

Ang KATIPUNAN

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VICTORY FOR DEMOCRATIC, PROGRESSIVE FORCES

New Elections Ordered For FACLA



editorial page 6

Carson Patrol guard, hired by San Jose, stands ready to take FACLA's ballot boxes during the Dec. 4 elections, and later 10 armed security men took the boxes at gunpoint. L.A. Superior Court Judge Holmes cited such action as grounds to call new elections. Story on page 8.

WESTINGHOUSE PAYMENTS

R.P. Nuclear Reactor Criticized

A battle of the nuclear experts erupted in Manila last month. Two scientists arrived in the country within the space of one week expressing vastly divergent views on the nuclear reactor purchased by the Philippine government from Westinghouse, Inc. for \$1.1 billion. As the debate unfolded, it became clear that the exposure of irregularities surrounding the sale has embarrassed the Philippine government and raised fears within Westinghouse that it may lose a juicy contract (see related story).

Dr. Daniel Ford, Executive Director of the Union of Concerned Scientists, a Massachusetts-based group committed to nuclear safety, sent a letter to President Ferdinand E. Marcos last Feb. 13 warning of "200 major" technical problems in the plant under construction in Morong Bataan.

Ford had stopped in Manila on a trip through Asia which touched Korea, Taiwan, Japan and Thailand, to warn of the dangers of the nuclear

reactors currently being sold to Asian nations. He said that not only were the plants unsafe, but "overall, U.S. nuclear plants spend as much time shut down as operating at full power."

PRODUCT DUMPING

The nuclear-safety advocate pointed out that the rash of sales in Asia and the rest of the Third World come at a time when nuclear energy development in the industrialized countries has been nearly halted by citizen's protests over nuclear hazards. The multinational nuclear industry, dominated worldwide by General Electric and Westinghouse, has turned increasingly to Third World markets in a classic case of product dumping. But in this case the product is not merely last year's design of T.V. sets or an unmarketable oversupply of electric shavers, but an extremely expensive commodity which has

(continued on page 5)

Regime Gears Up For April Elections



Imelda distributing sacks of rice to loyal followers of the Metro Manila Commission, an indication of how April elections will be conducted. Story on page 4.

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Buod ng mga Balita

[NEWS SUMMARIES]

U.P. Editor And President Die

Two respected anti-martial law figures Abraham "Ditto" Sarmiento and former U.P. president Vidal Tan, died recently. Sarmiento died of a heart attack last Nov. 11 at the age of 27. According to the U.P. Collegian on which he served as editor:

"He left behind a legacy of dedication to the goals of national liberation. At the time of his death, he had lived a full life that spanned years of service to his people, and months spent in detention."

Sarmiento served seven months in jail. An autopsy after his death revealed that his already failing health was aggravated by detention.

Dr. Vidal Tan, respected educator and signatory of many protest statements against martial law, died February 7, after a long illness. Tan wrote his own obituary which briefly read:

"Let not my friends send flowers whose fragrance and beauty I shall no longer enjoy, but tell them to remember the mindless that languish in their dungeon of despair."

Rid our hapless country of rulers unworthy to lead; teach our people to choose good and wise men, that peace and happiness may soon be theirs." □

Traitor Expelled From MNLF

A spokesman for the Moro National Liberation Front recently announced the expulsion of Hashim Salamat, a former central committee member, for allegedly conspiring with Philippine government authorities to undermine the MNLF leadership.

Hatimil Hassen, MNLF representative, said he received word that Salamat was expelled following the discovery of documents in Salamat's possession "urging the rank and file to surrender to the Philippine government."

Meanwhile, military authorities have reported a conflicting version of the incident to confuse and split the ranks of the MNLF fighters in Mindanao. Salamat and Nur Misuari, chairman of the MNLF are based in the Middle East. According to a Defense Dept. statement, Misuari was the one deposed and Salamat is on his way to assuming the MNLF top position. Observers, however, believe the government version to be untrue. The publicity and favorable coverage of Salamat's statements in the Manila press have led many to believe the MNLF's charge that he was colluding with the Marcos regime for some time.

In a related development, Rear Admiral Romeo Espaldon has issued a warrant of arrest for PC Colonel Eriberto Miraflores who went AWOL (absent without leave) in Mindanao since Dec. 12, 1977. This development comes on the heels of growing reports of army demoralization in Mindanao. □

San Juan Squatters Battle Police

Approximately 300 families in Pingalaban, San Juan, were involved in a tense confrontation with police and demolition teams last Jan. 24 (photo and caption were carried in AK, Vol. 5, No. 3) who occupied 6,000 square meters of land near the Order of St. Augustine Convent and the Pinaglabanan National Shrine, rejected several orders to move off the land which they had lived on for 40 years. Despite their willingness to relocate if a suitable site was found, combined elements of the Metrocom, San Juan Police, Quezon City and Caloocan police arrived full force on the morning of January 10, to demolish their homes.

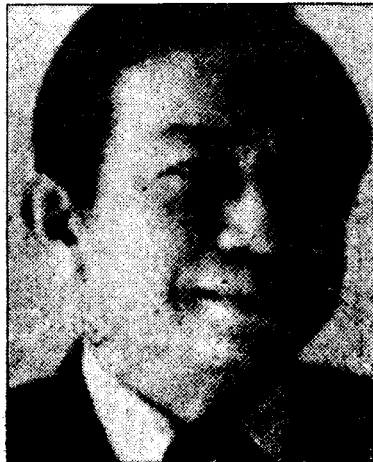
To prevent their entry into the area, the residents formed a human barricade: children in the front, women behind and the men in the rear. Across from the defenseless children and women, stood numerous Metrocom in full battle attire along with firetrucks. Water hoses were turned on the children and women whose ranks broke loose due to the impact of the water. Simultaneously, the military hurled rocks and swung truncheons at the women and children. Angered and outraged, the men began to hurl stones back at the military. Several were wounded on both sides.

In the thick of the encounter, one Col. Karingal entered the area and called for a dialogue. This, however, was a diversionary tactic for when the men settled down to discuss the matter, the demolition squad gained entry and began operations. The families were finally forced to disperse and seek temporary shelter from relatives and the religious. They have shunned Mayor Joseph Estrada's offer that they each occupy 3-4 square meter lots near the Pinaglabanan shrine. The families contend that even if they accepted such a ridiculously measly offer, the mayor has not guaranteed their permanent stay there. □

Marcos Stages Anti-American Puppet Show



The Malacanang chorus — Valencia, Tanedo, Granada — cried CONSPIRACY! over U.S. coverage of the Disini scandal. (DE, MJ photos)



Ferdinand Marcos is once again throwing a tantrum at his U.S. benefactors. And, as usual, when Ferdinand is mad, he stages a little performance, starring the tried and true cast of characters: himself and Imelda as stars, selected Cabinet members in supporting roles, and a chorus composed of the Malacanang press corps.

The string of revelations of government graft and corruption, in particular, the expose concerning kickbacks paid to Imelda's cousin and Ferdinand's golfing partner, Herminio Disini in the Westinghouse nuclear reactor deal, clearly caught Marcos with his pants down before the international public. In response, Marcos unleashed the press corps chorus which raised a howl of protest. As usual, the cry of the likes of Doroy Valencia, Vicente Tanedo, Ernie Granada, et al, was CONSPIRACY! The New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, and Time were out to get the Marcos regime. Tanedo in his "righteous" anger early last February even proposed that the regime undertake a media counteroffensive. Then lo and behold, two weeks later, the news leaked out that Marcos actually had hired an American public relations firm to upgrade its image in the U.S. for a healthy \$1.8 million. (See related story.)

Imelda, the diplomat and world traveler, who had been waiting in the wings, trotted out to center stage to speak her piece. If the U.S. was so uptight about completing the nuclear reactor, she threatened, the Soviet Union was more than willing to finish the job.

This fearsome threat evoked no response whatsoever from the various parties concerned except a "no comment" from the Soviet embassy.

ANTI-U.S. JIBES

There was more to Ferdie's pique, however, than just annoyance over the reactor deal. Observers of U.S.-R.P. relations have reported indications that attempts to negotiate a new R.P.-U.S. trade treaty have met with repeated snags causing both sides to proffer not so subtle jibes at each other. Marcos' threat last month was the proposed new patent law, which, if ever enforced, would cramp the profits of multinational firms doing business in the Philippines (see AK, Feb. 16-28, 1978).

Not content with the threat of the patent law, which, observers point out, will be impossible to enforce, last week Marcos unleashed yet another broadside against the U.S. business community.

As the treaty chorus went back into action last Feb. 10, all major newspapers bannered: U.S. Landholdings Facing Seizure. It sounded like a fiercely anti-American move as the papers blustered that Marcos had ordered "supporting actor," Solicitor General, Estelito P. Mendoza, "to file seizure proceedings against lands still held by Americans in violation of the Constitution."

Three days later, Asian Wall Street Journal correspondent Michael Malloy reported: "... inquiries over the weekend make it clear that there was much more bark than bite behind the front-page stories that appeared

simultaneously in all of Manila's leading dailies." Malloy continued by revealing that: 1) "There is little or no American owned land in the Philippines;" and 2) "The stories were based on a two month old presidential decree which has so little practical effect that officials at the U.S. Embassy and the local American Chamber of Commerce, didn't know it existed."

HOT AIR

With the expiration of parity rights in 1974, Americans lost the right to own property in the Philippines. Numerous means were set up, however, to sidestep the problem, principally the setting up of dummy corporations with 60 per cent Philippine ownership from which the multinationals lease land at token figures. In fact, Malloy discovered that no one among the foreign community is in any way affected by this latest order — in other words, it is pure hot air.

Some observers have been baffled by this latest string of anti-American skits by the Malacanang puppet troupe; particularly, since the same cast continues to go out of its way to court the very figures it villifies. Just last Feb. 21, after Marcos' recent mock anti-American crusade, Imelda invited the hated international press corps, which is supposedly conspiring to destroy her husband, for a cruise aboard the presidential yacht. Complaining about attacks in the American press upon her and her husband for human rights violations, she insisted, "History will show that the President of the United States can find no better ally than us." □

Forums On U.S. Bases Set For March

NEW YORK — The Anti-Martial Law Coalition (AMLC) has announced that nationwide forums and house-meetings on the subject of U.S. Bases and their Role in the Philippines will be held this March. Local Anti-Martial Law Alliances (AMLA's) in major U.S. cities are sponsoring these activities in implementation of the U.S. Bases Withdrawal Resolution unanimously passed during last November's AMLC Conference.

Below is a list of places where gatherings will take place:
CHICAGO: Christian Fellowship

Church, 912 W. Sheridan Rd., March 11, 7:30 p.m., contact Eddie 312-327-2452.

NEW YORK: Church Center of the U.N., 777 United Nations Plaza, March 4, 1:00 p.m., Contact Rene or Don Luce (212) 951-6283 or 672-8203.

WASHINGTON, D.C.: Kay Spiritual Life Center, American University, March 5, 4:00 p.m., Contact Inday (202) 686-2385 or Sam (703) 528-7399.

PHILADELPHIA: Contact Baby (215) 387-1487.

HAWAII: Contact Dean (808) 841-7279.

