively affiliated with the Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino (Federation of Filipino Workers), they forcibly took the names of the labor leaders.

We are not the only object of the current military repression. The urban poor, who are planning to hold a big assembly today to oppose the demolition of their houses until a proper relocation site has been prepared, are not spared.

The military has already arrested Elsie Estares and Eddie Guanzon, leaders of the Sanggunian ng Kristiyanong Komunidad (Council of Christian Councils). Its operatives are now after Fred Rupino and Trining Herrera, leaders of Zone One Tondo Organization (ZOTO), and a worker-leader in Gelmart.

At Tatalon, Police Chief Karingal gathered about 200 families and warned them against attending the squatters' convention.

Even the students are not spared from the military's repressive campaign. The military arrested Diwa Guinigundo, Fides Lim, Vic-Vic Adea and Alex Magno — all prominent UP student leaders. Without any warning given, scores of Metrocom soldiers and policemen armed with truncheons mercilessly attacked about 3,000 UP students, who were protesting the arrest of their leaders.

The foreign religious, who were consistently helping the people, are also included in the military's campaign. Frs. Francis Alessi and Gigi Cocquio, both PIME Fathers, were arbitrarily arrested, detained and summarily deported.

MILITARY PROTECTS BIG BUSINESS

Why has the military acted in this manner? Does

presenting demands constitute a crime? If it is so, why does not the military arrest the owners of the oil companies? These foreign companies have been amassing huge profits, and yet, they have been continuously petitioning for price increases. They are the ones who should be threatened, intimidated and arrested. Yet it is we Filipinos who comprise the majority in this country, who wallow in misery and who have for once given voice to our needs; it is we are hounded, muzzled and jailed by the military.

During the past few days, the media has kept on featuring the "news" that the subversives are out to foment violence on a large scale. But this is clearly an old tune. Do you remember Hitler? Before he spread chaos in Germany and the whole of Europe, he caused the dissemination of wild rumors that the subversives were plotting violence.

"We do not want violence. We are a peace-loving people. We have decided to gather today because we cannot depend on others to air our grievances to the President. To foment violence is never our objective. On the contrary, it is the military who is planning and fomenting violence.

Thus, it is wise that we call off our planned assembly today. Let us not enter into the trap prepared for us by the military. For the moment we are not yet prepared. Let us return to our communities and factories, never again to remain silent and acquiesce to our situation. Let us return to our communities and factories to continue our just struggle. Let us return to convey to our fellow workers and citizens the truth that we cannot rely on anybody else but ourselves. We cannot rely on the Department of Labor and the National Labor Relations Commission (NCRCL)! We cannot rely on Oca, Mendoza and their group of labor dealers in



the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP)! We cannot rely on the military! Indeed, the military treats us, not those leeches who rake in tremendous profits at the cost of our suffering, as their enemy. Therefore, worse will befall us if we remain silent and stay passive; we will be victims of even further exploitation and oppression. Therefore, and in as much as we cannot bear suffering any longer, we must carry on the struggle till we attain victory.

Strengthen and expand our organizations. Promote mutual assistance. Fight for our leaders. Define our achievements.

We must remind the military: A tame lamb may become violent, too.

Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino
25 January 1976

HAWAII'S ANTI-EVICTION FIGHT HEIGHTENS

By RUSSELL VALPARAISO
AK Correspondent

The struggle in Hawaii against evictions is a fight involving thousands of poor and working people against encroaching Big Business land developers.

Like millions of working people trying to keep up with an already high cost of living, a cost of living 20% higher than the mainland, Hawaii's laboring people are struggling to make ends meet in today's recession. Now, over 4,000 people face eviction from low-income housing and land they have traditionally farmed.

The response of these working class communities and small farmers to the intrusion of the land developers is militant and firm: "We will not move for the interests of the money-eyed business! No more!"

STATEHOOD AND THE TOURIST BOOM

When Hawaii became the 50th state in 1959, many Hawaiians thought that things would improve, hoping for better living conditions and a lower cost of living. But this was not the case at all — what characterized this period was a boom in the tourist industry, profiting the Island's business interests, while the housing and economic struggle for Hawaii's people sharpened.

State and local gov't., instead of acting in the interests of Hawaii's people, supported the massive move to build many new hotels and condominiums. Whereas before statehood there were only 500 hotels, there are now 2,700, an increase of 370 percent. And while Hawaii experienced a phenomenal growth rate nearly double that of the nation, with tourism becoming one of the top industries, the cost of land and homes for the Island's people skyrocketed.

Those profiting from the land-boom were those who owned the land — a very small minority. All but five per cent of Hawaii's land is owned by either 12 huge private landowners or the US gov't., and twenty per cent of Hawaii's land is owned by only four private landowners.



Over 1,500 March to Stop Evictions

HONOLULU — In a common effort that united some two dozen anti-eviction groups, over 1,500 tenants, residents and supporters rallied and marched to the State Capitol building Feb. 14, protesting the evictions being carried out by state and city agencies.

The demonstration demanded that the gov't immediately stop all evictions which now affect over 4,000 native Hawaiians and other working people, mainly Filipinos, Chinese, Portuguese and Puerto Ricans. Anti-eviction groups from all over the state were represented

and a program consisting of skits and songs, exposing Big Business and its collusion with gov't officials, was presented.

Speakers, representing groups that are fighting eviction on at least four islands—Kauai, Oahu, Molokai and Hawaii—explained the struggle of native Hawaiians to retain traditional farming land as well as the fight of urban communities for low-income housing. It was pointed out that while Hawaii faces an acute housing shortage for low and moderate incomes, some 10,000 luxury units are vacant because people can't afford

them. In addition, the state's plans call for the building of additional high-rise and luxury hotel buildings to spur the tourist industry.

The mass mobilization represented the growing strength of the anti-eviction movement, a struggle that began five years ago in Kalama Valley when the valley's residents, mainly small farmers, resisted efforts to build expensive condominiums. Since then, the anti-eviction fight has involved Ota Camp, Heeia-Kea, CT-57, Honolulu Chinatown, as well as several other areas. □

For Hawaii's workers, many of whom take home between \$300-350 a month, housing costs soared exorbitantly high. A one-bedroom apartment now rents between \$250 and \$300 and over 10,000 lux-
(continued on page 8)

ID Residents Fight for More Housing

By ELAINE KO
AK Correspondent

SEATTLE — The International District (ID) community here recently denounced the "token" 75 out of 215 housing subsidies just granted them by the city and announced plans to increase public pressure to stop the negligent handling of the ID's housing needs.

Led by the ID Housing Alliance, the dissatisfied residents, small businesses and community persons aired their grievances to a crowd of 65 supporters at a rally on Feb. 16. Their presentation included a report of the frustrating visit they recently paid to Mayor Wes Uhlman on Feb. 14. Charging the city with racial discrimination in its previous allocations of last November when only 24 out of 308 units were given the ID, Alliance representatives handed Uhlman a petition demanding 200 units in Section 8 monies (Section 8 of the Housing Assistance Program provides for 75% rent subsidies). The petition was signed by 1,600 persons after a month-long campaign by the Alliance, which was formed only last November (See AK, Nov. 20, 1975).

CONFRONTATION WITH MAYOR

The annoyed mayor, however, told the group, "The city doesn't have enough money to spread around and you should be satisfied with what you've gotten."

An Alliance spokesperson pointed out to the mayor that if he was "truly concerned about the housing needs of Seattle," he would see it as his "responsibility to lobby aggressively with the Housing and Urban Development for more units."

Uhlman would not budge, however, and maintained that only 75 units should be given the ID. This brings the total units allocated to the ID to 99 over a four-year period, with 1,300 more units still needing substantial rehabilitation.

Dissatisfied with Mayor Uhlman's obvious dis-
(continued on page 8)

FMG Defense Wins First Round

By SHERRY VALPARAISO

A partial victory in the effort to defend Foreign Medical Graduates (FMG) was scored recently when the State Dept. announced that those who had applied for permanent residency between 1972-1975 would not be deported immediately. Instead, they will be allowed to finish their training and then return to their home countries.

The clarification was made in a meeting between the State Dept. and representatives from the Emergency Defense Committee for FMGS (EDC-FMG) and the Physicians House Staff Association (PNHA).

Aimee Cruz, member of the EDC-FMG National Steering Committee, reported this news during her recent West Coast speaking tour, but also warned that "only the most obvious unfair aspects of the ruling has been affected...the minute they are finished, they have to go home."

