

Ang KATIPUNAN

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Carter extends invitation

MARCOS TO VISIT U.S.

Agence France Presse, quoting "highly authoritative sources" revealed last Feb. 1 that Ferdinand E. Marcos and First Lady Imelda plan a state visit to the U.S. either late in February or early in March. The visit comes at the initiation of U.S. President Jimmy Carter who supposedly extended the invitation shortly before the conclusion of the U.S.-R.P. bases treaty.

This will be the first visit of the dictator Marcos to the United States since the declaration of martial law on Sept. 22, 1972. Throughout the Nixon and Ford presidencies, Marcos reportedly fished repeatedly for an invitation, but his image as one of the world's most brutal dictators and his tremendous unpopularity both within the Filipino community and the broader American public caused Nixon and Ford to rebuff these overtures.

Carter, the "human rights" president, has, however, moved steadily closer to the unsavory Marcos regime. His promise to the Philippine President/Prime Minister that he would do his utmost to secure \$500 million in military aid from Congress to compensate for the use of U.S. military bases seals his commitment to the Marcos dictatorship. This commitment is particularly ironic in the light of the recent State Department Human Rights Report (see story page 6), which once again scores the Marcos regime for his human rights violations.

Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos may find relatively few welcomers aside from Carter and his administration and the Philippine Embassy and Consulate personnel. Last July when Imelda met with a group of Congresspersons on Capitol Hill, she was outraged to find them extremely well-informed about Philippine politics and overwhelmingly hostile to the regime. Later in the year, when Mr. Marcos' mother, Josefa Edralin Marcos visited

WANTED

PATAY O BANGKAY



FERDINAND E. MARCOS
PAPET-
PASISTANG
KRIMAL

A 1974 Anti-Marcos poster by the Philippine's Union of Progressive Artists and Architects decries Marcos as 'Puppet, Facist, Criminal.' Anti-Marcos forces in the U.S. will mobilize to protest Marcos' U.S. visit.

the United States, she was mortified to find anti-Marcos pickets everywhere she went. □

Editorial

DENOUNCE THE DICTATOR'S U.S. VISIT!

Recent reports indicate that Philippine dictator Marcos is coming to the U.S. within the next week or so. The State Department has admitted that Marcos will come, adding the feeble qualification that it will only be a "personal visit." But this man Marcos is obviously no ordinary "tourist." His visit here has a political significance far beyond any personal pleasure tour.

This is the first time U.S. officials have thought it "acceptable" for Marcos to visit this country since he declared martial law in 1972. The dictator's visit comes in the wake of the recently concluded U.S.-R.P. Military Bases Agreement which Carter cleverly slipped through as an "executive agreement," by-passing not only Congress but the people of the U.S. What was presented to the people as a routine foreign policy decision, however, was actually one of momentous significance, the consequences of which will come home to roost within the next five years as the U.S. becomes

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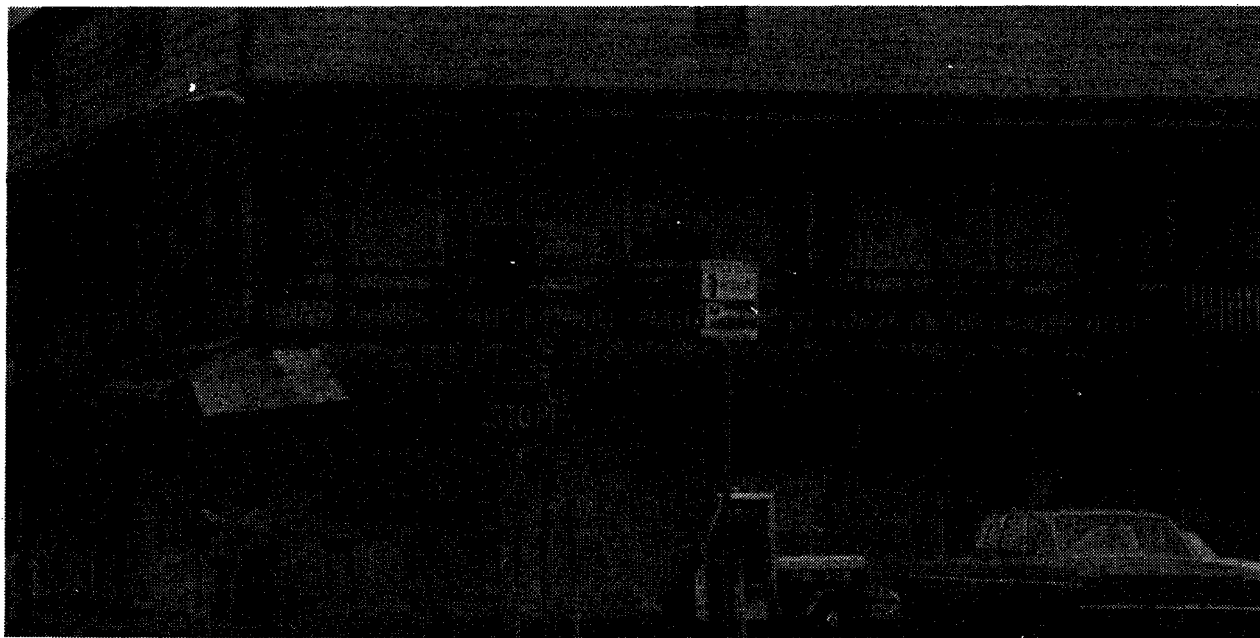
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4-A Hotel

Retired Filipino Workers Fight Honolulu-Chinatown Evictions

By DEAN ALEGADO
AK Correspondent

"We don't want to move! We don't want temporary relocation! We want housing built first, then we move!"