LOS ANGELES: First Unitarian Church, 8th St. and Vermont Ave., March 11, Contact Vince (213) 484-2462.

SAN DIEGO: Our Lady of Angels Church, 656 24th St., March 10, 7:30 p.m., contact Vicky (714) 263-9770.

SAN FRANCISCO: Mission Cultural Center, 25th St. and Mission, March 18, 7:30 p.m., contact Ruby, (415) 482-3467.

EAST BAY: Wood School, Alameda, Grand St. in Alameda, March 17, 7:30 p.m., contact Ruby (415) 482-3467. □

APRIL 7th R.P. NATIONAL ELECTIONS

Opposition Joins Race



Like father, like son; Bongbong Marcos launches political career April 7, running for the Ilocos Norte seat to the Batasang Pambansa. [MJ photo]

We are running the opposition's position on the coming elections. This section of the urban opposition is running in the elections despite its inherent limitations. A majority of the opposition has refused to participate in this exercise, dismissing it as a one-horse race." — Editor.

Opposition and pro-Marcos candidates are gearing up for an electoral race, that is appearing to undermine Marcos' scheme for the April 7 elections to the interim national assembly. Pres. Marcos has billed the April 7 elections, the first to be held under martial law, as a step towards the return of political normalcy. The procedures for the elections and functions of the national assembly, however, support oppositionists' claims that the entire proceedings are a farce designed to give martial law a semblance of democracy.

Opposition groups have reversed their earlier position of non-participation in the elections. The Lakas ng Bayan Party, headed by imprisoned senator Benigno Aquino, has announced the candidacy of 21 opposition figures in Metro Manila. LABAN will confine its participation to Metro Manila, having neither the party machinery nor significant support in outlying regions. Among those in LABAN's line-up race: former senators Soc Rodrigo and Ernesto Maceda; Constitutional Convention delegates Napoleon Rama and Aquilino Pimentel; Tondo leader Trinidad Herrera, former student leader Jerry Barican, and former Commission on Elections chief Jaime Ferrer. LABAN is contesting 21 Metro Manila slots from the Kilusan ng Bagong Lipunan Party, headed by Imelda Marcos.

Explaining their turnabout, LABAN spokesmen said it did not expect their candidates to win, but the 45 day campaign period affords them the chance to speak to the people against martial law.

Opposition Liberal Party chief, Gerardo Roxas, also said that while the LP would not field candidates, it would participate in public meetings as a "symbolic gesture" to underscore the farcical nature of the elections. The Civil Liberties Union on the other hand, has altogether refused to participate in either race or campaign period.

FACADE WEARING THIN

Meanwhile, the regime's attempts to project the impending elections as an honest, and democratic undertaking, is wearing thin. Initially, as a gesture of good faith to the opposition, Marcos conceded to seven of their ten demands on how the elections should be conducted. However, he has adamantly refused to concede to three of the most important demands, namely: the elimination of block voting, withholding of public funds for the duration of the campaign, and the disqualification of cabinet officials who intend to run. Offering a lame excuse for the blatantly unfair block voting system, Marcos said that the illiterate and marginally literate could not possibly remember and write down all the names of the candidates. Block voting or the one-vote-one-party system, he claims, simplifies the election procedure for them.

Further weakening the credibility of the elections, Marcos has fielded his wife, Imelda (with thousands supposedly clamoring for her candidacy) and his son BongBong to run in Ilocos Norte. In another statement, Marcos strengthened critics' claims that the entire exercise is a publicity gimmick. Although Marcos has projected the National Assembly as an independent and legitimate legislature, he recently said he would shorten the Assembly's life from six to three years, "if emergencies warranted its dissolution." □

3 Bicutan Prisoners Escape

"Prison walls are paper walls" - this line from a rousing prison song captures the determination of political prisoners not to let captivity dampen their spirits. On Dec. 24 of last year, three political prisoners from the Bicutan Rehabilitation Center, turned this line into reality by staging both clever and daring escapes.

The three, Eugenia Magpantay, Agaton Topacio and Alfonso Abrazado, were all victims of torture and had been imprisoned for more than two years. Topacio and Magpantay, escaped after securing

Christmas eve passes to spend the holidays with their relatives. Although under the watchful eyes of their guard-escort, the two managed to elude their guard and rejoin the revolutionary underground in Manila.

Abrazado also took advantage of the "Christmas spirit." Inviting a prison guard to join him in a drinking binge, Abrazado managed to get his guest so drunk that by the time the guard was sober, Abrazado had long been gone. Later, Abrazado sent word to his comrades in prison that he had joined the revolutionary armed struggle in the countryside.

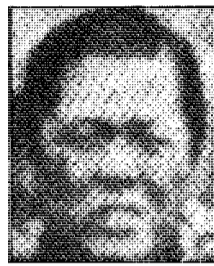
These daring escapes made Christmas '77 an especially memorable one for Bicutan detainees.

Meanwhile, for the occupants of the thick-walled dark and damp bartolina (isolation) cells of Bicutan, the Christmas season also brought some measure of happiness. Believed, of those captured with CPP Chairman Jose Ma. Sison last Nov. 8, the bartolina inmates were saluted with a rendition of the Internationale on Dec. 25, the ninth anniversary of the rectification and reestablishment of the Communist Party of the Philippines. Their "serenaders," the less restricted prisoners of Bicutan, said that the bartolina inmates responded by waving their arms and clenching their fists from their small barred windows. □

Sets Record Straight

Diokno: 'Not Running In Sham Elections'

To correct any wrong impressions that may have been created by the story in today's issue of *Bulletin Today*, attributed to Senator Jovito R. Salonga the statement that I "may also run" in the coming so-called elections, I would like to state that:



1. Unlike the others mentioned in the statement, I am not and never have been a member of the Liberal Party; and I am not a member of their movement (Kabaka).

2. I do not intend to "run." I respect the views of others, but my personal opinion is that the coming "polls" are sham elections intended, not to dismantle, but to disguise martial law, creating a sham democracy to deceive our people and the world, and to further, not only the interests of the martial law administration, but also the economic, military, and political interests of the government of the United States, at the expense of the welfare of our people. I want no part in such a fraud.

3. I do not shrink from service to the people. But I have no desire to serve the martial law administration nor to exercise any official power, no matter how small, under martial law. I believe I can best serve our people by continuing to do what I have been doing since my release from detention in September, 1974.

Makati, Rizal
Jan. 25, 1978
Jose W. Diokno

\$1.8 Million For Marcos' P.R. Campaign

A major public relations campaign is being planned by the Marcos dictatorship to improve its sagging international image. Doremus, a New York based public relations firm, has been commissioned by the Marcos government "to improve the image of the Republic of the Philippines in the United States" with a \$1.8 million contract.

The contract signed for the Philippine government by Central Bank Gov. Gregorio Lizaros, calls for a budget of \$460,500 for the first year, \$620,000 for the second year, and \$730,00 for the third year. Doremus will receive \$900,000 for professional services fees for the three year period.

The public relations campaign aims to build support and understanding for the policies and objectives of the Philippine government in the American press, with the U.S. government and in the academic community. It also aims to assist in the economic development of the Philippines by attracting private investment support, promote tourism, and monitor information about the Philippines and correct "misinformation" when it occurs.

To carry these out, Doremus plans to utilize the U.S. press and broadcast media, specifically "the highly respected daily and weekly newspapers across the country and in news magazines, business periodicals, and travel and trade publications. Filipino social organizations will also be tapped to sponsor receptions, forums, and other activities for visiting Philippine officials. American businessmen and educators will also be approached on behalf of the Philippine government in TV or radio programs.

Justifying the campaign, Doremus said "...considerable evidence exists that the present government is widely misunderstood in the U.S. press, government, and intellectual communities..." With these words, Doremus joins the Philippine Consular offices' role as official apologist for the Marcos dictatorship in the U.S. □

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BLOCK VOTING: LOADED DICE

[The following are excerpts from an open letter to Marcos, issued by prominent individuals to protest the block voting procedure in the upcoming elections. Among the signatories to this letter are Fr. Pacifico Ortiz, S.J., former Commission on Elections chairman Jaime Ferrer, former Manila Times publisher Alejandro Roces, Atty. Charito Planas, U.P. instructor Behn Cervantes, and Atty. Jerry Barican. — Editor]

In its final session last January 27, the Batasan Bayan passed an amendment to the Electoral Code, allowing block-voting in the coming elections for the interim Batasan Pambansa (National Assembly). This amendment, if embodied by the President into the electoral code, would deal a death blow to the spirit of fair play, which is the heart of the electoral process in a democracy.

Block voting, even if optional, is nothing more than loading the political dice in favor of that block that has the greater organization; and as dispenser of political and economic favors, it can command means to persuade, titillate or coerce people to vote for a given party. For under block voting, cheating through ballots is not only made temptingly easy; it can be done in a massive way — not by the names but by the blocks of names. By simply changing "LP" to "NP" or writing a particular name on the ballot, votes for the candidate of the block voted-party, are invalidated.

Under the block voting system, no minority senatorial slate has ever won—even such a political giant as Recto was snowed under the least known political pygmy of the majority slate under Quirino. And the reason is clear: the majority party has the power and the organization to protect itself against cheating; the minority party had nothing to rely on but the majority party's sense of fair play. And that sense of fair play goes out the window when block voting comes in the front door.

There is not a single party or combination of parties, that can remotely match in power, money, and organization, the political party over which the President presides.

GENUINE OPPOSITION WILL RUN

There will be no lack of opposition candidates of

April 7 Preview: Public Funds Used To Tempt Voters



Imelda distributes sacks labeled "Christmas gifts" of rice to loyal supporters. [DE photo]

Pres. Marcos is still refusing to consent to the Liberal Party's demand that public works funds be withheld for the duration of the elections. As all elections under the Marcos administration have proven, public works funds are indispensable to landslide victories. And the dictator would definitely not pass the chance of winning by a wider margin, even if it meant buying votes with handouts, promotions, favors and local projects. Reports on the aftermath of last December's referendum clearly illustrated Marcos' penchant for influence-peddling, despite the fact that the referendum's outcome was guaranteed to favor him. The December splurge also gives a preview of what to expect in the April elections.

every hue and variety, some of them encouraged, if not set up, by the party in power itself, to further split and weaken the genuine opposition. Let us beware of them. Genuine opposition candidates, who, despite all odds may dare to run, will do so under no illusions of easy victory. They will do so solely in response to the civic duty to move this country towards democratic normalization. For no nation can call itself democratic that does not have an elected legislative body; and in that body, a genuine opposition, no matter how small to start with, shall try to prevent unresisted power from corrupting absolutely. They will do so with nothing to sustain them but their faith in the Filipino: the trembling faith and hope that somewhere, somehow in this noble land of ours, there will be enough brave men whose souls long held in

Unlike their pre-martial law vote buying schemes, this time the First Couple chose to award loyal constituencies after the voting took place. According to Icthyus, a religious newsletter, Pasy and Muntinglupa were each given P500,000 in local development funds for their feat in scoring the highest percentage of "yes" votes last Dec. 17.