Cruz added, "We have not received this in black and white. The EDC-FMG feels that until this clarification is received in writing, signed by Paul Cook himself (he formulated the original ruling and was the State Dept. representative in the recent meeting-Ed.), it would be irresponsible to say that the issue is settled, that the FMGs are safe. Our experience with the State Dept. is that they say one thing today and something completely different tomorrow."

Out of the meeting with the State Dept., the status of the FMGs who applied for permanent residency before 1975 was clarified as follows:

1. Those applicants before 1972 may wait in the US for their alien registration number. If training has been completed, however, they will be placed on a "voluntary departure status."

2. Those applicants after 1972 are divided into three categories. FMGs who are affected by the skills list (skills registered as needed by the Philippine gov't in 1972) will be sponsored by the Exchange Program until they finish their training, and then will be sent home. FMG whose training was partly financed by their home

gov't will also be allowed to finish their training and then be sent home. All others must change their visa status from J-1 (exchange visitor) to H-1 (working status) immediately after completion of training or be subject to quick return home.

Despite this partial victory, the Committee feels there are many loose ends that need to be tied up. For example, the rights of the first category of FMGs who finished their training and put on "deferred voluntary departure status" have only been vaguely defined by the State Dept. The State Dept. has said, "This is not a legal status, it's just a category, and technically means that they cannot work, and cannot avail of public services."

Also, some FMGs were given a six-month extension until July, and their status will come into question again at the end of that "grace period."

Another aspect of the issue that is still unresolved is the need to restore the original intent of the program and insure that the US provides high quality training. Most hospitals, where FMGs are placed do not even have training facilities. Rather, they are used for "scut work" and to fill the doctor shortage in American hospitals.

DOCTORS CITE OWN EXPERIENCES

FMG doctors spoke of their own experiences of discrimination in the EV program during the three educational forums on FMGs that were held this month.

In the San Francisco FMG Forum on Jan. 29 at St. Patrick's Hall, Dr. Cadag, Pres. of the Assn. of FMGs, attested to how the "promises of bright colors turned to black as they got nothing but tears; heart-breaking experiences, and disappointments. We FMGs came to the US to do our best part in a time of doctor shortage. Now that the situation is more normalized or we apply to stay here, they have the nerve to say we are no longer needed and should be deported," he said.

"In addition, those people we treated as brothers in this profession greet us with discrimination, criticize us and put us down in humiliating situations. Their claim that our education is below standards is false - one had to
(continued on page 7)

Testimony to Detainees Creativity and Unbroken Spirit Political Prisoners' Artifacts On Exhibit

By TERESITA BAUTISTA

Colorful artifacts made by Philippine political prisoners are being displayed in various Filipino communities here in the US and are being met with favorable responses. Through the combined efforts of anti martial law forces in the Philippines and US, these artifacts were smuggled out of the Philippines to generate funds for the prisoners and their families.

OAKLAND EXHIBIT OF PRISONERS ARTIFACTS

On Jan. 25, the East Bay Chapter of the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP), upon invitation by St. Mary's Church in Oakland, displayed beautiful pottery, greeting cards, pendants and necklaces made by the political prisoners from the various detention centers of the Marcos regime. The exhibit, coinciding with the regular Sunday Filipino mass, drew close to 30 interested parishioners. As people milled around the display, signs pointed out that the Marcos gov't. uses the artifacts for tourists sales, the proceeds of which never return to the prisoners.

PHILADELPHIA FUNDRAISER

In Philadelphia, the local Anti Martial Law Alliance held a well-attended dinner forum on Jan. 31 at the Tabernacle Church.

The enthusiastic support from the gathering of 80 people was exemplified during a spirited auction of the artifacts. One bidder, upon receiving an artifact, paid more than his bid. Another sympathizer,



Auction of political prisoners artifacts in Philadelphia drew the enthusiastic support of the audience and generated more funds for the political prisoners.

after bidding and paying for an artifact, generously donated his artifact back to be sold again.

PRISONERS SPIRIT REMAINS UNBROKEN

The artifact displays and sales, sponsored by the



Handmade cards, pottery and pendants produced by the political prisoners express that their strong will to resist has not been broken. Wooden plaque (far left) reads: "We can never discover the ocean's depths if we do not leave the shore." Card with the mother and child reads: "Observe Christmas Day... Poverty is all around us. Let us end oppression!" Bone pendants (far right) read: "Love is serving the people," and "A man should not be a squatter in his own country."

Anti Martial Law Coalition (Philippines), have also been useful in educating people about the conditions in the detention camps and the fighting spirit of the prisoners themselves.

Though tortured, constantly harassed and subjected to inhuman indignities, the political prisoners have refused to become demoralized and the artistry and eloquence of their handicrafts attests to this. Through collective projects to make pottery, cards, pendants and plaques, the prisoners remain active and organized and oftentimes, insert political slogans, poignantly and poetically worded, onto the artifacts themselves. For example, on one of the pendants, which are made from soup bones and shaped into medallion sizes, it says: "You have not silenced a just man by killing him." Another handmade greeting card reads: "Someday our dreams will come to be, someday in a world where men are free."

CAMPAIGN AIDS PRISONERS/FAMILIES

Funds raised from the sales of these artifacts will be sent to the Philippine political prisoners to buy some necessities like more food to supplement their deficient prison diet. The money will also help the families of the detainees who face economic hardship because in most cases, the political prisoner was the main breadwinner of the family.

For more information on the artifacts and the political prisoners campaign, please contact: Documentation Committee for Philippine Political

Prisoners, 696 S. Harvard, Los Angeles 90006. □

FMG DEFENSE WINS...

(continued from page 6)

be skilled before the doors were opened to them. Academically, medical education in the US and the Philippines are exactly alike, the difference is only in the clinical practice aspect because the Philippines cannot afford to spend a lot on laboratories. Given a comparable test, the difference lies only in skin color and facial features, but not in intellectual composition," Cadag stated.

In Los Angeles at a similar forum held on Jan. 27 at the Fil-Am Community Center and sponsored by the LA support Committee for the FMGs, Dr. Vila, a former EV-FMG concurred with the discriminatory experiences of FMGs. "From day one, the institution I was to receive training from blatantly segregated us and treated us differently. All the American doctors were introduced as Dr. so-and-so with such-and-such specialization. We were just introduced as visitors from a foreign country."

Dr. Josie Garcia, Pres. of the Assn. of FMGs in southern Calif. and member of the local support group emphasized that this crisis also affects other foreign professionals. She said, "Only organized community action can effectively stop this growing anti-alien mood of the gov't and big business."

For more information contact Emergency Defense Committees in your local area: S.F. - (415) 826-8784; L.A. - (213) 386-5998; Sacramento - (916) 925-8634; Chicago - (312) 327-2452; Philadelphia (215) 259-8210; and N.Y. - (212) 889-2705. □

On the Front

ALCONCEL— "FUGITIVE" CONSUL NOW IN HAWAII

HAWAII — Trinidad Q. Alconcel, the "fugitive" ex-SF Philippine Consul General missing since Federal investigations of alleged involvement in illegal activities for the Marcos gov't, has been recently reassigned to the Consulate Post in Honolulu.

Alconcel is being sought for questioning by Congressional and Justice Dept. investigations for an alleged bribe attempt of former Marcos propagandist Primitivo Mijares. According to Mijares' sworn testimony, Alconcel tried to bribe Mijares with \$100,000 to keep him from testifying in Congress against the Marcos dictatorship. While at his SF post, Alconcel had also been involved in pressuring several advertisers to cancel their contracts with the Philippine News, an anti martial law newspaper in SF.

Shortly before the Hawaii assignment, it was reported that Marcos had been planning to make Alconcel Ambassador to Canada, a post which would place him outside the limits of US federal investigation. However, the Ministry of External Affairs in Toronto, Allen MacEachen rejected the proposal.

The decision may have been affected by a telegram from the Canada-Philippine Friendship Society asking the ministry to declare "persona non grata" (unwelcome person) and citing two investigations related to federal crimes which Alconcel faces in the US. The group of Canadians and Filipinos made their protests clear, saying "We don't want crooks to represent us in foreign countries. He (Alconcel) is being rewarded by the bankrupt Marcos dictatorship with a promotion and

a choice post for effecting crimes against fellow Filipinos."