These are the words of Victorino Nabora in expressing his family's firm determination to resist the efforts of Honolulu's Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to force out

the residents of 1189 River St. from their house. The eviction of tenants is part of DHCD's continuing plan to redevelop Chinatown which began in the late 1950's.

"We get offers from DHCD like \$4200 to move out. They find us places outside Chinatown, but we no can afford the rent. Too high, that's why. Also, places they show us are too small," continued Nabora.

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EDITORIAL
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DENOUNCE THE DICTATOR'S U.S. VISIT!

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irreversibly enmeshed in the Vietnam-like civil war unfolding steadily in the Philippine countryside.

This is the real significance of the Marcos visit. It formalizes the union between the pseudo-human rights liberal Carter and the brutal Philippine dictator, which was accomplished earlier this year through the U.S.-R.P. Military Bases Agreement. This new agreement was the smokescreen which masked a major escalation of U.S. commitment to the shaky dictatorship. It underwrites the regime's existence for the next five years with the promise of over \$1 billion in economic aid plus \$500 million in military aid to the dictatorship.

The other indicator that a major decision had been made to shore up the bankrupt regime, **Setting Macapagal Straight**

U.S., Marcos Benefit From Bases Treaty

Former President Diosdado Macapagal, writing as a spokesperson for the recently-formed National Union for Democracy and Freedom (NUFD), startled a number of Philippine Times readers with his recent analysis of the U.S.-R.P. bases agreement. In a guest editorial, he claimed that the agreement is a result of Ferdinand Marcos' having "misled or outwitted American leaders of simplistic thinking and selfish Americans . . ." In an effort to educate these benighted American leaders, he called for a "relentless campaign to set the record straight."

Macapagal's most astounding statement was that the agreement — which he has gone on record as opposing — is a mistake because "the United States can keep its bases without the Marcos dictatorship, more likely with preferable terms (our emphasis) under a democratic government." He then adds that Marcos is bad for American business "because his decrees and regulations are arbitrary and unstable" and, more importantly, because "his relatives, cronies and other supporters . . ." enjoy "undue advantage of dictatorial power against their business competitors." As a final point, he adds that Marcos has "strengthened communism among the Filipino masses because of the abuses of the dictatorship."

Who, we would like to ask, is being misled? Who is a victim of simplistic thinking? Finally, who is selfish? Let us launch our own campaign to set the record straight.

R.P. SOVEREIGNTY — A PRICELESS COMMODITY

First, on the matter of the bases. It is true that Marcos has just reaped a \$500 million windfall in military aid with a possibility of as much as an additional \$1 billion to be channeled in under the table. Far from being misled or outwitted, the Carter administration can congratulate itself on having struck an extremely good bargain. For the commodity at stake, Philippine national sovereignty, is priceless. To freedom-loving Filipinos even the possible \$1.5 billion is an insult to their democratic rights as a sovereign people.

Even within the particulars of the Bases Agreement, it is clear that Carter, Vance, Murphy, et al. have come up with a very favorable deal. The new agreement grants trifling concessions to Marcos' regime in order to strengthen his "nationalist" credentials (See AK, Vol. VI, #2 and 3). This is in the interest of the U.S. as well as Marcos. While the U.S. insists that its clients carefully defend American interests, it does not particularly care to appear too obviously as a puppet-master pulling the strings every time one of its tutas opens his mouth.

At the same time, the Agreement strengthens U.S. extra-territorial rights. But, most seriously of all, the new agreement, in an innocuous-sounding provision, actually opens the door to direct U.S.

with direct U.S. involvement if necessary, is revealed by a provision which provides for U.S. troops participation in off-base military activities "in accordance with mutually agreed procedures." This supplies a legal justification for possible U.S. troop involvement in counter-insurgency operations against Filipino guerrilla resistance groups which have become very active in the areas surrounding the bases.

This recent development in the Philippines is reminiscent of the massive jump in U.S. military support extended by the "liberal" Kennedy administration to the much hated and isolated Diem regime in South Vietnam during the early sixties. This too went virtually unnoticed until it was too late. It took 12 years before the tragic consequences of this decision on the Vietnamese people and the American people could be ended. The recent massive

military intervention in Philippine affairs.

What "democratic" government could provide the U.S. with terms "preferable" to these? How much more thoroughly could a nation's leader prostitute his country?