Meanwhile, in her own special way of saying thanks, Metro Manila Governor and First Lady Imelda Marcos, distributed Sony transistor radios to barangay captains of 13 municipalities. The following day, at a meeting with the Barangay Women's Auxilliary Brigade, calculators were distributed. The "lessors"—officers of Tanod (disaster, traffic, ad work brigades) had to make do with cigarette lighters.

For the luckier ones who were at the Marcos-sponsored "miting de Avance" on voting day, sacks of rice and other goodies awaited them. Luckier still were those civil servants immediately promoted after the vote. The First Couple termed those dole-outs "Christmas gifts." It is hard to recall a Christmas when they were as generous.

Recently, Pres. Marcos sternly warned against pork-barreling [dipping into public funds for campaign purposes] in the upcoming elections. The question is: who controls the pork barrel? Since the dictator who controls the purse strings has been the worst offender, the warning has a hollow ring to it. □

a trance under martial law, will be awakened by a spark of electoral freedom, and listening to the voice of their conscience, will make a deliberate free choice at the polls to give our country what it needs most at the time: a few independent members in the Batasan Pambansa, who would speak up for the unheard minority and for the unlistened masses of our people, and let the world know.

CALL FOR FAIR PLAY

We call, therefore, on the President, for once, in this historic moment in the life of our country, to stand squarely for the principle of fair play. First to reject the Batasan Bayan's proposal for the adoption of the block voting system. Second, to preserve the time-tested policy of banning all use of public work funds two months before election day to minimize political corruption.

The President's response to these questions will be the acid test of the sincerity of his desire to bring this country back to democratic normalization. Every man and woman in this country, and we dare say, every country in the world that believes in democracy, have their eyes focused on the decision of the president.

We pray that for once, he will strike for fair play and leave the block-voting corpse (to use Sec. Tatad's phrase) "buried in the tomb of the Liberal Party," of which he was once a member in the days of the old society.

As the elder said: "Why should we be fed, what was vomited by the old society?" □

CLARK URGES U.S. AID CUT OFF TO R.P. AND THAILAND



Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark tours Tondo during Aug. 1977 visit. Clark has criticized continued U.S. military aid to the regime. [AK photo]

Former Attorney General Ramsey Clark called for a cut-off of U.S. military aid to the Philippines and Thailand because of abuses of human rights in those countries. Reuters news-service reported, Feb. 16, Mr. Clark told a congressional hearing that President Carter's human rights policy should not be selective and that "strategic considerations" will destroy the power of moral force in the human rights policy."

The former attorney general in the administration of Pres. Lyndon Johnson was testifying to a House International Relations Subcommittee headed by Minnesota Democrat Donald Fraser, who has held dozens of hearings on U.S. policy on human rights around the world. Mr. Clark visited the Philippines as part of a U.S.

investigative mission sponsored by the Friends of the Filipino People and the Anti-Martial Law Coalition. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Robert Oakley said the human rights situation in the Philippines has been an important consideration in determining the level of aid.

However, it was through the efforts of Rep. Yvonne Burke (Dem.-Cal.), and not the State Dept., that U.S. military aid to the Philippines was cut by eight per cent last year. Despite the State Dept.'s acknowledgement that there are still serious human rights violations in the Philippines, it has continued to recommend the same level of aid (\$40 million) for the Marcos regime.

Oakley added that the State Department was encouraged by recent published reports from Manila indicating the government was acting to curb the use of torture by security officials. The Philippine Dept. of National Defense has reportedly launched a crackdown on erring military personnel, auspiciously timed to coincide with the release of the State Department's annual human rights report last month. The crackdown however, is limited to local police and army elements, and has left untouched intelligence operatives who are responsible for perpetuating torture.

Oakley said that U.S. military aid and the two U.S. bases in the Philippines—Subic Naval Base and Clark Airbase—have been regarded as complementary and important considerations to U.S.-R.P. security.

Clark said he did not believe the Philippine bases were necessary to American security and added, "if tyranny of the Philippine people in the price of the bases we cannot afford it." □

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Long Committee Exposes Irregularities

EXIM Bank And Westinghouse Deal Investigated



By VICTORIA LUNA

"Is it no problem to you that this [nuclear reactor] plant is being built near five volcanoes?" Asked Rep. Clarence Long (D-Md.) of John L. Moore, Pres. of the U.S. Export-Import Bank (Eximbank) in Washington, D.C. last February 8.

Long, Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations was attempting to uncover Eximbank's role as main financial backer in the Westinghouse-Philippine reactor controversy.

Moore's answers to questions such as this were vague and inadequate, prompting Long several days later to schedule a new series of hearing on the \$1.1 billion nuclear reactor sold to the Philippines by Westinghouse for next April. The ultimate goal of the hearings is to stop much of the

building of the reactor altogether by forcing the Nuclear Regulations Commission (NRC) to deny Westinghouse an export license for the plants.

Prior to the subcommittee's hearings, the best-known aspect of the reactor deal had been "improper payments," polite congressional language for bribes, which are widely known in the Philippines to have been paid by Westinghouse to Marcos crony Herminio Disini. Though the Long hearings addressed themselves to this question, they also brought out the lesser known issue of Eximbank's role as well.

In its largest transaction to date, Eximbank bank supplied \$272.2 million in direct loans and \$367.2 in loan credits to the Philippine government to purchase the reactor. Long's committee probed Eximbank's questionable relationships and uncovered numerous irregularities with both Westing-

house and the U.S. State Dept. Among the anomalies revealed:

•In June 1974, while the Philippine government was still debating whether to purchase a plant from General Electric or Westinghouse, a Philippine team arrived in Washington to discuss financing with Eximbank. The team was shocked to find Westinghouse representatives sitting in the same room with them. "It gave you a feeling a deal had been made," one member later said.

•Though Eximbank made its commitment to finance the purchase in Oct. 1974 without seeing Westinghouse's formal bid. This was presented in March 1975.

•Then U.S. Ambassador William Sullivan had an inordinate interest in the transaction. He cabled Eximbank that, "The Embassy consider(s) a good deal of American prestige riding on the Westinghouse deal and . . . we intend to watch the project closely.

•Eximbank guaranteed \$367.2 million in Philippine government bonds. This is the first time the bank has ever guaranteed the bonds of a foreign corporation sold on the U.S. market.

•Eximbank never questioned the fact that the price quoted by Westinghouse for the reactor increased by over 400 per cent between 1974 and 1975.

•Eximbank did not require that the reactor meet any set of safety standards.

•Eximbank allowed the loan funds to be disbursed before Westinghouse had received an export license for the plant from the NRC.

The hearings touched on other key areas as well, including the plant's inadequate protection against earthquakes; the inappropriateness of a massive and highly expensive nuclear reactor in a developing country; and local resistance to the reactor which was quickly suppressed by the military with threats of arrests.

Eximbank has now begun directing all questions about the Bataan plant to its general counsel Warren W. Glick. Glick was recently questioned by New York Times reporter Anne Crittendon on why the bank had committed itself to a project for which the cost was so unstable and the final price higher than any equivalent nuclear project anywhere in the world. "The Eximbank is going to say the price is wrong when the two big boys (Westinghouse and the Philippines) have agreed to it?" Glick curtly responded.

Crittendon questioned other current and former bank officials. When asked about the staggering cost, one answered, "you couldn't tell Westinghouse what to charge. If they charge too much, the Philippines has to pay it . . . [The Filipinos] have to protect themselves from getting fleeced. We can't run the world for them." □

Nuclear Reactor...

(continued from front page)

been deemed intolerably dangerous by citizens of industrialized countries.

Frustrated at the end of his stay by the refusal of Philippine nuclear officials to return his phone calls, Ford commented, "... it is a complete tragedy to sell this technology at enormous cost when you know damn well it is all screwed up. The Ex-Im (Export-Import) Bank makes it very easy [by providing easy financing]: You don't have to spend any money, you just have to mortgage your future."

ENTER WESTINGHOUSE

Less than one week later, Westinghouse, in an unprecedented move, brought its own expert to Manila to counter Ford's comments. Ian A. Forbes of the Energy Research Group, Inc., a private consulting firm, had been asked to undertake a one-and-a-half month "independent" assessment of the Bataan project.

After only two days in the country, however, Forbes, with Westinghouse Vice President Walter S. Wigus called a press conference. "I was invited out here specifically to respond to charges made... to President Marcos," he announced. He then proceeded to rebut Ford's major points one by one with Wigus' assistance.

Forbes, unlike Ford, had no difficulty achieving access to government officials. A strong supporter of nuclear energy, Forbes announced, "I have been complaining, loudly, that nuclear manufacturers like Westinghouse stay too quiet against the accusations that are made against them." When Westinghouse asked him to drop everything and join the fray in the Philippines (at \$40 an hour), he added, "I decided to put my working hours where my mouth is." □

CLUP Statement On Human Rights

The following is the first part of a serial on the Civil Liberties Union of the Philippines statement on human rights and martial law. — Editor.

Today is Human Rights Day. As the world observes the 29th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Civil Liberties Union of the Philippines (CLUP) cannot but express strong condemnation of:

First, the continued imposition of martial law in our country, now in the third month of its sixth year, because martial law, by its very nature, does not respect human rights; at best it simply tolerates them for some persons and on some occasions; and

Second, the reliance that many of our people—including some opposition leaders, have placed on the human rights policy of U.S. President Carter's administration, because that policy merely serves to conceal the real policy of the U.S. government towards the Philippines and other underdeveloped countries of the world.

GLITTERING RHETORIC IS NOT ENOUGH

Both President Marcos' martial law administration and U.S. President Carter's administration have proclaimed their "commitment to human rights": the former as "an irrevocable one;" the latter as "absolute." But human rights are not protected by glittering rhetoric.

Not even law alone is enough.

SOCIAL MECHANISMS ARE REQUIRED

Social institutions must exist that foster human rights through mechanisms by which the people may publicly air their grievances against the

government; secure an impartial, fair and fearless hearing of their grievances; and remove from government those who use the powers of the State to violate the rights of the people.

In a democracy, those mechanisms take the form of a free press and freedom of association and assembly; a judiciary and a courageous, upright bar; and free and honest elections of representatives of the people.

Without such mechanisms or adequate substitutes, all talk about human rights is both a snare and a delusion.

MARTIAL LAW HAS DESTROYED MECHANISMS

Martial law has destroyed all those mechanisms and replaced them with their shadows: a controlled press, for a free press; compulsory cooperatives (samahans) and neighborhood associations (barangays), for free people's organizations; government organized parades and meetings, for people's rallies and demonstrations; a judiciary without tenure, for an independent judiciary; military commissions, for civilian courts; and farcical referenda, for free elections.

The results have been predictable: massive arbitrary arrests; widespread maltreatment and torture of detainees; exploitation of labor; disregard of the cultural values of ethnic minorities; oppression of disadvantaged slum dwellers; suppression of student protests; and many other violations of human rights.

The martial law administration's "irrevocable commitment to human rights" is, in fact, pure mockery.

TO BE CONTINUED

Editorial

New FACLA Elections

WE MUST BE VIGILANT, ORGANIZED

By JAIME GEAGA, Chairperson — KDP Southern California Region

Last week a Los Angeles county judge ordered new elections for FACLA (Filipino-American community of Los Angeles)—this time under the court's supervision. This decision marks an important advance for the democratic-minded forces in FACLA. At the same time it was a stunning upset for the reactionary San Jose camp, one which is undoubtedly being felt all the way back to Malacanang Palace.