Now in Hawaii, Alconcel can no longer avoid the federal investigations and will likely be called upon to respond to the charges. □

LIBEL SUIT AGAINST MARCOS-CONTROLLED PAPER UPHELD

Steve and Presy Psinakis (son-in-law and daughter of the late Philippine magnate Eugenio Lopez Sr.) won the first round in their multi-million dollar suit against the US-based, Marcos-controlled paper, Filipino Reporter. Fed. Dist. Judge George B. Harris turned down the Reporter's motion for dismissal in a hearing last Jan. 12.

The suit stemmed from the Reporter's publication last July of the "Ingles Report" allegedly by former Marcos head censor, Primitivo Mijares, which accused the Psinakises of masterminding a plot to overthrow Marcos. However, Mijares has denied authorship.

In his ruling, Harris said even if the Reporter operated as a propaganda organ of Marcos, it "would not affect the status of the defendant newspaper as a public journal."

In addition, Harris pointed out that the Ingles Report "bore a general connection to... matter under investigation by the subcommittee (House Subcommittee on Int'l Organizations) and as a result, it became a part of the legislative proceedings at that." □

332 FILIPINOS SEEK POLITICAL ASYLUM

332 Filipinos have applied for political asylum in the US since martial law was declared. Of the 332 nationals that applied during the period Jan. 1973 through July 1975, four have been granted asylum.

This disclosure was made recently by the Philip-

pine News, a San Francisco-based weekly. Citing the INS as its source, the Philippine News further reported that in seven cases the Office of Refugee and Migration Affairs has recommended applicants not be forcibly returned to the Philippines and arrangements have also been made to allow five other applicants to remain in the US.

However, the identity of those granted asylum or the fate of those denied is unknown.

Asylum is granted on joint INS/State Dept. appraisal of whether the applicant "has a well founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion."

Since the imposition of martial law three years ago, 52,000 have been imprisoned by the martial law regime for political reasons. □

FILIPINOS IN QUEBEC DENOUNCE RP'S POLICY OF DOUBLE TAXATION

MONTREAL — The Progressive Pilipinos in Quebec (PPQ) recently denounced the Marcos regime's policy of double taxation on Filipinos abroad.

On Jan. 31, PPQ distributed their study "Taxes and the Marcos Dictatorship" to nearly 100 Filipinos at the N.D.G. Recreation Center where Ambassador Privado Jimenez and the embassy staff process expired, or about to be expired, passports. The study details the atrocious misuse of people's taxes (i.e., \$30-M Miss Universe Contest, \$4-M Folk Art Center, \$10-M Philippine House in New York, \$4-M Floating Casino, \$4-M loss on the Ali-Frazier fight) in the face of a high malnutrition rate, inflation up to 46%, and a rise in gov't debts to \$3.5-B.

"Paying taxes to the Marcis gov't," PPQ stated, "only contributes to a regime, poisoned with graft and corruption, which maintains fascist repression on the Filipino people." The PPQ study concludes that the so-called "New Society" has failed in its promised reforms declared 3 years ago and therefore is just an extension of the Old Society.

For more information about the study, contact PPQ, P.O. Box 2, Station Cote Des Nieges, Montreal. □

Providence Workers Win Contract

By MIGUEL SANTIAGO
AK Correspondent

SEATTLE, Washington — After a "last hour" offer was made by the management of Providence Medical Center here, 155 service workers voted in a 2-year contract and called off their strike, scheduled the same day. The contract victory culminated three years of struggle of the service workers to organize themselves and be represented by Service Employees Int'l Union, Local 6.

The final contract offer, passed last Feb. 12 by an overwhelming 145-10 vote by day and night shift workers, guarantees a grievance procedure with arbitration, seniority in layoffs and recall, and a 13%-17% wage increase.

Back in April, 1975, the service workers voted for a union, although management consistently tried to obstruct union organizing efforts. Since then, a contract Negotiations Committee, made up of rank and file workers and representatives from the SEIU, have been involved in heated struggles with the management over the contract. Rejecting the management's final offer back in January, 1976, the Negotiations Committee cited 19 points of disagreement with the contract offer and urged all the workers to prepare for a strike.

The day before the scheduled strike, management finally conceded and made a "last hour" offer, giving in to all but three demands: a union shop, 1-year contract and a \$3.50/hour starting salary.

Despite these weaknesses, the contract offer was accepted and hailed as an important victory by the service workers at Providence—their first contract and probably a precedent-setting one for all the

other unorganized hospital service workers here in Seattle.

Another victory was the fact that Filipino immigrant workers, who comprise one-third of the service workers unit, played a leading role in the organizing efforts. Said one Filipino worker after the contract vote, "We must forge ahead even stronger



At a mass meeting, Providence Hospital workers discuss the contract offer of Management. This last-minute offer averted a strike planned by the workers.

and more united now that we have a union. A union doesn't solve all the problems that we and other workers face, but it serves the future organizing work at this hospital as well as encouraging other hospital service workers, who face the same working conditions, to organize. We should all see the importance of joining the Union and utilizing it for the workers' benefits. □

an acute housing shortage. Yet, the city planners have targeted the area for commercialization and "redevelopment" trends for the ID are rapidly surfacing. A \$63-M Dome Stadium has been erected, scheduled to open in March, land speculators have flocked to the area and in the period from 1973 to 1975 alone, property taxes have doubled with rents increasing correspondingly.

The city's redevelopment policy has already dislocated many low-income residents of ID. 28 out of 44 existing low-income housing buildings have been closed down, with the possibility of four more closing this spring.

Harassment of the residents have also taken new forms. Police patrols stop residents for "loitering" on the streets and one day this month, four street corner mailboxes mysteriously disappeared without notice to the residents temporarily stopping postal services to the ID. Residents suspect this is part of a conspiracy against them and other services may be shutdown as well — an ominous sign of the city's intention to eliminate the ID altogether. □

Hawaii Eviction Fight...

(continued from page 6)

ury units remain vacant while many poor and working people are forced to live in crowded, substandard housing. A typical house which sold for \$20,000 at the time of statehood would sell for \$100,000 today, so that almost 55% of Hawaii's people do not own their own homes.

PEOPLE EVICTED BIG BUSINESS INTERESTS

Hawaii's working class communities and small farmers are rapidly disappearing, making way for capital investment to reap huge profits for developers and all the inter-related tourist industries.

In Kalama Valley, an agricultural area on the southern coast of Oahu, the native population of mostly small farmers was evicted only after a long struggle and the use of riot-equipped police. Bishop Estates, which controls 18% of all privately held land with holdings valued at \$600-M, then turned the valley into a high-priced residential neighborhood.

In Chinatown, Honolulu's Mayor Fasi is presently in the driver's seat to kick out 1,400 retired pensioners, welfare recipients, workers, families, senior citizens and small shop owners for a multi-million dollar hotel and shopping complex. And in Waihole and Waikane Valley, the owners who are heirs of the huge McCandless fortune and Joe Pao, a developer, wants to evict the people to build forty to seventy thousand dollar condominiums.

A number of residents have already been evicted to make way for developments like the Kanoeh Bay shopping center, the Alii Bluffs subdivision, and large suburban developments in Heeiea-Kea. Poor and working people and small farmers are being uprooted indiscriminately by the state and local gov'ts. mainly to benefit the interests of the "Big Five" — Bishop Estates, C. Brewer, Castle and Cooke, Dillingham and Campbell Estates — huge corporations and businesses that control the state of Hawaii economically due to their monopoly of the banking industry, as well the sugar, pineapple, trade, utility and construction industries.

The recent eviction plans are a continuation of the evictions which occurred in Kalama Valley five years ago. Now, thousands of native Hawaiians and other working people — Filipino, Chinese, Puerto Ricans and Portuguese — are being targeted for eviction. Native Hawaiians stand to lose their traditional lands as farms, and Hawaii's poor urban workers will be forced to look for higher-cost housing.

The growing sentiments among those being hit by eviction are anger and resistance — angry at being misled by gov't. promises of relocation aid that often does not materialize or is hampered by bureaucratic red tape; and resistance to further encroachment of big-land developers that threatens traditional life-styles and adds to the already high cost of living. The rallying cry being raised is to "stop evictions now!" □

ID HOUSING...

(continued from page 6)

regard for the ID's housing needs, the Alliance plans to expose the city's negligence with a picket and press conference at the City Hall on March 4. The Alliance intends to demand more housing allocations and a formal meeting with the mayor and HUD officials.

As Donnie Chin of the ID Emergency Center said, "We (residents) know what our needs are. We can't let the city tell us what they are."