On the economic issue, Marcos, says Macapagal, is bad for U.S. business. While there have been some surprises for American businessmen due to unexpected presidential decrees, when last heard from the American business community was hardly complaining. But there are certain elements within the Philippine business world whom martial law has hurt. These are not the foreigners, but elements among the Filipino bourgeoisie who suddenly find themselves unable to wrangle profitable joint venture deals with multi-national corporations because they are at a disadvantage when competing against "Mr. Marcos, his relatives, cronies, and other supporters."

MACAPAGAL'S "DEMOCRACY"

Here we come to the essence of Macapagal's definition of "democracy." "Democracy does not mean self-determination for the Filipino masses whose welfare has been subordinated "to the high life-style and privileges of the elite . . ." "Democracy" means access for dispossessed factions among the elite to juicy business deals and some of that "high life-style" and "privileges" which the Marcos clique has monopolized. "Democracy," to Mr. Macapagal, is continued domination of the Philippine economy by U.S. businesses. Correspondingly, it is continued violation of Philippine sovereignty by the U.S. bases.

While Macapagal would like to appear to be truly opposed to fascism and oppression in the Philippines, what he is actually telling the U.S. is "Switch puppets and we'll offer you a better deal."

How different then is Macapagal and the NUFD from Marcos himself? Who, after all, is simply concerned about its self-interest, if not Macapagal's clique which wants the U.S. to help it gain access to the goodies which are now under Marcos' control? And who is thinking simplistically in appealing to the U.S. to break up its cozy relationship with Marcos at a time when that relationship has been deepened through the bases pact and is about to be cemented by Marcos' first state visit to the U.S. since the declaration of martial law?

NUFD ON SHAKY GROUND

The Carter administration has not been misled. It is acting in accordance with its interests in backing the dictator. And Macapagal's "opposition" group, the NUFD, has no quarrel with U.S. interests. This position accounts for its organizational weakness.

For the NUFD stands on very shaky ground. Its definition of democracy limits its membership to elements of the Philippine financial elite with an ax to grind against the Marcos regime. To prove its

commitment of support for another unpopular dictator by another "liberal" president is another giant step on the road to direct U.S. involvement in another Southeast Asian country.

The U.S. debacle in Vietnam has apparently failed to teach the reactionaries who control U.S. foreign policy the lesson that American intervention in favor of the repressive regimes cannot crush movements for national liberation, democracy and freedom.

The Marcos visit to the United States at the invitation of Pres. Carter must therefore be seen as a sealing of the new interventionist alliance.

We must denounce the dictator's visit. We must expose and protest Carter's decision to launch this country on the road to another Vietnam. □

legitimacy, it has already made false claims. One of these appeared in the Philippine Times, a claim that ex-Senator Jose Diokno, the noted anti-imperialist was a member of the group. Mr. Diokno has since written to anti-martial law forces here disclaiming membership in the NUFD.

But why must this "opposition" group resort to desperate claims in order to trumpet its unity?

Because this unity is such a shallow and tenuous one based strictly on self-interest. As such, any member of the group at any time may easily be seduced by the dictator himself with a promise of sufficient sharing of the spoils.

The real opposition to the Marcos dictatorship consists of the masses of the Filipino people, who Macapagal notes with horror, have been drawn closer to the Communist Party of the Philippines by martial law. United under the banner of the National Democratic movement, this is the force that will ultimately drive, not only this dictator, but his U.S. backers off Philippine soil.

Mr. Macapagal knows this. He also knows that, since the desire of his group is merely to trade places with Marcos, that he has taken a position which is opposed to the interests of the Filipino people.

The Filipino people are not fooled. They know it too. □

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Espino Appointed Commander of U.S. Bases



Gen. Romeo Espino, chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines was named Filipino commander of both Subic Naval Base and Clark Air Base, the two major U.S. military installations in the Philippines. His duties as commander were activated as of Feb. 17. He is entitled to a one-star general as deputy for each base.

That a Filipino commander **General Romeo Espino.** [PC] head-up the U.S. bases, was provided for by amendments of the new U.S. bases treaty agreed upon by Marcos and the U.S. government. The hoisting of the Filipino flag alongside the American flag on bases grounds is also provided for in the treaty.

But elements within and outside the Marcos camp are not at all impressed by the pomp and ceremony of a figurehead and Philippine flag over the bases. In fact, skepticism is widespread among IBP members; the **Kabataang Baranggay (KB)**, led by Imee Marcos, Marcos' daughter; the Civil Liberties Union of the Philippines, consistent opponents of the bases; as well as once-staunch pro-bases advocates, Diosdado Macapagal, Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo, and Raul Manglapus — a political opponent in the U.S.

Marcos started to feel rumblings within the IBP as early as Jan. 15, when he reported the new bases deal and was confronted with pointed questions by IBP members. These IBP members expressed misgivings around the sovereignty terms of the deal. What was perplexing to them was how Marcos could settle for \$500 million in aid for five years, and yet refuse former U.S. Foreign Affairs Secretary Kissinger's 1976 offer of \$1 billion for five years. The biggest disappointment and continued bone of contention was that the Philippines did not gain jurisdiction over criminal cases committed by U.S. servicemen against Filipinos in the base towns.