The Filipino community of Los Angeles has now been given another chance to forge a more democratic and progressive organization out of FACLA. But it would be foolish of us to be lulled into thinking it will be "easy" from here on. San Jose has proven himself time and again to be a shrewd and cunning man, enjoying "powerful connections," and willing to rule by manipulation and outright terror if the need arises. In short, he has been knocked down, but is not yet knocked out.

In this light, it would be useful for us to recall our previous experience with the San Jose camp and learn the lessons well.

Even as this year's elections approached, there were signs of trouble—San Jose had already gained much notoriety in his first election campaign, outstripping all his opponents in vote-buying with thousands of dollars. Since then his administration over the last year was marked by an unprecedented height of arbitrary decisions and undemocratic procedures. Apparently, schooled in the Marcos tradition of "public administration," it surprised no one that San Jose would use the power of his position to conduct unscrupulous electoral fraud this year in order to ensure his retention of power.

Where many people were caught off guard was rather the extent of the fraud and intimidation in which he was prepared to engage. Not only did he scale new heights in the vote-buying schemes of past elections, but he instituted the most flagrant methods of ballot box stuffing, with hundreds more ballots cast than registered voters, and topped it off with the entrance of gunmen onto the scene to forcibly steal the ballot boxes, count the ballots in private and return to a shocked L.A. community with the results . . . San Jose wins again!

At that point, San Jose shamelessly smashed whatever pretense of democracy was left in FACLA. He arrogantly declared himself the winner, installed his own cabinet, changed all the locks in the community center, threatened to expell from FACLA all vocal opposition forces, and announced his plans to invite Imelda to his inaugural ball! In short, we witnessed a small-scale version of the declaration of martial law imported from Manila to Los Angeles. San Jose in effect declared a dictatorship using the terror of armed intimidation as his ultimate authority.

While the fear of any armed confrontation with San Jose's goons probably passed through all of us, the lessons of martial law in the Philippines proved to many that if we buckled under the terror of such fascist tactics, the San Jose clique would not be truly pacified. Instead, it would only become more and more emboldened at the sight of people cowered in fear and its arbitrary decisions and wholesale terrorization of the L.A. Filipino community. In fact, it is only the determination to continue broad democratic resistance in the face of such fascist terror which could assure us in the end that a small and arrogant handful like the San Jose clique can not ride roughshod over the interests of the vast majority of people forever.

It is to the credit of the L.A. community that a number of people took the courage to fight San Jose every step of the way and refused to submit passively to his dictatorship. For example, the democratic-minded forces in FACLA have tried for the past year to push for a badly needed election code reform, however this effort was successfully blocked by San Jose. Later, during the elections, the Committee of Concerned FACLA Members (CCFM) was relatively successful in exposing widely the election fraud and irregularities. People selflessly volunteered their time to watch over the ballot box day and night for three days straight in an attempt to prevent it from being tampered with. Such vigilance forced the San Jose camp to resort to desperate moves which thoroughly exposed its ugly, undemocratic features to everyone—the armed removal of the ballot boxes!

But this strong-armed blunder later proved to be San Jose's initial downfall. Why? Because, even then, some people refused to be cowed, refused to stop protesting, refused to stop struggling . . . more public exposure was conducted, the court suit was filed against San Jose's sham election, careful documentation was done and pushed through to completion. This is the major lesson which our community can draw from this whole San Jose caper—we must continue to stand up to any arbitrary and undemocratic intimidation; we must serve notice to reactionaires in the community that we will not tolerate the importation of "martial law" conditions to Filipino communities overseas!

So now we have met with some initial success—the court's ruling for a new election. But it is too early yet for the democratic forces to claim victory. San Jose will undoubtedly attempt to undermine this new election too. He obviously has a great deal at stake in FACLA. His vision of the FACLA is as a big enterprise which he can use to ride to power and personal profit. He has already plunged the FACLA into secretive business ventures, wheeling and dealing around this proposed "trade and community" center. He and some other "senior partners" (i.e. Marcos) probably stand to lose a great deal if FACLA falls out of their grip. We should fully expect them to fight viciously and "dirty" to prevent their "shady" business deals from ever seeing the "clean light of day." Therefore, any effective battle to unseat the San Jose camp in the upcoming election will have to take major initiatives to guarantee a genuinely democratic election. We must remain vigilant and well organized to prevent San Jose from coming up with some new methods of subverting the election. This will require a major effort by the progressives and democratic forces of the entire community.

In addition, in order to make the unseating of San Jose a truly meaningful victory for the FACLA, we must also challenge his narrow and conservative view of what the FACLA represents, otherwise the election struggle can become reduced to a mere personality contest and "power play." We must challenge San Jose not in a petty personal manner, but rather on the unpopular issues and policies which his administration represents.

In this manner, we can replace San Jose with a new administration which has a

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'Bakke a Vicious Attack

The following letter was written by Felix Ayson, an eighty year old former tenant of the International Hotel. The letter was read before an audience of close to 300 persons who gathered in San Francisco to attend the People's Trial of the Bakke Decision on Feb. 26 — Editor.

Dear neighbors and all of you, my friends,

All of us are here tonight because we believe in our rights and because we are now under attack by stronger forces who wish to destroy our communities. Our communities, composed of Third World and Working persons are oppressed by the laws of a ruling class, the most ruthless class in the history of the human race. Yet, we who have been fighting are at the same time learning to resist and unite in protecting our rights. We cannot rely on the enemy to improve our conditions. We must rely on ourselves.

As most of you know, we tenants were evicted last August 9th. The city under Moscone led and unleashed its maximum police power to force the biggest and longest eviction in the history of this city against our supporters who were protecting us with their human barricade. The police broke the barricade and they then broke our doors and entered our rooms to evict us. This was the most horrifying thing I ever experienced in my life. It was violent, barbarous and inhuman. No truly civilized government would do this to its citizens.

The saddest thing I felt was for the old people. The weak, poor, and peaceful law-abiding people who were hurt and their rights violated. Instead of protecting us, the city took sides to protect property and profit over human needs. We denounce and repudiate this uncivilized way of treating people. We, poor people live so badly in this country. It doesn't provide jobs, raises rents, and everything we buy goes up. How are we going to live in this kind of society?

Yet, Third world people are a part of the working class that produces everything we need to exist on. But when it comes to a crisis like inflation or war we are the first to suffer. The ruling class profits at the expense of improving our lives. It is our right to a better education, better medical care, and better housing. That is why we are forced to struggle and fight because we have no choice. We want to



protect the dignity of human beings. We old people are like old people can produce because we further manipulated for the International Hotel. because this city wanted make money and we we And when we had no place home for ourselves.

I raise again my friends have to do something against injustice that has gone on in this country against minorities been paid heavily in blood.

Now we are united against a vicious attack against us. We do more to propagate our message over all that can be united.

Support The Ang Katipunan

Since we launched our subscription and sustainer campaign late last year, we have received an encouraging response from our readers and supporters. To those pledged to help sustain the paper, as well as to those who sent us donations and letters of encouragement, we'd like to extend our many thanks and words of appreciation.

Only through the support of our readers can a paper like an Ang Katipunan continue publishing. Our printing, mailing and office expenses are offset only by subscribers and donations. We are not a commercial enterprise, and we do not depend on advertisement revenues to make ends meet.

We feel that key to our readership's support is the fact that the Ang Katipunan is a paper which reflects many of their sentiments and experiences. Our uncensored coverage of developments in the Philippines and reportage of events in the U.S. Filipino community helps build an awareness as to the needs and aspirations of Filipinos both here and in the Philippines.

Unlike many other papers, we do not claim to be non-partisan in this effort. We know that to better

positive and progressive platform of how the FACLA can really take on the pressing and difficult problems which face the L.A. Filipino community today, for example, the needs of recent immigrant families, problems faced by our youth and senior citizens, taking a stand on the burning issues of racial and national discrimination and other relevant issues. To attempt to build the FACLA into a broad based community organization really serving the needs of the community is the only long term guarantee to oust the likes of the Tony San Jose and all the backward and reactionary things they represent. □

the lives of our peoples in the U.S. as our lives here in the U.S. fundamental changes are needed.

To enact these changes, we need the support of the Filipino masses in the Philippines against the corrupt Marcos dictatorship. We are committed to building a new society against racism and reaction, and to shoulder with the masses who are committed to ending the rule of the wealthy few.

So the Ang Katipunan takes on this battle, and reports the news from the side of the struggle. And our readership needs this kind of support in our efforts.

As in our earlier appeal, we encourage many of our readers to subscribe to please do so. If you are a subscriber, consider joining our ranks as a sustainer by making a monthly contribution to the paper.

There is one other fund-raising campaign we are launching to help pay some of our expenses. Between now and May 20, there will be a raffle of donations for a benefit raffle in San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle).

If you can help seek out donors, please do so. (donations are \$1.00 a ticket and \$5.00 a box of 5 tickets. Paper at this address in the U.S.)

Help build the ANG KATIPUNAN. If you are a sustainer, please do so. Help sustain the Filipino community paper.

See ad on raffle on page 4.

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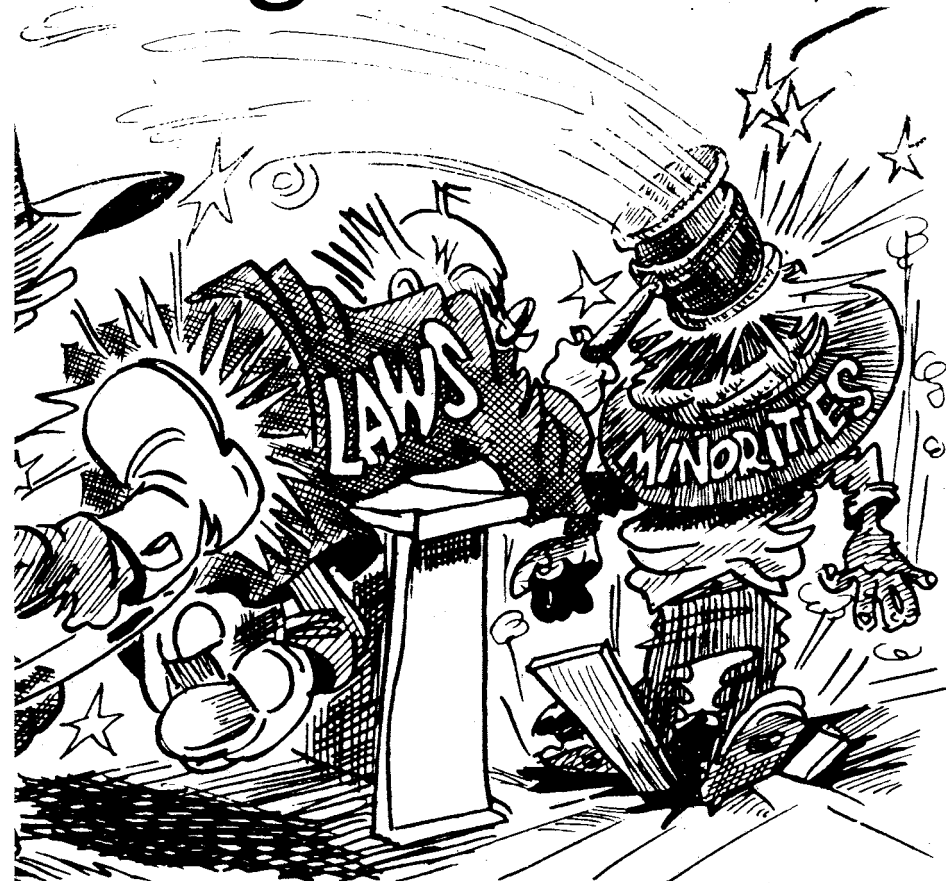
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over actively Third World people who suffer from prejudice and discrimination. I am eager to learn more to do my part to inform other people. We will overturn this decision if we persevere and guided by the wisdom of the people. What we are teaching people is the truth, the link that has liberated peoples minds and generate mass movements to liberte their countries.