Aware of the mounting redevelopment "revamp" of the area surrounding the ID, one Filipino predicted, "Next year we may be 'ex-residents'. Our future, the quality of our lives are threatened right now. Adequate housing is a right not a privilege!"

HOW "REDEVELOPMENT" THREATENS ID

The ID is the historic home of Asian workers in Seattle. Like other central districts here it is facing

Sulong! (Forward in the Struggle!)

I-HOTEL EVICTION TRIAL ON MARCH 29

SAN FRANCISCO — The latest attempt to evict the tenants of the International Hotel (IH) is slated for jury trial on March 29 in California Superior court. The IH Tenants Association plans to contest the eviction, charging it as "retaliatory eviction" undertaken by Four Seas Company because of the tenants' protests to the city against its substandard building conditions.

Tenants are also bringing a \$500,000 suit against the hotel's original landlord, local millionaire realtor, Walter Shorenstein and present owners, Hong Kong-based Four Seas Investment Co. Tenants are asking for damages based on alleged safety and health hazards in the building, uncorrected since 1969.

Four Seas, and previously Shorenstein, have refused to maintain the building in their attempt to tear the building down to make way for a more profitable enterprise in the choice downtown location, next to Chinatown and two blocks from the Transamerica's pyramid office building.

But IH residents, who have repeatedly attempted to buy the building, are determined not to move unless good, alternative, low-cost housing is provided. □

HOUSEKEEPERS' HEARING DELAYED

SEATTLE — The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) postponed its hearing on whether to grant political asylum to two Filipina housekeepers who fled the household of Seattle's Consul General Julia Palarca last September. Files on the women were inadvertently sent to the wrong address, an INS spokesperson said. Bob Yamigiwa, legal attorney representing the women, said the Feb. 6 hearing has been reset for March 8.

Estelita Almirante and Francisca Abuel are asking for political asylum in this country because they fear reprisal if forced to return to the Philippines due to their criticism of Palarca. The two housekeepers charge that they were forced to work 10-14 hours a day, seven days a week, without vacation, for \$40 a month. By revealing these slave-like working conditions, the housekeepers have caused great political embarrassment to the Consul General and the martial law gov't of Ferdinand Marcos. Palarca is now in the Philippines on an extended leave of absence.

Within the Seattle Filipino community, the Abuel-Almirante Defense Committee has been formed and is launching a

petition campaign to support these women's rights to political asylum. The Defense Committee aims to gather over 500 signatures to submit to the Immigration Judge before the hearing. In addition, the Committee is raising funds and mobilizing the community to attend the March 8 hearing.

Financial contributions to the defense fund should be mailed to Almirante-Abuel Defense Committee, 610 So. Weller Street, Seattle, WA. 98104. □

STUDENTS REVIVE HISTORY OF FIRST FILIPINOS IN AMERICA

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA — The Regional Council of the West Coast Student Confederation here recently announced the repeat performance of "Isuda Ti Imuna," a play about the first wave of Filipinos who came to the US in the 20's and 30's. "Isuda" chronicles the bitter struggles for survival and the racism they experienced in those early years in America.

The three-hour long play was the major cultural event for the 1975 Filipino People's Far West convention last summer at U.C. Berkeley's Zellerbach Auditorium. The May performance will allow hundreds more people to see "Isuda" and serve as a fundraiser to pay outstanding expenses from last year's Convention.

Preparation work on the play is underway, including some revisions of the script. All interested persons should attend an orientation meeting on March 13

to sign up for acting and dance auditions, technical crew or committees (publicity, finance and logistics). The meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. at S.F. State, Student Union, Conference Rooms A-E. For more information, call Eleanor Yaranon (282-3241) or Paulette Vitin (548-5902). □

KDP COMMEMORATES "FIRST QUARTER STORM" IN THE PHILIPPINES

Four KDP chapters on the West Coast and Hawaii held cultural events commemorating the "First Quarter Storm," a period in early 1970 when Philippine nationalism swelled to great proportions and tens of thousands of patriotic Filipinos demonstrated in the streets against the corrupt Marcos gov't. It was then that the National Democratic Revolution forged ahead in its fight against the evils of feudalism, U.S. imperialism, and bureaucratic capitalism.

All the events focused on the leading role of student activism in the national democratic struggle. Utilizing revolutionary songs, skits, and choral readings, the various KDP programs vividly dramatized the slogans, "Down with the U.S.-Marcos Dictatorship" and "Forward the National Democratic Revolution in the Philippines." The presentations were held in Berkeley, Sacramento, San Francisco and Honolulu and included the participation of local Filipino student clubs in those areas. □

DOMESTIC / INTERNATIONAL

SETBACK FOR FARMWORKERS

CALIFORNIA'S FARM LABOR BOARD CLOSES

By POLLY PARKS

California's 250,000 farmworkers suffered a severe setback in their fight for union representation when the California Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB) was forced to close Feb. 5 due to lack of funds.

All efforts for new appropriations were killed in legislative committees, thus ending the 5-month old ALRB. The defeat came through the efforts of the agri-business industry who pressured rural legislators to block refunding for the Board.

The shutdown of the ALRB ended all certification of elections, hearings on disputed ballots, and petitioning for future elections. The most immediate problem is the absence of an arbitration board to enforce the "bargaining in good faith" provision of the farmworkers law.

The United Farm Workers (UFW) Pres. Cesar Chavez criticized the grower-backed sabotage of the ALRB. Said Chavez, "Last year, farmworkers and growers pledged to support a negotiated law. Our union has won the most elections and today the growers are stabbing the farm workers and the people in the back. It is an act of treachery that threatens the peace and progress achieved in five short months under the ALRB."

THE LAWS PRIOR EFFECTIVENESS

Before the ALRB's shutdown, workers had voted overwhelmingly for union representation, with most of the elections won by the UFW. These gains were made despite a concerted campaign by the growers to undermine the elections with tactics that included threats, firings to intimidate workers and keep UFW organizers out of the fields.

In total, the UFW scored a 1½ to 1 lead over the grower-backed Teamsters Union, winning some 195 elections to the Teamsters 120. Most significantly, 182 of the 195 UFW wins were formerly under Teamster contract. In addition, out of 409 elections held, only 25 ranches voted no-union, 19 went to miscellaneous unions and the outcome of 50

elections is still being disputed.

GROWERS ATTACK ALRB

The workers growing rejection of the Teamsters whose strength in the fields came from 1970-73 "sweetheart" contracts signed in collusion with the growers, led agri-business to increasingly desperate attempts to keep the UFW organizers out of the fields and to contest elections won by the UFW.

When the ALRB ran out of money (\$2.7-M for FY 75-76) because of an unexpectedly heavy workload of elections, compounded with costly legal hearings



In an often repeated scene last summer, farmworkers sign UFW authorization cards as a prelude to ALRB-supervised elections. The ALRB's closing has set back farmworker's organizing efforts.

over disputed elections, the growers seized on the opportunity. They immediately pressured San Joaquin and Imperial Valley legislators to block any new appropriations for the ALRB unless pro-grower amendments were tacked on the bill.

The amendments the growers were calling for included: 1) that growers be allowed the right to petition for elections; 2) that the union "access" provision be rescinded; 3) abolishment of the ALRB's authority to find growers for firing or intimidating workers for union activity; and 4) the "make whole

remedy" (reinstatement with backpay) be stopped.

Supporters of the ALRB have charged that any one of the proposed amendments is a serious attack on farmworkers organizing rights and thus undermines the original intent of the bill. In particular, advocates charge that allowing growers petitioning rights would take away the right of workers to petition for an election and vote for the union of their choice. In addition, growers could petition simultaneously statewide, thus spreading union forces too thin to adequately reach all workers. It is further charged that taking away the Board's authority to discipline parties for unfair practices would end the Board's strongest enforcement weapon.

In addition, the proposed amendments come barely 5 months after the bill's implementation, leading ALRB head, Catholic Bishop Roger Mahony to demand that the "law needs a fair trial before changes are considered."

Several emergency appropriations bills were introduced in the weeks prior to the funds cutoff. The only bill to be considered for floor vote however, was a \$38-M health and welfare bill with a \$3.8-M provision for the ALRB tacked on. The bill died in committee, victim of the concerted lobbying effort by the state's agri-business interests.