Within the **Kabataang Baranggay**, who launched a strong attack against the bases last year, there is division. Most of the KB's representatives to the IBP expressed skepticism; one maintained that if Philippine sovereignty was to be complete, the bases should be dismantled; and only one expressed satisfaction with the new deal. □

Consumer Group Proposes Changes

The creation of an independent, autonomous price control agency with police powers is a measure proposed by consumer groups to offset undue price increases. The consumer groups made the proposal as part of their overall effort to revise the price control program. They feel that the proposed price control agency should be able to have control over any commodity in the interests of protecting the public.

Continued price hikes are anticipated throughout the year aggravated by another increase in oil prices. □

Marcos Urges Aid for Business

Speaking before Manila Rotarians, many of whom represent big business, President Marcos promised to aid industry in face of the expected hike in oil prices and "encourage economic activity in the private sector. In the same breath, he said he would make 1979 "the year of the small man in the depressed areas," and ask the business sector's cooperation to this end.

However, while the "small man" can barely cope with the rising prices of commodities on current wages, Marcos has asked labor not to ask for "too big an increase in wages" rationalizing that it would be against the interests of big business and heighten the unemployment rate.

In another speech to an audience composed of members of the Japanese, U.S and European Chambers of Commerce, and the Australian Business Group, Marcos promised to plan schedules for processing export documents and investment permits. For this, he was heartily applauded by the foreign business community. The enthusiastic response was for Marcos' promise to take to task the red tape, obstructionism and delays caused by his bureaucracy in processing import-export documents and setting up new industries. Marcos added that punitive actions will be taken against bureaucrats for non-performance.

Toward the many questions the four organizations had on price and wage policies, Marcos promised basic changes. He said that price-control should eventually be abolished—taking away a leverage that consumers have for protecting themselves from skyrocketing prices.

Another concession recently promised by Mr. Marcos' is lifting of tariff barriers. This, he said, as he addressed the Federation of Garment and Textile Industries, is to be done in order to encourage Philippine industries to "seek the markets of the world and not depend on the domestic market."

All the concessions, adjustments, favors and promises Mr. Marcos is making come at a time when a new economic treaty between the Philippines and the U.S. is being widely discussed. □

Resistance Inaugurates First Radio Station

PANAY, BMP—The first resistance radio station in the country was set up recently inside a guerrilla zone on this island marking a new tide in the national democratic movement.

Named Radio "Madya-as" (after the highest mountain in Panay), the radio station made its initial broadcast Jan. 1 in two separate transmissions, according to reports received by BMP from *Daba-Daba*, an underground newspaper in Aklan and Northern Antique. The broadcasts lasted more than three hours, the report said.

The first broadcast occurred at about 1:10 a.m. It covered one and a half hours of news reporting, commentary, poetry reading, and revolutionary songs. According to the report, the broadcast was done in Aklanon, Ilonggo, Pilipino and English. It started with an Ilonggo song "Yari Na ang Yunit Namon" (Here Comes Our Unit). News reports and commentaries were culled from *Ang Bayan*, *BMP*, *Igrab Sa Nakatundan*, and *Libreng Balita ng Ma day-as*, as well as from manifestos written by the religious sector, the report said.

In between the commentaries and news, revolutionary songs were aired like "Ang



Releases from *Ang Bayan*, *BMP* and other underground papers are now regularly broadcast over the resistance radio station.

Bayan Kong Hiram," "O Banwa King Pinalangga" (My Beloved Country), "Ang Masa," "Gumising Ka, Kabataan," and "Bandilang Pula." Poems like Amado Hernandez' "Kung Tuyo Na and Luha Mo" were also delivered. The announcer, a New People's Army fighter, explained every song and poem.

From 3:15 to 4:50 a.m., the second "Madya-as" broadcast was aired, this time in English, "purposely for students and professionals in the urban areas." As in the initial broadcast, *Daba-Daba* said the news and commentaries covered this year's "local elections" by the dictator, the

counterrevolutionary schemes of the Marcos regime to quell the advancing mass movement in the countryside and cities, and international news.

New songs were also sung by NPA fighters and three women activists. These included "Bag-ong Hangaway sang Banwa" (New People's Fighters), "Sulong Ka, Bayan," "Haead sa mga Rebolusyaryong Martir" (For the Revolutionary Martyrs) and "Banggianay" (Contradiction).

Barrio residents celebrated the historic occasion by cheering, dancing and serving native delicacies. □

Army General Takes Vengeance Against NPA



The NPA in Samar

Army Major Gen. Fortunato Abat launched a massive retaliation drive against NPA

members in Eastern Samar who killed his son, 2nd Lt. Tito Abat, 22, in an encounter on Feb. 3. Using his position and powers to personal advantage, the Army chief has dispatched battalions of Army and Constabulary troops on air and foot to close in on Mount Sohoton, in Eastern Samar—a suspected hide-out of the NPA. The hinterlands of Samar have also been saturated with troops.