The victory through hard struggle will be a stepping stone toward our invincible unity and organization that will someday crush all reaction everywhere and establish a new world. The world will not longer belong to reactionaries but to the people of the world.

I am happy that you have patiently listened to my letter.

Thank you.

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Nuclear Plants Not Needed in R.P.

By VICTORIA LUNA

From the proceedings of the Long Committee hearings, the U.S. Export-Import Bank (Eximbank) emerges as a callous, sloppy, bumbling agency with disturbingly close links to Westinghouse. Eximbank's lack of concern for the safety of the Filipino

Eximbank, a government agency funded by U.S. taxpayers, is designed to promote 1955 and 1974, has increased in direct correlation with the decreased demand at account. These characteristics are innate to Eximbank's role within the U.S. system.

Eximbank a government agency funded by U.S. taxpayers, is designed to promote the sale of U.S. exports. As in the Westinghouse case, Eximbank ends up subsidizing huge multinationals as it provides long-term, low interest (soft) loans to buyer countries for the purchase of American products and American technology.

One of its major export items is nuclear reactors, increasingly sold to Third World countries. The volume of exported U.S. nuclear plants, some 53 reactors between 1955 and 1974, has increased in direct correlation with the decreased demand at home. U.S. citizens, fearful of nuclear hazards, have, in recent years, demanded stringent safety standards and limited the use of nuclear power in the United States.

The U.S., however, does not apply the same set of safety standards to plants marketed abroad as it does to those used locally. Marketing efforts abroad have increased in spite of growing industrial and governmental awareness of the dangers of nuclear energy. Why?

PROFITS AND U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

The answer is simple: profits. Six times the profits from conventional oil-fired plants. In 1972, General Electric, which, together with Westinghouse, dominates the entire industry, both in the U.S. and worldwide, reported to its shareholders, "Our potential revenue base in a nuclear plant . . . is . . . six times that of a fossil fuel plant . . ."

Eximbank, in financing these ventures, facilitates the transfer of large amounts of money from the pockets of the U.S. taxpayers into the coffers of Westinghouse, G.E. and other giant multinationals.

But Eximbank plays an auxiliary role as well as an agent of U.S. foreign policy. The financial terms of soft Eximbank loans make them both unprofitable to the lending institution and raise serious questions as to whether they will ever be repaid. The Philippine loan, the largest in the bank's history, is an excellent example. The \$644.4 million in loans and loan guarantees carry an interest rate of only eight and one-half per cent per year. Although the initial payment of 10 per cent of the total is payable immediately, the first installment on the remainder does not fall due until 1991.

Eximbank, in effect, has given a huge sum of money to Ferdinand Marcos to channel back to Westinghouse, allowed him to acquire a prestige product, and, at the same time, increased his financial and technological dependence on the U.S. No Eximbank official is likely to assert that Ferdinand Marcos will still be around by 1991 or that his successor will honor his debts.

NUCLEAR POWER AND THE FILIPINO PEOPLE

But the Philippines, as an underdeveloped country, desperately needs new energy sources. Though they may not serve the interests of the American people, do Eximbank's loan and the planned reactor serve the interests of the impoverished Filipino people?

The electricity generated by this 620 megawatt reactor will flow principally to Manila and to the Bataan Export Processing Zone (BEPZ). The few products manufactured in Manila and the BEPZ which are purchased by Filipinos — cars, T.V. sets, etc. — go to the richest stratum of Philippine society. These products contribute to widening the gap between rich and poor in the country.

Over 70 per cent of the Filipino people do not live in the cities or the BEPZ. They live in the countryside and are engaged in agriculture. Agriculture in the Philippines is technologically crude and consumes only two per cent of the total electricity generated in the country. The new reactor, by providing more electricity for the urban and industrial areas, may even lower this percentage.

The people of Nagbalayong, Morong, where the reactor is now half complete, have already suffered from its presence. They have lost grazing lands, fruit trees, and 95 per cent of the bangus fingerlings which once supplied 80 per cent of the province' fish needs. Their lands have been forcibly appropriated and they fear forced relocation.

According to a letter from the Concerned Citizens of Bataan, the people of Morong oppose the reactor: "Truly we do not want it because of the harm it can pose not only to us who are living here now but also to our children and our children's children due to its lethal effects to men and the environment for 250,000 years."

DEVELOPMENT FOR WHOM?

Progressive scientists point out that true development means attending first to the needs of the neediest. In the case of the Philippines, the majority of the neediest is scattered throughout the countryside. Their energy needs can be satisfied, not by mammoth centralized electrical systems, but by small, decentralized units which will harness available resources and use local materials.

The technology for decentralized energy development requires little capital input. It has gone largely unexplored within the industrialized world for the simple reason that it is not profitable. It aims, in fact, at being as cheap as possible. Nuclear energy, on the other hand, is the most expensive form of energy available and can only be produced in massive amounts which dictate centralized patterns of use.

Eximbank's gift to Marcos and Westinghouse of the American people's money runs counter to the interests of the Filipino people. In part this is because of the safety hazards already widely recognized in the U.S. Less widely understood is the fact that nuclear power in the Third World ties underdeveloped economies ever more tightly to the economies of the developed nations and helps to widen still further the yawning gap between rich and poor. □

New FACLA Elections Won



Three officials of FACLA's Committee on Election, Fangon, Torres, and Quema [L to R], stand over ballot boxes as the crowd protests alleged fraud and cheating by the San Jose camp in connivance with Fangon and Quema. The boxes were later forcibly removed by San Jose guards. [PPW photo]

By RAFAEL ORPILLA
AK Correspondent

LOS ANGELES — Bringing Tony San Jose's self-proclaimed presidential term to an abrupt end, Superior Court Judge John Holmes ruled the controversial 1977 Filipino-American Community of L.A. (FACLA) election invalid. In a statement issued Feb. 23, 1978, the judge also ordered new elections to be held under rules and procedures "to be approved by the court."

The intensely awaited judgement was the result of a suit brought against San Jose by members of FACLA who were outraged by his blatant disregard of the organization's democratic principles. The suit was initiated specifically to invalidate the highly questionable results of the Dec. 4 election due to corruption. More importantly, however, intervention was needed to free the Filipino organization from the iron hand control San Jose and his slate of officers who over the last three months have taken over by force and locked out their opponents.

The high degree of concern for the future of FACLA was demonstrated by the 18-20 people who attended the trial consistently over the six day period.

During the hearing itself, plaintiffs evidence was presented mainly by Atty. Bert Mendoza, a presidential condidate and Jaime Geaga, an election inspector at the time. Additional points were raised by 11 other witnesses, verifying the irregularities and anomolies which occurred during the election.

Exhibits were also presented to document the plaintiff's case such as photographs of registration receipts being handed out enmasse; names of persons allowed to vote without providing identification during registration; and un-numbered election ballots which indicated that the ballot boxes had been stuffed with unofficial votes. All such evidence was duely accepted by the court.

In a flimsy attempt to deflect the plaintiff's allegation, the defense contended that the elections were valid because San Jose's opponents were not specifically denied the right to vote, and that the plaintiffs themselves were guilty of similar irregularities.

After hearing both sides, however, Judge Homes could not dismiss lightly San Jose's forcible removal of the ballot boxes as a irregularity in the election process. He therefore, based his decision principally around the fact which was detailed in his eight page statement:

"The Comelec had hired armed guards to watch the ballot boxes in the Center until the early morning hours of Dec. 9, when another set of armed guards, this time from the Carson Patrol Security Organization, arrived and presented to the Purolator guards written authorization, signed by two of the three Comelec members, to remove the ballot boxes. Faced with imminent threat of violent armed aggression by the Carson personnel, the Purolator guards and interested members of the FACLA community desisted their initial resistance to this aggression, and the boxes were summarily removed."

Admonishing San Jose for his direct role in this corruption, the judge went on to say, "There is some evidence to the effect that these Carson guards were employed, or paid by Mr. San Jose, one of the three candidates for president in this election. In all these events, there is no evidence that, after the ballot boxes were removed, they remained in the possession or under the supervision of the Commission of Election, until the ballots were canvassed . . . as shown the election was invalid because of the breach of integrity of the ballot boxes; and causing the ballots to be counted in a highly irregular manner."

In summary, the Judge Holmes agreed with the plaintiff's argument that in order to restore democracy in FACLA, "The Court will fashion a decree declaring the election of Dec. 4, 1977 invalid, ordering a new election to be conducted by personnel of the Filipino American Community of Los Angeles under procedures approved by the court."

Reaction to the court decision gathered from members at the time of the decision reflected a positive and hopeful note for a better FACLA organization.

NEW ELECTIONS—MUCH WORK AHEAD

Jaime Geaga, one of the plaintiff's key witnesses said, "This is a welcomed turn of events. I feel this is a victory that the community can share. It paves the way for a cleaner and honest community election. We should not forget, though, that this is only a fresh start for us. We have a whole election to go through yet."

Others said, "It is actually the efforts of the large numbers of concerned FACLA members that made this pursuit of democracy possible. We hope however, that the people do not become complacent. This upcoming new election entails as much or even more energy than the last one."

As the community is faced with a new election, several things have to be re-examined and re-implemented. Among these are the need for a stronger, less ambiguous and more comprehensive voting procedure, and a complete overhaul of the constitution and bylaws of FACLA.

The question of who will be the legal caretaker of FACLA during this transition period is also an immediate question to be resolved.

DECISION THWARTS IMELDA'S VISIT

On another level, the decision was also timely since it forced San Jose to postpone his inaugural ball scheduled Feb. 25, 1978. It effectively thwarted San Jose's plan to have Imelda Marcos as the main speaker at the event.

Nevertheless, the Anti-Martial Law Alliance of L.A. was prepared to demonstrate that as a representative of the repressive martial law regime Imelda would not be welcomed by the Filipino community.

According to a spokesperson of the AMLA of L.A., "She [Imelda] would have regretted coming to L.A. anyway, because she would have been met with a large picket demonstration right in front of the Palladium [where the ball was to held]." She added that several hundred persons were prepared to demonstrate on that day. □

Filipino CPA's Target Discriminatory Practices

By WICKS GEAGA

The Filipino Accountants of Southern California (FASC) drew public attention to the discriminatory practices of the California Board of Accountancy, through a picket held in front of the State Building in downtown Los Angeles, on February 14, this year.