UFW MOUNTS COUNTER-CAMPAIGN

On Feb. 11 the UFW kicked off a petition drive to bring the issue to California voters in a referendum in the November elections. But just to place the issue on the ballot, the Union will have to collect 250,000 signatures by the June state primary. The UFW hopes to build a mass movement to replace the original grower-Teamster-UFW "compromise" law, and loosen up appropriations and revive the Board.

At any rate, the UFW's position on re-establishing the Board is one of no compromise to the proposed grower amendments. Chavez had warned that "growers can not have it both ways; they can either have the law and the elections or no law and strikes and boycotts." □

TERROR CAMPAIGN HITS INDIAN RESERVATION

By DAVID CORKERY and PETER HOLDEN
Pacific News Service

PINE RIDGE, South Dakota—(February 16)—Terror once again reigns over the Oglala Sioux nation here just two months before the newly elected tribal president takes charge.

In the week following the defeat Jan. 27 of incumbent Richard Wilson by American Indian Movement (AIM) backed Al Trimble, two members of AIM critical of Wilson were murdered. One was shot to death. The other was found dead from a brutal beating.

Since then, five other violent deaths have occurred — including a 15-year-old Oglala woman — all falling into the gray area between murder and accident. The most intense violence so far erupted within a 24-hour period at the village of Wanblee (pop. 500), a Trimble stronghold.

The Saturday following the election, 15 Wilson supporters drove into Wanblee and opened fire on the home of Guy Dull Knife, a Trimble backer. Dull Knife did not fire back. Fifteen minutes later, reservation police arrested Dull Knife for disorderly conduct. Residents claim police made no attempt to question or disarm the instigators.

Hours later, one witness to the shooting was shotgunning to death following a high-speed car chase. Four surviving occupants of his identified the chase vehicles to the FBI as those of the intruders. FBI agents said they lacked "probable cause" to make arrests. Rapid City's agent in charge later explained "there may not have been enough agents to take action."

What has happened is that the federally supervised tribal elections, rather than resolving the long disputed leadership issue, have opened the door to a new no-holds-barred struggle for power. The result is near anarchy. The key to who has the real power is not holding office but control of the reservation's inhabitants.

Dozens of residents interviewed by PNS claim that Wilson's supporters — whom they call goon squads — are spreading fear by intimidation to show that they are the only ones who can run the reservation, not the newly elected leadership. Wilson retorts the trouble makers are AIM members.

At the heart of the power struggle is the long-standing patronage system under which the reservation head doles out \$24 million in federal grants and 900 jobs to a tribal population with 70 per cent unemployment.

Until the elections, Wilson's opponents charge, almost all jobs and federal benefits went to his relatives and supporters.

Fueling this tribal division has been a cultural faultline that sharply separates Wilson supporters from the rest of the population.

Like Wilson, they are largely Americanized,

often half white, contemptuous of the old tribal ways, materially better off and geographically centered around Pine Ridge village, the center of the reservation. The bulk of the population live in outlying districts, earn less than \$3,000 per year, cling to the old language and religion, revere the tribal lands and share a fierce pride in their once-despised ancestry.

By law, newly elected Trimble has the power to make drastic changes in who gets federally-funded jobs and money. Wilson supporters fear that an entirely new corps of officials could take over their jobs and put an end to their long domination of tribal government.

BIA — RESERVATION BOSS COLLUSION

But more is at stake than jobs and grants. The Pine Ridge struggle threatens a century-old interlock between the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and a reservation boss and patronage system. By treaty and tradition, reservation Indians exercise self-rule. But at the same time they are wards of the federal government entitled to economic assistance — "foreign aid" since in theory many reser-

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INDIAN LEADER ARRESTED

SAN FRANCISCO — Dennis Banks, leader of the American Indian Movement (AIM), was seized by the FBI Jan. 24 in El Cerrito, Ca. Banks had been underground since Aug. 6, 1975, when he failed to appear for sentencing after being convicted for riot and assault charges in Custer, S. Dakota.

Banks' arrest highlights the current US gov't campaign to destroy AIM and any movement to secure rights for Native American people. In the past two years, there have been some 40 murders of AIM militants and sympathizers on the Pine Ridge, S. Dakota reservation. After the election of AIM-backed Al Trimble as tribal chief of Pine Ridge last month, two Indians — one a leader of AIM — were murdered by gov't-backed goons of defeated tribal

chief Richard Wilson.

In an interview following his arrest, Banks charged that returning to jail in S. Dakota would be a virtual death sentence. William Janklow, the state attorney general, has publicly stated that "the only way to deal with the Indian problem in S. Dakota is to put a bullet through Dennis Banks' head."

In a statement issued after his arrest, Banks said, "The arrest of myself by gov't agents is a pattern established throughout the decades of Indian/White relations. . . . Every lawman should live on a reservation and perhaps they would begin a campaign against those who have caused the misery that prevails daily in Indian homes.

"I was born an Indian and even the threat of spending my entire life in jail and chained, I will not submit my ways and belief to be somebody else. I am proud of being an Indian. I will die with that pride."

A national campaign to stop the extradition of Banks to S. Dakota is being mounted. □

Puerto Rico: The Struggle For Freedom

PART ONE: US COLONIALISM AND THE INDEPENDENCE STRUGGLE

Editor's note:

The following is first of a three-part series on Puerto Rico written by an AK correspondent who attended the recent PSP second Congress.

By WALDEN BELLO
AK Correspondent

At the peak of a mountain near the historic insurgent town of Lares in Puerto Rico's central highlands, the Puerto Rican flag flutters alone. Planted by a group of intrepid nationalist, the lonely flag represents a daily defiance of the colonial edict requiring it to be accompanied by the Stars and Stripes.

That flag, which closely resembles the banner of Puerto Rico's Caribbean kin, the Socialist Republic of Cuba, symbolizes a long tradition of struggle for national independence. Contrary to the myths of Puerto Rican "docility" and "accommodation" to Yankee colonial rule perpetuated by the liberal establishment and the liberal press, the struggle for national liberation is a live and vibrant tradition in Puerto Rico. Between the uprisings against Spanish domination in Lares in 1868 and in Yauco in 1896, and the fiercely suppressed rebellion of 300 nationalists led by the great independentista Pedro Albizu Campos on October 30, 1950, there has been a genuine continuity of aspiration, inspiration and heroic sacrifice.

INVASION AND CONSOLIDATION OF COLONIAL SOCIETY

Long coveted as the key to the political and economic domination of the Caribbean, Puerto Rico was invaded by US troops on July 25, 1898, in the midst of the Spanish-American War. At the December Peace Conference in Paris of the same year, the same stroke of the pen that sold five million Filipinos to the United States for \$20-M also transferred colonial sovereignty over one million Puerto Ricans to the emergent imperial power. For the next five decades the island was to be dominated in the classical colonial manner.

Up until the late 1940's, the imperial economic relationship forged between the US and Puerto Rico was based on the island's serving as a captive market for US industrial goods and a supplier of cheap agricultural products for the mainland market. Not only did this relationship prevent the emergence of a native industrial sector but it also led to the massive decapitalization and impoverishment of the island.

Like all trade relations between any agriculturally-dependent country and an industrialized capitalist country, trade between the US and Puerto Rico was characterized by the unequal exchange of cheap raw materials which tended to fall in value



relative to the industrial goods. The trade balance thus favored the imported industrial goods and more dollars actually flowed out of the island in payment for these expensive goods. In contrast, the dollar earnings of the island's agricultural products were meager and insufficient.

Coffee production, which had been the mainstay of the island economy toward the end of the Spanish colonial period and had constituted the base of an emergent national bourgeoisie, entered a prolonged crisis in the first decades of American rule.

Unable to independently conclude commercial pacts with other countries in order to shore up the declining price of coffee or to erect tariff barriers against the massive entry of US manufactured goods, significant sectors of the coffee bourgeoisie—which had initially welcomed the Yankee invasion—began to agitate for independence in alliance with sectors of the professional and bureaucratic petty bourgeoisie. There was, however, a fatal flaw in this movement, a flaw which was to dog even the latter phases of the independence struggle: it was unable to draw organized support from the rural and urban laboring classes.

PRO-US LABOR AND ELITE INTERTWINE

The reason for this lay in a complicated intertwining of imperialism and domestic class relationships. The Puerto Rican labor movement arose at the end of the Spanish colonial period to counter the oppressive wage and working conditions imposed on the rural proletariat in the coffee plantations. With the advent of US imperialism, significant sectors of the rural working class were misguided by influential labor leaders such as Santiago Iglesias, the founder of the Puerto Rican labor movement, into believing that improvements in their living conditions could best be attained through an association with the big US unions and union confederations—an association which could only be forged, in Iglesias's distorted logic, if Puerto Rico were to maintain its colonial relationship with the US. Thus there emerged in the first decades of US domination the ironic situation of a pro-American organized labor movement and an anti-American coffee bourgeoisie.