According to the reports, 2nd Lt. Tito Abat, a PMA graduate was leading a team of Scout Rangers (supposedly the best trained counter-guer-

rilla military unit) near barrio Calbang, Sta. Rita in Samar when he and his men besieged a concentration of armed guerrilla fighters. An encounter immediately ensued in the night, and Abat was slain.

Reports say that the younger Abat and his troop were on a mission of checking rebel activity in the barrio.

Marcos newspapers attribute rapid growth of the NPA in the region to "graft and corruption of local officials." In fact, the NPA has been able to present viable alternatives to the neglected poverty-stricken areas of Samar. □

Manila Public Employees Oppose Reforestation Fee

BMP—Employees from various government offices in Metro Manila recently assailed the Marcos regime's proposal to deduct P2 every month from their salaries to finance the government's tree planting program.

In a widely-circulated mimeographed statement, the employees branded the proposed deduction as "a case of simple extortion." Arbitrary collection without prior notice has become a new form of taxation adding to the average

12 percent deducted from the government worker's gross pay.

The employees said that they should not bear the brunt of reforestation since it is the large foreign and domestic logging concessionaries led by Marcos himself who are mainly responsible for forest destruction.

These concessionaries, the statement said, profit enormously from both "legal" and "illegal" logging operations. The dictator has even offered

firms engaged in the cutting, processing and shipping of logs a package of incentives and privileges under the Investment Incentives Act and similar laws.

The employees cited the P2 billion Cellophil Resources Corp., the largest logging concession in the country. Cellophil is a joint operation backed by a consortium of government banks. A key figure in its operation is Hermilio Disini, a business crony of Marcos. □

History of Social Activism

Filipino Clergy Mix Politics and Religion

Adapted from the Philippine Liberation Courier

When Pope John Paul II denounced Catholic Church radicals at the Third Latin American Bishops' Conference (CELAM) in Mexico last January (See AK, Vol. VI, #3), he set the basis for renewed conflict between radicals and conservatives within the church not only in Latin America but in the Philippines as well.

Less than a month before the CELAM conference, radical Philippine nuns and priests met and reaffirmed their commitment to the National Democratic Front's 10 Point Program which includes a call to support the New People's Army. On January 1, 1979, the Mindanao chapter of the Christians for National Liberation (CNL) released a position paper denouncing not only conservative church persons who support the Marcos dictatorship, but also reformist elements who "shy away from the challenge of radical social change."

The two events point to the vast political distance travelled by the Philippine church in the past decade or more.

CHURCH POLITICS AND ITS CLASS POSITION

The church hierarchy, the heads of religious orders and other church institutions by virtue of their class origins and control over vast financial resources, have always been very much a part of the Philippine ruling class. Although many priests, nuns and brothers come from lower or lower middle class backgrounds, the status they gain as religious is that of middle class.

At the Mindanao CNL put it, "Religious life provides security, a comparatively comfortable standard of living, and high symbolic capital (i.e. power and influence). Once part of the middle class, living a relatively comfortable life, and not being the direct object of economic exploitation, the religious begin to feel indifferent towards the exploitative system. Added to this middle-class social status is the alienation and deformation caused in the training of religious in non-Filipino philosophy, theology, and lifestyle. The Filipino religious becomes alienated not only from his own class origins but from his own people.

"At the same time," the CNL statement continues, "people in the church sector are challenged by the Gospel message . . . to stand on the side of those who suffer (i.e. the exploited class). Herein lies the root of much confusion and frustration in the church sector . . . Often religious will go about serving the people in a paternalistic way. . . will come to understand the socio-economic realities on a merely abstract level, and never feel personally affected by such realities."

By the late sixties, however, the delayed impact of the ideas of Pope John XXIII, Vatican II and, more importantly, the upsurge of the radical nationalist movement began to push many religious into social and political activism. Social action programs, cooperatives, the church-backed Federation of Free Farmers (FFF) and youth organizations were set up and enthusiastically supported. Although these organizations were initially formed to



Nuns wear black badges after accused Army torturer is acquitted.

provide an alternative to more radical national democratic organizations, they served inadvertently as the training ground for future national democratic activists in the church. The failure of reformist programs, the co-optation of the FFF leadership by the Marcos regime, and, finally, the declaration of martial law, drove many church activists into the national democratic movement.

The CNL interprets this development: "Some persons of the religious sector veer away from involvement with political groups with the rationalization that they should simply work for justice or people's rights . . . yet just as faith without good works is dead, so too good works without a correct political line are of no ultimate value in changing the oppressive structures. People's power, freedom from oppressive structures, individual and communal liberation cannot exist on a barrio level unless they are politically supported on a national level. Hence the need for national liberation and the establishment of a national democratic government in accord with the NDF 10-Point Program.