Two weeks earlier, the California Department of Consumer Affairs had condemned the discriminatory standards placed on Philippine-trained certified public accountants, following a three-month evaluation process.

In an official statement, Richard B. Spohn, Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs, agreed that the CPA's were victims of a "double and discriminatory standard for applicants, on the basis of national origin," by the California State Board of Accountancy.

Filipino CPA's in California have charged the State Board with maintaining the discriminatory practice of denying examination waivers to foreign, non-Caucasian CPA's regardless of their qualifications. Philippine-trained CPA's, particularly, have been denied waivers on the grounds that their exam was not equivalent to the California exam—a practice solely based on an unvalidated and highly questionable study.

Meanwhile, applicants from predominantly Caucasian, English-speaking countries (i.e., British Commonwealth countries and South Africa), are granted exam waivers without even having to demonstrate the equivalency of their respective exams to that of California. As one CPA phrased it, "Officially, the State Board claims to have three criteria in deciding the granting of a waiver, the so-called "3 E's" (education, experience, examination). But there really is a fourth "E—ethnic origin."

According to the Business and Professional Code of California, this waiver of examination may be extended to any foreign or out of state certified public accountant as long as they were certified under standards comparable to that of California. The State Board exercises the power to decide if this is the case for foreign CPA's. This power was apparently abused by the board to discriminate against non-Caucasian foreign nationals. To illustrate the point, Mr. Victor Sy, a Los Angeles CPA explained, "If a high school graduate from South Africa asked for an exam waiver, he would most certainly obtain it. But if a Filipino college graduate with five years experience as a CPA with any of the big eight international accounting firms, applies for a waiver, his chances of getting one are zero." He gave the example of a friend—a magna cum laude from the prestigious University of the Philippines and having the above credentials. His friend was not given a waiver.

Although the issue of discrimination affects many other minority groups of non-Caucasian national origins, Filipinos appear to be the most visible organized sector of foreign-trained CPA's challenging the existing state of affairs. According to Mr. Ed Gabriel of the FASC, there are now, at least, 500 Filipino CPA's affected in California, 200 of whom are women.

The FASC and its counterpart CPA organization in Northern California, which is based in the San Francisco Bay Area, have united in an effort to demand equal treatment from the state board. They jointly filed the anti-discrimination suit, which was heard and upheld by the State Board of Consumer Affairs. This small victory is reflective of the growing national trend in the Filipino community during the last two years, also witnessed by the successful challenging of discrimination by the foreign medical and foreign nurse graduates. □

Impact Of Bakke Decision On Asian American Community

Asians Have Made It; Or Have They?



Filipinos and other Asians were allowed to immigrate to the U.S. when the need for "cheap labor" was great. Discrimination and racism met these early pioneers and continues to the present day.

EDITOR'S NOTE: In an effort to dispel the myth that "the Bakke decision does not affect the Asian community," the following article was published by the S.F. Bay Area Asian Focus of the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision [NCOBD]. This is part one of the two-part series

Asians have made it; or have we? As a whole Asians are supposed to have a high level of educational attainment, one of the lowest rates of unemployment and high income level. Despite a common history of racial discrimination, Asians have been popularized as a success and have been exemplified as a model for other minorities. Our point here is to dispel the myth of the successful Asian and to demonstrate that Asians and other minorities are still in need of federal funding for community services, affirmative action, and special admissions programs that are currently being challenged in the landmark case, *Bakke v. the Regents of U.C.*

HISTORY OF DISCRIMINATION

The immigration histories and socioeconomic characteristics of Asian-Americans are of central importance to understanding the types of discrimination that we face today. It is not coincidental that large numbers of Asians entered the U.S. during boom periods in the economy, when cheap labor was sought (especially in railroads and farming), and that during periods of recession, these same immigrants became scapegoats — accused of depressing the overall standard of living — resulting in harsh, exclusionary immigration laws. Not only were various groups of Asians barred one after another from immigration (1882 Chinese Exclusion Act; 1907 Gentlemen's Agreement; 1934 Tydings-McDuffie Act), but they were also heavily taxed to prevent their access to work, excluded from gaining citizenship and buying land, and denied access to education; overall, being subjected to many forms of blatant racism. Up to 1965 highly restrictive quota laws existed for Asians seeking to immigrate to the U.S. while laws regulating European immigration were very liberal in comparison.

Even today, the U.S. economy still uses many minorities and women for cheap labor. Asians still work long hours with little or no benefits and poor working conditions. Take for example the Filipino farm laborers or the women who work in the Chinatown garment sweatshops (a 1969 study showed 68 per cent of these women earning below \$2900 annually at 40+ hours a week).

Many professional immigrants end up working in jobs far below their training. This is especially true of Filipino and Korean professionals (e.g., nurses, doctors, and accountants) who face restrictive immigration laws and culturally biased licensing exams. A good example of this is the case of the immigrant Filipino nurses (who make up 85 per cent of all foreign nurses in the U.S.). These nurses are contracted by U.S. hospitals to

solve understaffing problems with minimal expenditure. Because these nurses must face a discriminatory licensing examination, which the majority then fail, they are forced to fill lower paying positions incommensurate with their training, further opening the possibility of their deportation.

THE MYTH OF THE SUCCESSFUL MINORITY

Some think Asians are a successful minority because Asians have, on the average, a high educational level and a low unemployment rate. A close look, however, reveals that this is only an illusion. Incomes, low employment in many major industries, and underemployment throughout the Asian workforce dispel this myth.

Income levels indicate that Asians aren't well off. Individually, Asians earn about 30 per cent less than whites. Despite a 10 per cent higher participation rate by Asian women in the labor force and twice the proportion of three or more wage earners in the family than white families, Asian families' income, on average, is considerably less than that of white families. Although the average educational level attained by Asians is higher than that of white population, statistics indicate that the salaries of high school and college graduates are consistently lower. Furthermore, twice as many Chinese and Filipino families live below the poverty level as white families. The unemployment rate for Asians is higher overall, with the Filipino faring the worst (unemployment for Filipino men 6.7 per cent, women 4.2 per cent compared to white men 3.7 per cent and women 2.4 per cent).

Asians also face underemployment. Although we make up 6.6 per cent of the total Bay Area workforce, we are clustered in low status, low paying jobs such as clerical, service, and machine operators (key punch, sewing, etc.). Asians have skills for higher level jobs, but many are tracked into dead end entry positions or semi-skilled jobs. For example, Asians comprise 19 per cent of the clerical workers in commercial banks, 15 per cent of the clerks in insurance firms, and 18.7 per cent of the total number of laundry workers.

Asians tend to fill jobs in low visibility, the non-decision making, and the technical positions. Many jobs held by Asians may be classified as "white collar" but even these tend to be of a menial nature, lacking influence and good pay. Although there are as many Asian managers as whites, most Asians in this category are self-employed and are not managers in big businesses.

Asians are not successful. We still find a large proportion of Asians serving as a supply of cheap labor, much the same as the early Asian immigrants who built the railroads and labored in the fields. Those Asians who have struggled against racial discrimination, to gain education, find employment opportunities limited to positions of little power, with salaries far incommensurate with their skills and educational levels. Discrimination against Asians exists at all levels of employment. □

Next issue: Why is the Bakke Decision Important to Asian People

Grievance Procedure Filed
Filipina Nursing
Student Denied
Rights

By NONIE ESPIRITU
AK Correspondent

A grievance procedure is not a usual happening at St. Luke's School of Nursing in San Francisco. But on February 22, 1978, Gloria Bareng, a 24-year old Filipina in her second year, sat through one — a grueling, five hour hearing held at the school premises.

Directed towards a faculty member in the Labor & Delivery section (one of the three-part Maternity rotation), Ms. Bareng's grievance was based on the denial of her basic student right — the right to an equal opportunity to learn. This denial, charged Ms. Bareng, was the end result of the faculty member's "lack of sensitivity to foreign-born or foreign-educated students."

Citing many instances of her teachers' insensitivity, and intimidating manner, Ms. Bareng testified how, as the only minority in that rotation, she was put under undue stress.

On the second day in Labor and Delivery rotation, Ms. Bareng asked her instructor if she could watch the Cesarean Section for learning experience. However, despite the fact that several other students were allowed to observe, she was told in an angry tone that there was "nothing to see."

Similarly, when Ms. Bareng returned from Christmas vacation, she was denied the experience of watching any one of the three deliveries that occurred that day, constituting a basic denial of a practical learning experience.

Furthermore, upon being assigned to the recovery room (a high-stress area) she was not given any counseling or guidance while others were given direct supervision by their instructors. The implications of this negligence, Bareng contends, not only affected her learning experience but could have jeopardized the welfare of a particular patient who required special care.

"Ms. Shaw (Bareng's instructor) constantly wrote notes about me and in front of me without ever directly criticizing my work. She never made any attempt to help me correct my errors, nor did I feel she was ever concerned with my growth and development as a nurse. In lieu of direct criticism, I discovered on several occasions that she had spoken about my work in a critical manner to other instructors. When Ms. Shaw finally did raise criticisms to me, she evaluated my personality rather than the quality of my work."

As a result, Ms. Bareng was informed by another instructor that she was going to fail even before she had taken her final exam and without even a conference with Ms. Shaw to discuss the problems.

The instructor alleges that Gloria's main difficulty is her inability to adapt to rapidly changing situations. She claimed that this was the basis of Gloria's failure in that section.

Gloria on the other hand, strongly believes that the stress came from the instructor's biased attitude toward her. Simply put, Ms. Shaw's attitude was not one of teaching and assisting but one of putting a student through testy situations. "I began to experience difficulties, especially in answering a question immediately. My instructor, therefore, assumed that I did not know the answer and would watch me more closely. This made me feel that I was always doing something wrong. Ultimately, this made me nervous. In the learning process of a student, this stress is undue and unnecessary," Gloria said.

The result of the first grievance procedure will be made known on February 27. Meanwhile, petitions demanding her reinstatement are circulating within the school, hospital and the outside community. Several students have already expressed their respect for Gloria's determination to go back to school and assertion of her rights.

In summary, Gloria said: "Let my actions serve as an important turning point for myself and this school. Here, students are made to be afraid to challenge authority. I was afraid too, but I had to make the hard decision to fight back against a system which expects me to prove my competence more just because I'm a foreigner." □

DOMESTIC/INTERNATIONAL

Miners Demand Decent Contract

COAL STRIKE ENTERS 4TH MONTH

By JEANETTE LAZAM

Despite a declared "regional energy emergency" and high level labor negotiations in Washington, D.C. between President Carter, the Bituminous Coal Operators Association (BCOA) and the United Mine Workers (UMW), the strike of 160,000 coal miners continues, effectively crippling this nation's coal industry.

The striking miners staged their walkout Dec. 6, 1977, when it was revealed that their right to strike and the health coverage plan were not included in the proposed contract offered by the BCOA.

The strike now entering its fourth month has not put money into the pockets of the miners since the strike and welfare benefits have not been issued. But on the other hand, as one West Virginia miner indicated, "Now, we're not making any money and they're not making any money. They can just look for the same thing to go on until they can get it through their hard heads that we are out here to stay."

"We are not asking for the world," he added, "We're just asking for a few things which are major issues. We'll ratify a good contract, not a sell-out contract."