By the 1930's the coffee elite had been definitively displaced from its commanding position in favor of those sectors of the agricultural upper class whose products and whose politics could be more conveniently integrated into the colonial relationship—the sugar and tobacco landed bourgeoisie. Whereas in 1899 only 15 per cent of cultivated land was devoted to sugar, by 1930 forty per cent was taken up by this crop.

This shift to sugar and, to a lesser extent tobacco, was accompanied by four critical developments: the marked concentration of landownership; the large-scale displacement of small independent farmers;

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Dare to struggle...



15,000 FAMILIES ON 7TH MONTH OF RENT STRIKE

Despite a threatened \$1-M fine, 15,000 families in NYC's Co-op City housing project have militantly withheld rents for the past 7 months to force NY state to reduce outrageous rent hikes.

The strike was begun last May when the state attempted a 33% hike as a precursor to a 5-year escalation that would amount to a 100% increase. The families had already seen their rents increase 60% since the project, allegedly built for moderate income, opened in 1969. To date over 90% of the tenants are honoring the strike and over \$22-M in back rent has been withheld.

The state is attempting to stop the strike from spreading to a general resistance movement among other people hit by the "fiscal crisis," especially the state's other public housing dwellers. Besides the fine, jailings and mass evictions have been threatened as well as utility cut-offs and cutbacks in other essential services.

However, the tenants have developed a strong unity, and are publishing bi-weekly information leaflets, organizing sit-ins and other protests which regularly draw thousands of participants. □

2,000 ATTEND "HARD TIMES" CONFERENCE

CHICAGO — How to affect US economic and foreign policy and "get the depression off our backs," brought over 2,000 people to Chicago for the Hard Times Conference on Jan. 30-Feb. 1. The Conference was organized by a broad coalition of progressive and revolutionary organi-

zations throughout the country.

Utilizing discussions through a People's Tribunal and workshops, the Conference passed several working resolutions that called for nation-wide protest actions across the country, such as a large counter-Bicentennial celebration in Philadelphia July 4. Already in the planning stages at the initiation of Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP), the counter-Bicentennial will focus on the domestic crisis and the role of US imperialism abroad.

In addition, demonstrations are planned around April 15 to demand that taxes be used for "jobs not wars;" May 1, Int'l Workers Day and a Nov. 1 action to highlight Black Liberation Day and to call for the release of 5 Puerto Rican nationalist prisoners being held in the U.S.

Other resolutions passed included opposition to Senate Bill 1 and the anti-alien Rodino Bill; protesting forced sterilization; support for the Equal Rights Amendment; and calls for action in areas of education, welfare and workers rights.

Resolutions were passed condemning US imperialism, and calling for support of the nat'l liberation struggles in Angola, Indochina, Philippines, and Panama. □

RALLIES PROTEST U.S. INTER- VENTION IN ANGOLA

Demonstrations were recently held in several cities across the country calling for an end to US intervention in Angola and commemorating the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) in early February.

In NYC on Feb. 2 over 1,000 marched

from mid-town Manhattan to Union Square and to an indoor rally at the Marc Ballroom. Over 1,000 marched up steep hills to the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco to protest the appearance of Sec. of State Henry Kissinger, architect of the US-CIA's unsuccessful attempt to smash the Angolan nat'l liberation movement.

Additional demonstrations were held in Boston, Ann Arbor, Chicago and other cities. □

PAUL ROBESON, BLACK REVOLUTIONARY AND ARTIST, DIES

Paul Robeson, revolutionary artist and militant fighter for socialism and Black liberation, died at age 77 on Jan. 27.

Robeson, the son of a run-away slave, rose to become one of the world's foremost baritone singers and carried on a life-long struggle against the racist oppression of Black-Americans. He denounced capitalism and hailed socialism as "economically, culturally and ethically superior to a system based on production for private profit."

His fight for people's democratic rights led him to Spain where he sang for the Loyalists and the Int'l. Brigades in their fight against Franco's fascism. In addition, he worked with W.E.B. DuBois in setting up the Council of African Affairs and he championed the fight of Black people against racism.

Robeson's militant stand for the world's peoples led to his being called before a Senate committee in one of their witchhunt campaigns during the cold war hysteria of the 40's and 50's. His response to the committee's questions concerning his loyalty and support for socialism will

long be remembered by people struggling for freedom and social justice:

"My father was a slave and my people died to build this country, and I'm going to stay and have a piece of it just like you. And no fascist-minded people will drive me from it. Is that clear?"

While the US gov't. carried on a concerted effort to bury Robeson's example, removing his name from libraries, record and book stores, even destroying film footage of his concerts, Robeson will long be remembered as a people's artist and fighter. □

OPPOSITION GROWS AGAINST S-1

Opposition to the proposed Senate Bill 1 (S-1), a bill which would sharply undermine broad democratic freedoms of press, assembly and petition, continues to grow. Numerous editorials in the nation's press have attacked the bill, and a number of unions, including the United Steelworkers and the Butchers' Unions, have launched campaigns urging its defeat. In addition, a number of city gov'ts have taken measures to stop S-1's passage, such as a recent resolution by San Francisco's Board of Supervisors condemning the bill.

Reflecting the growing mass opposition to S-1, demonstrations have been held in numerous cities urging the bill's defeat. Hundreds of persons in cities such as New York, Boston, Philadelphia and San Francisco have gathered to protest the bill.

Nationwide campaigns are being launched to hold educational activities to inform people about the dangers of S-1. Petition and letter writing campaigns to the US Senate have also been initiated. □



The Oct. 30, 1950 Nationalist Rebellion sought independence for Puerto Rico, with uprisings occurring in the cities of Jayuya, Arecibo, Ponce, Mayaguez, Utuado, and San Juan.

Puerto Rico...

(continued from page 10)

the destruction of the food-crop economy that had been based in the disappearing small landholdings; and the massive inflow of North American corporate capital into both the sugar and tobacco industries. Thus cash-crop monoculture, concentrated landownership, and a symbiotic relationship between foreign capital landed elites—the three pillars of the colonial economy—were consolidated by the early thirties. But it was at its very point of consolidation that the classical colonial economy was gravely unsettled by the rude intrusion of the worldwide depression of the thirties and the challenge of nationalist agitation.

ANNEXATIONISTS, AUTONOMISTS, AND NATIONALISTS

With the local upper class economically integrated into the colonial system and enjoying the superior repressive force that the colonial power could deploy against the restive working masses, independence disappeared as a desirable alternative for it. Different sectors of the elite, however, enjoyed varying advantages from the system, leading some of them to embrace the alternative of *anexionismo* (annexation) and others to uphold that of *autonomismo* (autonomy). The successive incarnations of the annexationist or statehood position have been the Republican Party, *Iglesias' Socialist Party*, and the contemporary New Progressive Party. The autonomist alternative was, on the other hand, initially upheld by the Unionist Party and the Puerto Rican Alliance, and is currently represented by the dominant Popular Democratic Party founded by Luis Munoz Marin. In their efforts to gain popular legitimacy for their competing sectoral interests, both groups were forced to ideologically conceal these interests in the rhetoric of "national interest."

Thus the annexationists presented the logically perverse argument that the only way out of the colonial dilemma and colonial inequality was the granting of American citizenship to Puerto Ricans and the conversion of the island into a state of the union. The autonomists, on the other hand, posed as the guardians of Puerto Rican nationhood who nevertheless avoided the "utopian" solutions of independence for an "economically unviable" country like Puerto Rico. The creation of a Commonwealth, the autonomists argued, would safeguard national dignity without forsaking prosperity. The superficial character of these political differences was manifested, however, in the facility with which both groups would periodically unite to repress working class unrest or the violent challenge of the *independentistas*.