REFORMISM AND THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS

From the first years of martial law, national democrats dominated church activists. Increasingly concerned over the rapid growth of the national democratic movement, anti-communist elements in

the church led by a few members of the powerful Jesuit order began to organize a social-democratic alternative in 1975. Two years later, the *Nagkakaisang Partido Demokratikong Sosyalista ng Pilipinas* (United Democratic Socialist Party of the Philippines) was formed. In alliance with pro-American Liberal Party elements, a handful of former Constitutional Convention delegates and other prominent individuals, the social democrats formed the *Katipunan ng Bayan para sa Kalayaan* (KABAKA, People's League for Freedom) in 1977 and, in 1978, the National Union for Freedom and Democracy (NUFD).

As one underground source put it, "The strategy of the social democrats seems to be one of waiting in the wings for a U.S. imperialist-backed *coup d'état* to topple the dictatorship and install some Liberal Party personalities in power. They hope then to be appointed to 'strategic' government posts from which they can more easily push for reforms. . . ."

The net effect of the social democrats' efforts to date has been disruption of church programs and organizations in an attempt to dislodge national democrats and to raise the "red scare" banner among oppositionist forces. Reports from Manila indicate that the social democratic party has managed to recruit only about 100 members mostly from among students and young professionals. In frustration over their inability to make political headway, social democrats have adopted vicious tactics. Last year, the Manila group circulated a long list of religious supposedly working with the NDF. In Davao, a small group of social democratic cadres have been armed. Its main activity has been disrupting NPA organizing and, on several occasions, informing to the Marcos military.

"The Social Democrat Party," the CNL says, "has been unable to articulate its own clear identity and ideology . . . The identity crisis of the Social Democrat Party is due to the fact that . . . it does not base its policies upon a concrete analysis of the present situation of oppression and exploitation. . . . As a party which is the mouthpiece of just a small sector of the population, the middle class, its future is limited."

FROM ACCIÓN TO IDEALS

The continuing predominance of national democrats among church activists stems from the leading role of the NDF in the resistance to the Marcos dictatorship. One nun said in a recent interview, "The NPA are more committed in their vows of poverty than the religious themselves. They are very gentle. These people who have no God are living more like Christians than Christians themselves. . . ."

"Religious, who are idealists, generally take action on the basis of ideals, but revolutionary analysis reverses this process so that ideals grow out of action." To illustrate this process, she narrated her own involvement in political action. She had spent six years studying philosophy in Europe, she said. When she returned home she was confronted by the radical ferment in the

continued on back page

PAGBABALIK WAS
PAGBABALIK WASMilitary Seizes
CHDF Arms
After Pampanga Raid

MEXICO, PAMPANGA, BMP — Local Civilian Home Defense Force (CHDF) members were divested of their firearms last Dec. 15 by the military following intelligence reports that the town will be the next target of a New People's Army (NPA) disarming operation.

The order came from Camp Olivas, sources said barely four weeks after a successful NPA arms raid on a CHDF detachment in nearby Sta. Ana town. Constabulary officials were reportedly apprehensive about further arming the paramilitary outfit. They suspected that some CHDF men were maintaining close contacts with the Red

fighters.

The arms collection was made after all CHDF members from 25 barrios in this town were ordered to report to the PC barracks to get their P60 monthly pay. They received nothing it was learned.

With their weapons confiscated, many CHDF's, especially those known for various offenses against the residents were grounded at the municipal hall for fear of civilian reprisals.

In a related move, PC officials issued new guidelines for the recruitment of CHDF members. According to the guidelines, members of the CHDF must work "full-time" and must report daily to the military. Monthly pay of P100 will be given, funds for which will be forcibly "donated" by farmers.

The military threatened to kill 10 barrio residents if ever a PC supervi-

statement to all CHDF in the town sor is killed, it was reported.

Meanwhile, the Red Army issued a that they will be spared from NPA attacks if they discontinue their collaboration with the military. □

Sugar Workers
Stage Walkout

Five hundred workers staged walk-out at the Batangas Sugar Central after management failed to meet their demands — among them the demand for a general salary increase.

The mayor of Balayan, Batangas, Luis Ramos, requested Constabulary troops when the strikers solicited the cooperation of non-striking workers. He maintained that walk-outs or any strike was banned under Marcos' decree. □



Visayan sugar-workers march on May 1, 1975.

PAGBABALIK WAS
PAGBABALIK WAS

Another Scandal Brews

'Mystery Man' Grabs P250M Profit

By VICTORIA LUNA

Financial circles in Manila are abuzz this month with one of the fishiest stock market deals to come to light in years. Someone has just reaped a cool P250 million through a highly irregular purchase of 20 percent of Oriental Petroleum, the key Philippine member of the oil-drilling consortium working the Palawan shelf area. The main question is—Who?

Oriental's management, which controls 75 percent of the company's stock, rammed through a proposal at a Jan. 20th shareholders meeting to increase the company's capitalization from P100 million to P125 million through a bizarre stockswap maneuver. Minority shareholders were outraged when the board insisted that stockholders must waive their pre-emptive rights to 2.5 billion new shares of Oriental in favor of a buyer whose identity still remains secret.