THE SELL-OUT CONTRACT

Briefly, last week, it appeared that the nation's longest coal strike might end just as shortages were beginning to be felt. But when United Mine Workers president Arnold Miller took the proposed contract to the union's leadership, they threw it back in his face with a vote of 52-53 to reject the new contract. Even the union's bargaining council, the first level to ratify the contract, swiftly denounced the package sending Miller to soberly leave the UMW headquarters to re-negotiate another contract.



Indiana National Guard are mobilized Feb. 15 near Evansville, IL. to escort a coal shipment through miner's pickets. [UPI photo]

What's wrong with the contract? "You can start at A and end with Z," said Edwin Spears, a 60 year old miner from New Lexington, Ohio. While the proposed contract calls for a wage incentive of \$2.35 per hour and a \$10.15 wage increase over the next three years, the bargaining council members and local union president's objected strongly to the two major provisions of which the striking miners won't budge on: the right to strike and the health coverage plan.

In the proposed contract, a "stability clause" would penalize miners \$20 per day in the event of a wildcat strike. The contract also stipulates that the companies alone, rather than the existing labor-management board, run the miner's health and pension fund, an article inserted by the BCOA. Other regressive features included: the discipline of miners at the company discretion for absenteeism, allowing the mines to operate seven days a week and allowing "rapid shift rotation"

which would mean few consecutive days off, the introduction, if the company chooses, of production incentive plans, and the inclusion of several clauses that will make it easier for a unionized company to open new, non-union mines.

When word leaked out about the proposed contract to the rank and file, reaction was swift and over-whelmingly in opposition to the contract. Some members of the bargaining council want Miller out, claiming that he had sold the union down the drain. "He'd better resign now because the membership will turn that contract down," said Don Lawley, council member from Ft. Smith, Arkansas. Others are saying that another negotiating team should be appointed to re-work the contract because they have no intention of selling Miller's package to the membership. As one council member said, "I can't sell that thing back home, they'd crucify me."

In the meantime, the strike's economic challenge to the coal barons has shaken the BCOA. At one point, the BCOA realizing that the miners were adamant on their demands, shifted negotiators. According to the New York Times, (Jan. 25), the BCOA removed their chief negotiator and installed top executives from the major industrial giants of the coal and oil industries. These included Bruce Johnston, Vice President and general manager of U.S. Steel Corp., B.R. Brown of the Conoco Oil Company, and Roderick Hills, the former chairman of the Federal Securities and Exchange Commission, and the chief executive officer of Peabody, the largest coal company in America.

Pres. Carter and the White House administration, realizing that the strike was no longer just a simple crisis in the coal fields, but a fast growing national emergency, starting gearing up for action against the striking miners.

In a weekend statement, the President declared a regional energy emergency in Ohio, permitting the state to suspend air pollution regulations. He also requested that U.S. Attorney General's office to plan measures to "ensure continued peace and lawfulness," using Federal troops to ride as hoppers on trains destined to emergency stricken areas and thereby breaking UMW picket lines.

Governors of nine mid-western states greatly affected by the coal strike have urged Carter to impose the anti-labor Taft-Hartly Act which mandates an 80-day cooling off period to force the miners back to work with binding arbitration. But even that request was met with some hesitation due to the militance of the miners and the volatile atmosphere already existing in the coal fields.

Many doubt that the miners would be cowed by the imposition of the Taft-Hartly Act. Already, miners have shut down numerous non-union mines and two miners have been killed by company goons.

In Alabama, pitched battles between strikers and state police caused 1000 miners to come to the aid a small number of strikers who were attempting to shut down a non-union mine. Over 200 state police converged on the site armed with tear gas and an assorted array of "law enforcement" weapons to beat back the striking miners.

Such wide-spread incidences have indicated to the White House that any attempt to crush the strike with the Taft-Hartly Act may prove futile and cause more damage than good.

To avoid this measure, Carter has called upon the coal industry and the UMW to resume negotiations immediately at the White House. With more than 75 per cent of coal production at a halt, and major stockpile reserves fast depleting, Carter has issued an ultimatum to end the strike within the next ten days or face stricter measures imposed by the White House.

Already, major utility firms have been rationing their power, while in the steel industry several thousand workers have been laid off due to the energy shortage.

But in the wake of the longest coal strike recorded in this nation, miners maintain that unless the BCOA and the union come up with a contract that the rank and file can be satisfied with not one inch of coal will move. □

Who Owns The Coal Companies?

Adapted from THE CORPORATE EXAMINER

The recent coal strike has highlighted the miner's militant struggle against the monopoly coal operators. But behind the coal operators is a larger complex of the nation's gigantic oil monopolies which only recently entered the arena of coal production.

Only 10 years ago, the oil industry was in business almost solely to produce, refine, and distribute petroleum products. Rarely straying outside of their boundaries for fear of anti-trust legislation, the industry maintained its footing within the confines of oil production.

ITEM II
OIL Companies' Public and
Indian Land Leaseholdings

Company	Acreage	Rank
Continental Oil	63,948	3
Shell	30,247	9
Sun	21,240	10
Gulf	20,587	12
Arco	19,144	15

Source: Leased and Lost, Council on Economic Priorities.

But when the energy forecasters first warned of worldwide shortages of the industry's basic raw material, economists advised the oil business that its great monetary might could not longer be fully exercised through conventional business lines. Political observers gave warnings that continued reliance on unstable international markets for crude oil could be dangerous, especially with the increasing national liberation struggles in the Middle East, Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

The oil industry acted quickly to change its business practice, and in little more than a decade

the entire face of the oil industry had been drastically altered.

The 18 largest oil companies, called the "majors," invested billions of dollars to transform their corporations into massive "energy combines" involved in virtually every aspect of energy supply to the nation. They first moved to amass the coal reserves and thus, the creation of monopolies.

THE GREAT COAL ROBBERY

The coal industry was the first major target for the oil giants of the 1960's. Starting with privately-owned coal fields in Appalachia and the mid-west, the oil industry began buying the nation's leading coal companies. By 1973, 11 of the top 15 coal producers were owned by outside corporations, six of them by oil companies. These included Consolidation Coal, the second largest coal producer now owned by Continental; Island Creek (now Occidental Petroleum); Pittsburg & Midway (Gulf); and Old Ben (Standard Oil of Ohio).

The Justice Department began threatening the oil companies with anti-trust legislation, and since the list of attractive prospects for merger was nearly exhausted, the oil giants turned to the only place where additional coal existed: the public and Indian lands in the West.

In the late 1960's, about one million acres of land containing 22 billion tons of coal were obtained by the oil giants from the federal government and four Indian tribes; the Hopi, Navajo, Crow, and Northern Cheyenne. The Council on Economic Priorities found that these companies had finagled hundreds of thousands of acres of coal-bearing land for only a few cents per acre and were generally required to pay royalties to the Indians or government of only ten to twenty cents per ton of coal mined.

These companies presently produce 50 per cent of the nation's coal, and have a yearly output of 150 million tons per year. Coal at present, sells for \$22.00 per ton. □

Patriotic Front Denounces Pact

SMITH, BLACK MODERATES REACH ACCORD

By VICTOR UNO

The white-minority regime of Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith and three black moderates announced, Feb. 15, agreement on the regime's "internal settlement" plans for the transition to black majority rule.

The Smith plan, which outwardly concedes to the concepts of majority rule and universal suffrage, would in fact perpetuate massive privileges for the white minority populace while exacting huge costs from the Zimbabwe masses.

Attempting to undercut and ignore the Patriotic Front, which commands an estimated 40,000 guerrillas and has been waging an armed five year struggle to overthrow the white-minority regime, Smith managed to rally the three black moderates to his plan only after more than 10 weeks of talks which began last Dec. 2. The Patriotic Front consistently rejected the talks with the racist Smith regime as an insidious attempt to perpetuate white-minority rule.

Only Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole and tribal chief Jeremiah Chirau, three blacks touted as moderates because of their rejection of armed struggle against the regime, agreed to meet with the Smith government. The three moderates gave their approval of an eight point plan which stipulates that 28 out of 100 seats of the future parliament be reserved for whites, that the veto power of the country's 263,000 whites over the legislative rights of Zimbabwe's 6.7 million blacks be reserved for a period of ten years, and that white property rights and compensation and pension rights be protected, payable even if the whites moved outside the country.

Other points in the agreement call for an interim government which would enforce a cease-fire in the government's five year anti-guerrilla war, work out procedures for recomposing the security forces, reviewing sentences of political prisoners, rehabilitate persons affected by the war and draft a constitution.

In announcing the agreement, Smith hailed the accord as a "victory for moderation." The Bishop Muzorewa, standing with Smith to make the announcement, readily agreed, adding that "as you can see, this whole crowd is kind of happy."

OPTIMISM SHORT LIVED

Such a spirit of optimism may be short lived as the major force crucial to any settlement was quickly denouncing the accord.



Zimbabwe guerrillas continue armed struggle against racist Smith regime. [LNS photo]

Nationalist leader Joshua Nkomo, in Lusaka, Zambia, denounced the agreement as a "tragedy" and vowed to continue the guerrilla war presently being waged by the Patriotic Front. "It is a tragedy because it changes nothing," said Nkomo. "Those black leaders Smith is talking to will join his cabinet and carry out the same evil acts against the people."

"It will not work. The war continues. We now know who the enemies are."

Key to the guerrilla's rejection of the accords were the provisions stipulating white veto power, control over the police, armed forces and civil service. In addition, the guarantees for pensions, even if the whites left the country, could seriously jeopardize any emerging Zimbabwe economy.

Even with the new agreement, the black moderates are finding that serious contradictions exist between themselves and the Smith regime. On the question of the transitional government, Smith has continued to push for a two-tier body, with both having equal black and white representation with the white Prime Minister as its head.

However, the bankruptcy of such a plan was recognized by even the three moderates who have been complaining that such a move would be unacceptable by the country's black population, which outnumbered whites 30 to 1, as well as the international community. Nevertheless some accommodation between the two is being sought in an effort to isolate the two leaders of the Patriotic

Front, Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe, from participating in the new government.

REGIME HEIGHTENS TERROR CAMPAIGN

Indicative of the Smith regime's fear of the Patriotic Front was not only the political maneuvers to isolate the guerrillas but also an increased campaign aimed at terrorizing the rural support for the insurgent movement. Such a campaign was recently denounced by a black member of Smith's Parliament where the lawmaker's remarks were not subject to the usual government censorship.

According to Augustine Mibika, the Smith regime has been threatening to shoot young rural blacks who may leave their villages in an effort to prevent them from aiding the Patriotic Front. Mibika cited a government pamphlet distributed near the Mozambique border which told youths under the age of 16 not to leave their huts at any time "or they will be shot."

Where threats did not suffice, the regime carried out direct atrocities against school children, as in eastern Rhodesia's Charter district where 11 boys and girls were killed by helicopter borne troops Jan. 28. The regime even went to the extent of preventing parents from recovering the bodies for three days.

It is on the rural battlefields, where more than 600 people have died since the beginning of the year, that the new settlement will be put to test. The Smith regime, frustrated in its attempts to stymie support for the Patriotic Front, has increased its barbarities against the rural populace. The guerrilla movement, for its part, has continued to launch attacks against troops of the Smith government.