Independentismo (independence) was frozen out as a viable electoral alternative by the bias of the colonial political system. Characterizing the colonial elections as a "scheme to divide the great Puerto Rican family," Pedro Albizu Campos and

the Nationalist Party cultivated the universities as a stronghold and took to the streets. On Oct. 24, 1935, policemen fired on a gathering of Nationalists at the State University in Rio Piedras, killing four youths. In retaliation for this and other moves to destroy the party, two young Nationalists executed the Yankee chief of the colonial police, Col. E.F. Riggs on a San Juan street Feb. 23, 1936. Repression of the Nationalists, directed by the colonial governor-general Blanton Winship, reached its climatic point in the thirties with the police massacre of 19 Nationalist students during an *independentista* march in Ponce March 1937.

INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT RESURGES

Police repression and the imprisonment of its leaders reduced nationalist activity during the next ten years, but with the return of Albizu Campos from incarceration in the US, *independentista* activities picked up once more. This second cycle of Nationalist resistance climaxed on Oct. 30, 1950, with an insurrectionary attack on the residence of Gov. Munoz Marin and mini-uprisings elsewhere on the island, including the proclamation in Jayuya of the Second Independent Republic of Puerto Rico. Two days later, two nationalists, Oscar Collazo and Griselio Torresola, carried out an armed attack against Pres. Harry Truman's temporary residence, Blair House.

The whole affair was heroic, but the ensuing repression decapitated the Nationalist Party by imprisoning its leaders and its most courageous mass members. The last flicker of Nationalist resistance occurred on March 1, 1954, when, in a desperate attempt to bring Puerto Rico's colonial plight to the world attention, Lolita Lebron, Rafael Cancel Miranda, Andres Figueroa Cordero, and Irving Flores Rodriguez assaulted and shot up a session of the US Congress.

The early Nationalists profound anger for the imperialist power was admirable but it was not enough. They were unable to discipline this anger with a scientific theory of national liberation. They accepted the necessity of armed struggle but inclined to interpret this necessity in an adventurist direction, resorting instead to "propaganda by the deed." The greatest failure of the Nationalists lay in their inability to translate the demand for independence into an organized mass sentiment.

There were times when this possibility seemed to be imminent, when the social revolution promised to intersect with the independence struggle, as in 1934, when Albizu Campos led a massive strike of sugar workers against their Yankee corporate patron. The links, however, were never consistently forged owing to the Nationalists impatience with mass organizing and their limited class perspective. Nevertheless, Albizu Campos and the early Nationalists represented a high point in the nationalist tradition. □

(To be continued next issue)

Next issue: Part 2, Colonial Industrialization—
an artificial solution to the stagnating economy in Puerto Rico.

Indian Struggle... (from page 9)

ations are still supposed to enjoy sovereign rights.

The bureaucratized BIA, mainly interested in law and order, uses the patronage privileges and grants to shore up reservation strongmen, like Wilson, who would guarantee a no-trouble situation.

On reservations throughout the country, this interlock system — not just tribal chiefs like Wilson — has been the real target of attack by the American Indian Movement (AIM) and reformers like Trimble (himself a former BIA superintendent). This reform movement sees tribal chiefs as little more than tools of the BIA which, through its control of money and reservation police, holds final power over the reservations.

This interlock, they claim, has totally blocked any

democratic assault against the real enemy of the Indian — poverty. Average life expectancy on Pine Ridge is 42, according to HEW statistics.

When AIM resorted to force in the 1973 occupation of Wounded Knee to dramatize these conditions, the result was a massive armed counter-attack by local BIA police, FBI and army units resulting in bloodshed.

Now AIM and other Trimble supporters fear any resort to armed force even for self protection would bring the same law enforcement groups rushing back in against them.

According to Trimble, "the FBI has been obsessed with tracking down AIM during the current wave of violence, while overlooking the needs of the traditional Sioux for protection against harassment by Wilson's goon squads." □

WORLD IN FOCUS

U.S. VETOS U.N. MIDEAST RESOLUTION

A recent UN General Security Council debate on the Middle East took steps forward in recognizing the Palestinian people's national rights despite a US veto of the final resolution. The Council had taken the unprecedented step of inviting the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) to participate in the debate, a recognition that any lasting Middle East settlement must consider the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people. The US had opposed the PLO's participation but was unable to block their presence. Israel boycotted the session.

The two-week long debate focused on past Security Council Middle East resolutions and their failure to recognize the Palestinians' rights to self-determination and independence in Palestine. The US cast the sole veto of the session's final resolution, which called for an independent Palestinian state and Israeli withdrawal from all occupied lands. □

MPLA SCORES GAINS

LUANDA, Angola — The leftist Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) scored a series of diplomatic and military victories in their struggle against the US and South African-backed armies of the FNLA and UNITA. In late January, the MPLA's People's Republic of Angola was officially recognized and admitted as the 47th member of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), underscoring the MPLA's claim to represent the legitimate aspirations of the Angolan people. On Feb. 17, France became the first Western nation to recognize the MPLA's gov't and a number of other European nations, including Belgium, Britain, W. Germany and Italy have rapidly followed France's lead.

Militarily, the MPLA has scored huge successes against the mercenary and S. African-backed FNLA and UNITA armies. Late January and early February saw the capture of the FNLA and UNITA "capitals" of Huambo and Carmona leaving the opposition armies in shambles and virtual retreat. The key southern port of Lobito and the strategically important Benguela railway were also secured by the MPLA from UNITA and S. African forces, and all resistance from the FNLA in the north was reportedly broken by Feb. 17.

In the US, the House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly late January to uphold Senate action cutting off US covert funds to the FNLA and UNITA, taking a firm stand against covert US military aid to Angola. Defying Congress, however, Pres. Ford and Sec. of State Kissinger vowed further efforts to support the FNLA-UNITA alliance. A world-wide CIA effort to recruit mercenaries for the FNLA-UNITA armies, drawing from the Vietnamese refugees, Cuban exiles, US and British ex-servicemen was also linked to continued US intervention efforts. □

MASSIVE DEMONSTRATIONS HIT SPAIN

MADRID, Spain — Since assuming power following Franco's death last November, the fascist regime of King Juan Carlos has been rocked by massive demonstrations and strikes demanding broad democratic reforms. In January alone, over 300,000 workers went on strike, affecting public transportation, telephone and postal service. In addition, strikes and walkouts hit 69 companies, including US multinational corporations such as ITT and Chrysler.

Numerous and massive demonstrations by workers, women and students have also been occurring frequently. In Madrid, rallies of thousands on Jan. 12, 15 and 20 demanded freedom for political prisoners and in Barcelona over 50,000 Catalans demonstrated on two successive weekends, Feb. 1 and 8, for democratic reform and autonomous rule. Leading the demonstrations was a coalition of left, social-democratic and trade union groups, reflecting the widespread opposition to the present regime.

The Carlos regime has responded with brutal attempts to crush the popular actions while making vague promises of democratic reforms. The regime broke a postal walkout and a threatened railway strike by drafting some 170,000 striking workers into the army and telling them to report back to work under threat of court martial and military discipline. In addition, Madrid and Barcelona police broke up the massive demonstrations with tear gas and truncheons, injuring hundreds.

While facing a growing domestic isolation for its continued fascist policies, the Juan Carlos regime was given a shot in the arm when US Sec. of State Henry Kissinger signed a five-year Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation Jan. 24 with Spain. The treaty, seen as a boost in Spain's attempt to join NATO and the Common Market, pledges US support for the regime and promises \$1.2-B in military and technical aid. In return, the US will be allowed to keep its four major military bases there and maintain a stronger presence in Spain's domestic and foreign policies. □

Fasting Detainees Appeal for Int'l Support

By MA. FLOR SEPULVEDA

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga — The hunger strike, launched by 14 detainees in this camp last January, entered its second month with the detainees reiterating their appeal for international intercession to secure their demands. The prisoners, led by Fr. Edicio de la Torre, are demanding the release of two nursing mothers among their group, the restoration of the right to bail, and that they be transferred to Manila jails in order to be closer to their relatives and defense counsels.

During a press conference last Feb. 12, religious authorities released copies of the prisoners' letter to Amnesty International urging the dispatchment of a fact-finding mission to intercede on their behalf.

Their negotiations with the military reached a stalemate early February, when Defense Sec. Juan Ponce Enrile met with the detainees relatives and reportedly said, "No amount of pressure or hunger strike can make me yield."

The fasting prisoners who have been incarcerated since December 1974, are facing charges of conspiracy to commit rebellion and will be prosecuted by a military tribunal. Since they began their hunger strike last Jan. 5, they have been subsisting on a daily diet of salt and water, a can of condensed milk, three biscuits, and five candies. Relatives said that the detainees appeared weak and emaciated; the 2 nursing mothers were suffering from weak lungs and their infants from measles and respiratory infections.

INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT STRESSED

In their letter to Amnesty International the prisoners also chronicled the reprisals taken against them by prison authorities. These included guards lobbing stones at their cells, a guard throwing a pistol and daring them to fight, and their isolation without sunshine and fresh air for a fortnight.

As detainees undergoing trial, the political prisoners demanded that they be treated fairly and justly. Stressing the importance of international pressure, they have also encouraged a letter writing campaign to Pres. Marcos in support of their demands.

Letters should be addressed to: Pres. Ferdinand Marcos, Malacanang Palace, Manila, Philippines and Defense Sec. Juan Ponce Enrile, Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines. □

Legality Questioned

MARCOS FORMS NAT'L ADVISORY BODY

By MA. FLOR SEPULVEDA

MANILA — Pres. Marcos hastily created the Sangguniang Pambansa (National Council) to thwart the growing demand among his oppositionists to convene the National Assembly. This sudden move was undertaken even before Marcos issued a decree creating the body and defined its particular functions.

In doing so, Marcos mooted the necessity for convening the National Assembly, which some of his oppositionists see as the last legal resort to secure the return of constitutional democracy. Generally, the Sangguniang Pambansa will act as a national advisory body to the president and be composed of members of the Sangguniang Bayan (SB) (recently created "elective" bodies that would replace city, municipal, and provincial councils; see AK, last issue). Its formation completes the government's restructuring program which Marcos claims "has broadened the participation of the citizenry in gov't." Reports however indicate that the so-called "peoples" representatives in the SB's were largely appointed by local Marcos officials.

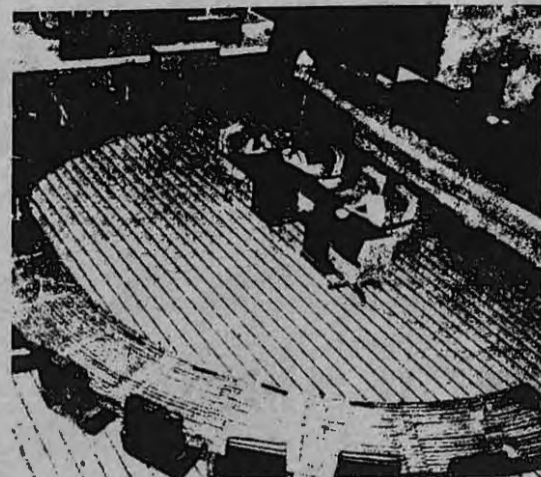
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY — MARCOS' SORE SPOT

The Sangguniang Pambansa's formation came after former Pres. Diosdado Macapagal circulated a petition among SB members calling for the immediate convening of the ad interim National Assembly.

The much disputed National Assembly has been a sore spot insofar as the dictatorship's image has been concerned. According to the "1972 Constitution," which was "approved" by the Constitutional Convention after all the anti Marcos delegates had been arrested under martial law, the National Assembly would be the highest decision making body in the country. Patterned after a parliament, the National Assembly was to be immediately convened by the president upon the "constitution's" ratification by the people.

To circumvent this legal fetter, which stood in the way of his scheme for absolute and indefinite power, Marcos held a mock plebiscite on Jan. 17, 1973. This plebiscite, which employed widespread fraud and deception, reportedly empowered Marcos with the right to convene the Assembly only when he deemed it necessary.

The outcome of this plebiscite was vigorously opposed by many incumbent senators and congressmen and was even challenged by ex-Sen. Lorenzo Tanada in the Supreme Court. While the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the plebiscite, its results were by and large discredited and considered illegal and therefore did not give Marcos's undemocratic rule the legal semblance he sought.



Empty session halls are what remains of city and municipal councils since they were abolished by Pres. Marcos to make way for the Sangguniang Bayan and Sangguniang Pambansa.

This however did not end the question of the Assembly. In a recent statement by Macapagal, the former president said the interim National Assembly could still be automatically convened in the event the president died. Marcos however, not to be outdone, has nullified this provision with the issuance of a secret succession decree that would ensure the continuation of martial law in the event he dies or becomes incapacitated.

OPPOSITIONISTS OUTNUMBERED BY MARCOS PUPPETS

Despite Macapagal's fruitless efforts, the formation of the Sangguniang Pambansa provoked protests among some SB delegates. Carlos Lozada, an SB member from Surigao del Norte, denounced the Sangguniang Pambansa's formation as both illegal and unconstitutional. He cited Article 27 of the "1972 Constitution" which states that the Nat'l. Assembly, during this interim period, already exists by virtue of its membership (mostly ex-Constitutional Convention delegates) which has been determined and guaranteed by the "1972 Constitution." Through creating another national body, said Lozada, the functions of the National Assembly is either replicated or undermined.

Cesar Lucero, a former Manila councilor and SB member, reinforced Lozada's argument, adding that the "1972 Constitution" must be implemented, including the provision that the National Assembly should be convened.

These protests however, were overridden by the majority of SB delegates who upheld the president's decision, clearly reaffirming the puppet nature of Marcos's so-called "democratic" legislative body. □

Nationwide Pickets Protest Mass Arrests

Emergency pickets were held in front of Philippine Consulates all over the country on February 6th and February 10th in Washington to protest the recent massive wave of repression in the Philippines.

The protest activities, called by the national *Anti Martial Law Coalition (Philippines)*, demanded a stop to the arrests, the release of 500 political prisoners arrested in the last two weeks, and the lifting of the news blackout imposed by the Marcos regime.

In *New York* a mass meeting held on Wednesday evening February 4th to discuss the emergency situation in the Philippines was followed by a picket on February 10th. Participants in the picket included members of the *New York Anti Martial Law Alliance*, *Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP)* and *Movement for Free Philippines*, as well as representatives from various fraternal organizations. Among them were the *American Indian Movement*, *North American Indian Treaty Council*, *Youth Against War and Fascism*, *Congress of African People*, *National Lawyers Guild*, and *New York Womens School*.

In *Honolulu* a militant confrontation between demonstrators and Filipino officials took place on the lawn of the Philippine Consulate at the Pali Highway. Police made several attempts to evict the demonstrators from the Consulate grounds — but they were only successful when they called in reinforcements. After the picket the demonstrators marched in the midst of driving rain to the Philippine Airlines office in Waikiki, where they staged another picket. The protests were mobilized by

members of the *Honolulu Anti Martial Law Coalition*, who drove around in a jeep visiting Chinatown and other Filipino residential areas to announce the demonstration.

Sixty picketers converged at the Philippine Consulate in *Seattle* at 1:30 p.m. on February 6. Consulate officials yielded to a demand to meet a delegation from the *Seattle September 22 Committee* and later agreed to transmit the delegations's demands to Malacanang Palace.

After the picket the participants marched through downtown *Seattle* to the International District, where a rally attended by some 100 people was held. Speeches were delivered by Sissy Asis of the *September 22 Committee* and Chris Mensalves, a Filipino labor leader. In her speech, Asis asserted, that the recent crackdown is the result of massive protests against martial law in the Philippines; and actually reflects the weakness of the regime. "Even in the face of fascist repression in Manila where the military is strongest," she noted, "popular protest cannot be contained." Solidarity messages were also given by several participating groups including the *Non-Intervention in Chile Committee*, *El Centro de la Raza*, and *Alaska Cannery Workers Association*.

Around 40 people from the *Chicago Anti Martial Law Alliance* and sympathizing organizations staged a one hour picket before the Philippine Consulate in *Chicago*. The event was covered by the *Chicago* mass media with a picture of the picket appearing in the *Chicago Daily News*.

In *Los Angeles*, a spirited group of 70 people picketed the Philippine consulate from 4 to 6 p.m.,



In *Los Angeles*, the militant picket in front of the Philippine Consulate office forced the consulate to close early.

forcing the consulate to shut down early. Participating organizations included the *National Committee for the Restoration of Civil Liberties* in the Philippines and the *Union of Democratic Filipinos*.

Over 70 people held a militant picket in front of the *San Francisco* Philippine Consulate on Sutter Street, after holding a brief rally in Union Square. Rev. Gustave Schultz, a Lutheran minister, spoke of the need for the American people to support the Filipino people's struggle against the repressive Marcos regime. Estella Habal, from the *Union of Democratic Filipinos*, stressed the leading role of workers in the recent protests in Manila. Annatess Araneta, speaking for the local anti martial law al-

(continued on page 4)