While the current market value of Oriental's stock is 10 centavos/share, the board insisted that the buyer be allowed to purchase the shares at par, the initial value of the stock, or one centavo/share. He thus reaps an immediate P250 million profit. The mystery man, moreover, will not be paying cash, but instead, for one-fifth interest in the company and three seats on the board of directors, will exchange a 2.5 percent share in all future profits to be reaped by the drilling consortium.

A BIGGER MYSTERY UNFOLDS

This raises an even more fascinating mystery. Where does this 2.5 percent share come from? The contract signed by the consortium headed by Cities Service of Oklahoma and the Philippine government's Bureau of Energy Development states that 62.5 percent of the net profits go to the government while 37.5 percent go to the consortium. These are the figures cited in Oriental's 1977 report. But the figures presented to Oriental shareholders last Jan. 20 state that, while 37.5 percent still goes to the consortium, only 60 percent is to go to the government while 2.5 percent is reserved for the mystery man.

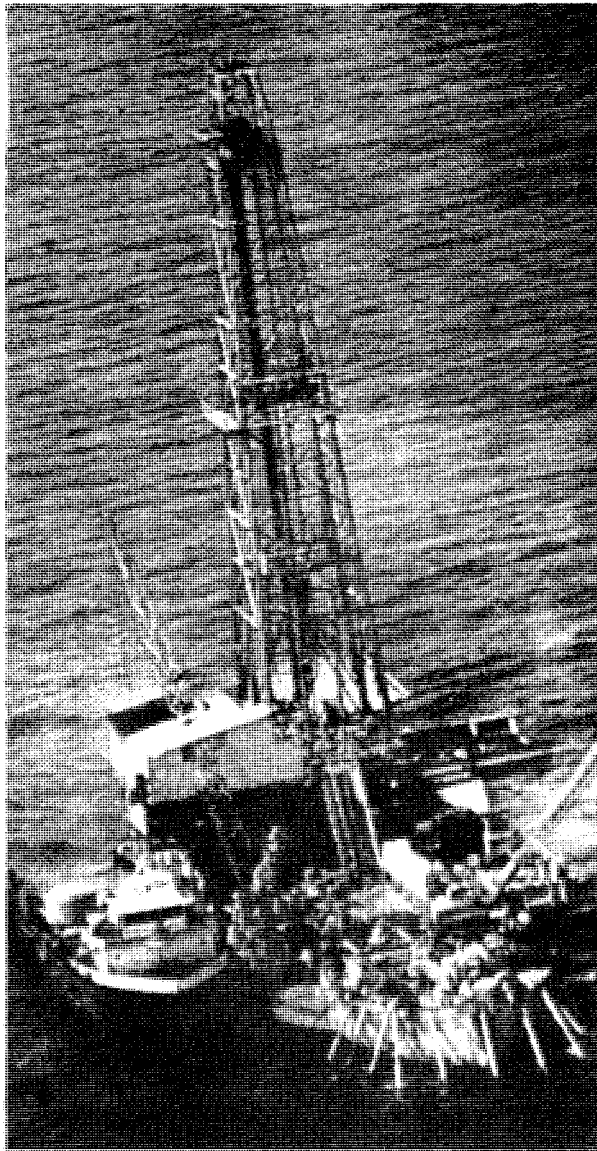
Who has come into possession of this chunk of the government's share—and how?

In the Philippines, there is only one person who can divest the government of its property and hand it over to a private citizen: Prime Minister Ferdinand E. Marcos. Given the economic realities of the New Society, the mystery man in the Oriental deal can only be one of a select few: the top cronies and frontmen of the Prime Minister. The short list includes Roberto Benedicto, Rodolfo Cuenca, Ricardo Silverio and Herminio Disini with the Romualdez and Marcos families bringing up the rear.

Although no one is placing any bets, a number of observers have pointed out that the boldness of the scheme and the level of government participation suggest the style of Herminio Disini of Westinghouse nuclear reactor fame—the most recent multi-millionaire on the list. Married to Imelda Marcos' cousin, Disini has received close cooperation from the president throughout his spectacular rise, which began in the early seventies.

SEAFRONT REVISITED?

Observers further point out that this would not be the first time the president and Disini have teamed



Oil rig drilling the Palawan shelf area: Who is manipulating petroleum corporation's stocks?

up to manipulate the stockmarket in the realm of oil exploration. In fact, Disini was relatively unknown prior to the 1976 Seafont Scandal. Seafont Exploration was a Disini firm whose stock suddenly soared when Ferdinand Marcos appeared on T.V. holding up a jar of supposedly newly-found oil. When the smoke cleared over the Makati Stock Exchange, Herminio Disini and his associates, who never did strike oil, had made a killing and a number of small investors had lost their shirts.