It is here that the black moderates are totally powerless, either to get the Patriotic Front to lay down their arms or to get the white-led troops from stopping their atrocities. The Patriotic Front, backed by popular support as well as the support of the bordering black African states, has vowed to continue its fight to overthrow the Smith regime and expose the recently concluded accord.

Already, many black Zimbabweans have voiced criticism of the black moderates and their agreement with Smith. One black journalist termed the accord a "sellout deal," while another Zimbabwean was more frank in his assessment of Muzorewa and Sithole: "We will have to protect the bishop and Sithole from the masses of Zimbabwe, demand that their lives be spared. They have committed treason." □

Protest Against Attacks On Indians

THE LONGEST WALK BEGINS

By JEANETTE LAZAM

On February 11, Indians on the West Coast gathered on Alcatraz Island to signal the beginning of the "Longest Walk" a marathon cross-country trek to protest the rapidly intensifying government attacks on Indian lives, rights, and lands and resources.

The Longest Walk, which is expected to draw in thousands of Indians and supporters across the nation, will focus attention on legislation pending in Washington, D.C., where the 95th session of Congress is presently underway.

In recent months, several congressional leaders, mainly from the House of Representatives, have introduced legislation that, in the words of Indian leaders, "will legitimize, and put on record the continued policy of genocide against Indian peoples."

Presently, more than nine bills are before the 95th Congress, all with the said purpose of unilaterally breaking treaty agreements between the U.S. government and the Indian nations.

Previous legislation attempted such 'termination' in the 1930s and 50's. Though eventually thwarted, some Indian land was lost then; taken by corporations, ranchers and the U.S. and state governments. One bill, House Resolution (HR) 9054 or the 'Indian Equal Opportunities Act,' would, if passed, spell the complete and final termination of the federal Indian reservation system and an end to the sovereign relationship between Indian nations and the Federal govern-

ment.

Other anti-Indian bills are HR 9951 and HR 9950 which severely limit the hunting, fishing and water rights of Native American people.

ANTI-INDIAN ATTACKS . . . NOTHING NEW

Since the early 60's when the first signs of an impending energy shortage were on the horizon — mainly due to the U.S. having lost access to much of the energy sources in other parts of the world — the major oil companies began to turn to domestic resources for fuel and power.

Huge domestic resources of oil, gas, coal, uranium, shale, and other vital resources were found to lie under Indian lands. In order to exploit these resources the U.S. government began to negotiate land leasing from Indian tribes. Under the leases, the government and oil companies were able to extract the resources paying only a few cents for every dollar in profit.

In more recent times, legislation like the proposed HR 9054, have replaced the land leasing policies of the past with the more direct and 'legal' ways of expropriating the national resources from Indian lands.

In both cases, Indians have been given the short end of the deal, either by unscrupulous land deals that undercut the rate of dollars per acre, or by outright seizure of Indian lands under the guise of a National Energy Shortage.

In response to these attacks by the government and the oil industry upon Indian sovereignty, Indian peoples have waged many battles against state and federal troopers, and often times,

against the private armed guards of the companies in order to protect what little is left of Indian rights.

Similarly, as this 'energy plan' and other plans to exploit Indian resources have been developing, Indian nations have brought long-violated land claims to courts. Indians of Maine took their case to court and after many years of court debates, continue to assert that their lands were taken in violation of a Federal law of 1794.

Other such cases of violated land treaties have appeared in courts throughout the nation, indicating the wide spread violations of treaties is not just an isolated incident. However, even in the courts, Native Americans find that the law does not necessarily protect lands and resources from being "legally" stolen.

For the Indian peoples and their supporters the Longest Walk will not be the first time that they have had to demonstrate their growing militancy against repressive acts of the U.S. government. In the words of the International Indian Treaty Council, "The courageous women and men who will form the core group walking across this continent are people who will not be defeated. They symbolize the strength and endurance of Indian peoples. This walk will be the longest, but not the hardest."

The march will end in Washington, D.C. where a peaceful protest and demonstration will be held. For more information or to make donations, write the Longest Walk, c/o D.Q. University, P.O. Box 409, Davis, Ca. 95616. □

MORE INJUSTICES EXPOSED

4-H Trainees Expelled From Farm



California 4-H trainees discuss their demands for reforms in the program. Four trainees in New York were recently kicked off a host farm. [AK photo]

By **LENI MARIN**
AK Correspondent

LONG ISLAND, N.Y. — Still another injustice was experienced by four Filipino 4-H trainees in Mattituck, Long Island, last February 11. The four, Miguel Custodio, Jimenex Bajos (Group D) Carlo Saet and Zocimo Castro (Group C) were expelled from the Valentine Girards, Inc. Farm.

On the night of Feb. 10, the host farmer, Mr. Girard, summoned the four trainees into his office and ordered them to pack up and leave his farm immediately. Girard explained that the trainees were no longer needed. Then suddenly, he reportedly began hurling curses and "obscenities" at the trainees. He said that one of his friends informed him that a reporter from *Newsday* (Long Island's newspaper) had planned to take pictures of the trainees' living quarters. Thus, he was ordering the trainees to "leave right away before the reporter comes."

The trainees, however, strongly refused and replied back that they would not do as told until they had a meeting with the local 4-H Regional Manager, Robert Trout. The next morning, the trainees contacted Mr. Trout only to discover that he was also urging them to leave. When the trainees demanded a meeting, Trout replied that

any discussion on the subject would have to transpire at National 4-H Foundation's main office in Washington, D.C. Trout further told them that arrangements for their departure to Washington, D.C. had already been made.

Mike, Charlie, Jim and Jun, as their friends call the trainees, have become known to some Filipino residents in Suffolk County, this city. Their plight has gained the sympathy and support of the Asian-American Committee Services in the county whose Filipino president arranged the planned coverage by *Newsday*. The committee learned of the trainees' work and living conditions through a Filipino priest, Fr. Demetrio, who had visited them.

Fr. Demetrio described the trainees' house as a "barn converted into two bedrooms." The kitchen was the garage of another house several feet away from their barnhouse, and the bathroom was some fifty feet away. Worst, the barn was poorly insulated and did not have any heating system. A small portable electric heater provided insufficient heat to combat the deadly blizzards that recently struck New York. It was no wonder that Jim Bajog contracted pneumonia last December and, thus, was forced to stay in the hospital for some weeks. Apparently, these appalling living conditions made the trainees' host farmer fear the press coverage.

Since the expose on the exploitative and oppressive character of the 4-H Agricultural Training Program last year, support committees for the Filipino 4-H trainees have sprouted in California, North Carolina, Washington, D.C., and New York. In this city, Mike, Charlie, Jim, and Jun began working closely with the support group's members late last year. They were introduced to Filipino neighborhoods in Woodside and Jamaica, Queens. They shared their disillusionment over the program and recounted their frustrating experiences. They said that instead of receiving training, they worked long hours merely planting seedlings in the greenhouse.

In early January, the four trainees wrote Mr. Grant Shrum, Executive Director of the National 4-H Foundation, describing their harsh conditions and their grievances. They also demanded reforms for the training program and indicated their support for their co-trainees' "Real Situation" report and petition for reforms in the North Carolina host farms.

A week later, Mr. Shrum sent them a brief reply saying that he had asked his regional staff in New York to "take positive steps to correct any deficiencies." Until the trainees' expulsion, no positive measures had been taken.

Presently, Mike, Charlie, Jim, and Jun are being housed at the 4-H main office in Washington, D.C. Meantime, 4-H officials are still making arrangements on their transfers to another farm. Again, the four Filipino trainees face a tenuous position similar to that in the Girard farm they were forced to leave.

When asked about what he felt about the expulsion, Jim Bajog remarked, "Our problems in that farm were evidence of more basic problems plaguing the 4-H agricultural program. After undergoing those sad experiences, we have become further doubtful of the principal purpose of the training. Are we here to learn or to serve as cheap labor for host farmers? Until basic reforms are implemented, we feel that we are treated more like cheap laborers than trainees." □

Seattle's Filipino Community: Yes On Busing

SEATTLE—The Council of the Filipino Community of Seattle, Inc. [FCSI] recently unanimously passed a motion by Councilwoman Rosita Farinas to form a Task Force to investigate this city's desegregation plan and to provide educational information and widespread publicity on the busing issue to Filipino neighborhoods.

The FCSI's decision came in the wake of the Filipino community's rising concern over the Seattle School Board's plan to bus students to implement school integration. The city's desegregation plan drew national attention late last year when the School Board voted to make busing mandatory, without any Federal Court order, in stark contrast to Boston and Kentucky's busing plan.

FCSI's action also resulted from an anti-busing group's meeting held in its community center building two weeks earlier. The Citizen's for Voluntary Integration [CIVIC] secured the building without prior knowledge of the majority of FCSI's council and general membership.

Acting upon the recommendation of its Ways and Means Committee Chairman, Silme Domingo, the Council first moved to review hall rental policies to prevent any more anti-busing meetings from happening at the Community Center in the future. Subsequently, the Council enacted Farina's proposal.

Speaking in support of the motion, FCSI council member Greg Della declared: "As an effort to desegregate the schools, mandatory busing is a progressive decision by the Seattle School District. However, the Board needs to work actively with the affected communities to study the implications of the issue on various special programs. The Board consequently, needs to resolve whatever problems the issue would create within the different schools and communities."

Meanwhile, the Task Force of School Desegregation has already met twice within three days of its formation. Of special concern to this body is the study of the desegregation plan's impact on bilingual and bicultural programs in the city's public schools. According to Task Force members, immigrant students may be the hardest hit by the plan as the majority are confused about the issue.

Mrs. Zenaida Guerzon, a Filipino teacher at Franklin High School and FCSI council member, confirmed the impact upon new immigrant students and their families. She said that there is a serious need for Filipinos to assist in implementing school integration particularly as they apply to bilingual and bicultural programs.

FCSI's decision is significant as it is the first time that a section of the Filipino population in the U.S. has unequivocally voiced out their opinion on the controversial busing question. □

New Contract To Be Signed

Cannery Workers Elect Negotiating Committee

SEATTLE — Seafood cannery workers of Local 37 of the International Longshore and Warehousemen Union (ILWU) elected three members to its 1978 contract negotiating committee, Feb. 8. Elected to represent the Local 37 rank and file were Silme Domingo, Pete Bautista, and Gene Navarro, Jr.

Negotiations for a new contract with Alaska Seafood Processors that include Bumble Bee, New England Fish Company, the Brindle Chain, Alaska Packers Association, and Peter Pan, are slated for March, this year.

The key issues for discussions are higher wages, stand-by pay, contract enforcement, safety and living conditions, and compounded operations such as processing of salmon, shrimp, herring, and crab at one facility center.

The negotiating committee has already begun formulating demands and proposed changes for the new contract. According to Silme Domingo who polled the most votes, "the rank and file demand some strong changes. It is up to the elected committee members to represent their needs and interests."

Domingo further added, "We need to unite our rank and file around some concrete demands and issues and we need to fight together to achieve them."

Local 37 represents over 700 seafood workers throughout Alaska, the majority of whom are Filipinos on the West Coast. □

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