The Oriental mess has the potential for growing into another major scandal. Disgruntled shareholders have already raised their complaints to the Securities and Exchange Commission, which claims it cannot act until it knows the identity of the buyer.

But the Marcos regime can ill afford another scandal with Imelda currently accused before a U.S. court of having handed a \$2 million bribe to Henry Ford II (See AK, Vol. VI, #3) and the Westinghouse kickback scheme still fresh in people's minds. In order to avoid further corruption charges, Marcos might choose at the last minute to divest the mystery man of his recently acquired bit of government property and to claim that, all along, the secret buyer has been some innocuous government entity such as the Philippine National Oil Corp.

Whether he will be believed or not is another question. □

Oil Flows From Nido II

After much fanfare, the Philippine's first oil well, South Nido One finally went into limited production January 27. Though flowing initially at only 2,000-4,000 barrels a day, the Bureau of Energy Development predicts that production may reach 40,000 barrels per day by August.

Slightly less than 40 percent of the total production from the Nido well and others planned nearby will actually go to the Philippine government. The rest will be divided among Cities Service Co. of the U.S. and its four Philippine partners in the exploration project.

The projected 40,000 barrel per day is only a small portion of Philippine consumption. For the first 11 months of 1978, the country imported

217,000 barrels a day. Prices of petroleum products are thus still largely dependent on the prices set by the OPEC countries. Filipinos this year expect to pay an increase of anything between 12 and 30 centavos per liter for petroleum products. A large proportion of the price is expected to be increased government taxes. Taxes currently account for 32.5 percent of the retail price of gasoline.

Energy Development Bureau sources have revealed that the entire NIDO oil field is likely to be exhausted within five years, possibly as early as 1983. It is thus unlikely that the NIDO find will provide anything other than a partial stop-gap solution to the country's fuel woes. □

Disini Does It Again

Controversy Surrounds Contract Award

Foreign investors interested in the Philippines must all by now have learned one very valuable lesson: team up with a firm owned by Herminio Disini, confidant and crony of Ferdinand Marcos, and your troubles are over.

Westinghouse learned it when the Philippine government leaned strongly toward a highly detailed G.E. bid to build two nuclear reactors in the country. They contacted their friend Disini and in no time at all, the Philippine government had accepted Westinghouse's sketchy proposal to build the same two plants for twice the price.

The latest beneficiary of a Disini partnership is Perkins Engines, Ltd. of Britain, which along with West Germany's Maschinfabrik Augsburg-Nurnberg A.G. (M.A.N.) last month won a fierce international competition to build a \$100 million diesel engine industry in the Philippines.



Herminio Disini, Marcos golfing partner, helps his associates wring juicy contracts from the Marcos government. [Asia Week]

The award came as something of a surprise. Initially, the Philippine Board of Investments (BOI) had planned on issuing its decision in February 1978. The one-year delay heightened both the competition and speculation as to who would win. BOI sources say that last year the board sent Marcos a technical report which recommended a combination of M.A.N. and another British firm, BL, Ltd. The same recommendation was made a second time by the majority of the board. But the government stalled on making a decision and suddenly announced, in the midst of the competition, new conditions that only the Perkins proposal met. It further invited Perkins to "clarify" unacceptable portions of its offer. Neither practice, according to board members, is "usual" procedure.

But Perkins' Philippine sales agent is a member of the Herdis group of companies, the giant conglomerate owned by Herminio Disini—and Herminio Disini's name is a magic word in Philippine government/finance circles.

The winners, under the Progressive Truck Manufacturing Program, are to receive a monopoly on "all domestically assembled commercial vehicles" and will be required to export a portion of their products as well. The lion's share of the business will go to Perkins, which will concentrate on engines of up to 150 horsepower, while M.A.N. will build only larger-sized engines.

GOOD FOR PERKINS—BAD FOR ASEAN

While the project may mean a gold mine for the two European multinationals, it does not bode well for the loudly-proclaimed goal of greater ASEAN economic cooperation advocated by the Marcos administration. In an effort to stimulate trade between ASEAN countries, all of which export approximately the same raw materials to the developed countries in exchange for manufactured goods, a cooperative industrialization plan was drawn up in 1976.

Each of the ASEAN nations was to develop one industry whose products it would trade with the others. The Philippines was awarded phosphatic fertilizers and Singapore diesel engines. It seems, however, that there is more money in diesel engines. First Indonesia and now the Philippines, much to the annoyance of Singapore officials, has pushed ahead to develop their own diesel industry in spite of the ASEAN agreement. □

Anti-Martial Law Front Marcos Still Violates Human Rights

AMLC Investigating Team Releases Report

Marcos still does not make the grade. In a report released February 11 the U.S. State Department says, "Martial law has resulted in the suspension of democratic forms of government and in the serious curtailment of the human rights of many citizens." The report also says that, "There were unconfirmed but credible reports of widespread vote fraud, improper government influence and restrictions on the opposition during the elections [for the *Interim Batasang Pambansa* last

April]." The IBP, the report adds, "has little substantive authority," and is "government-dominated."

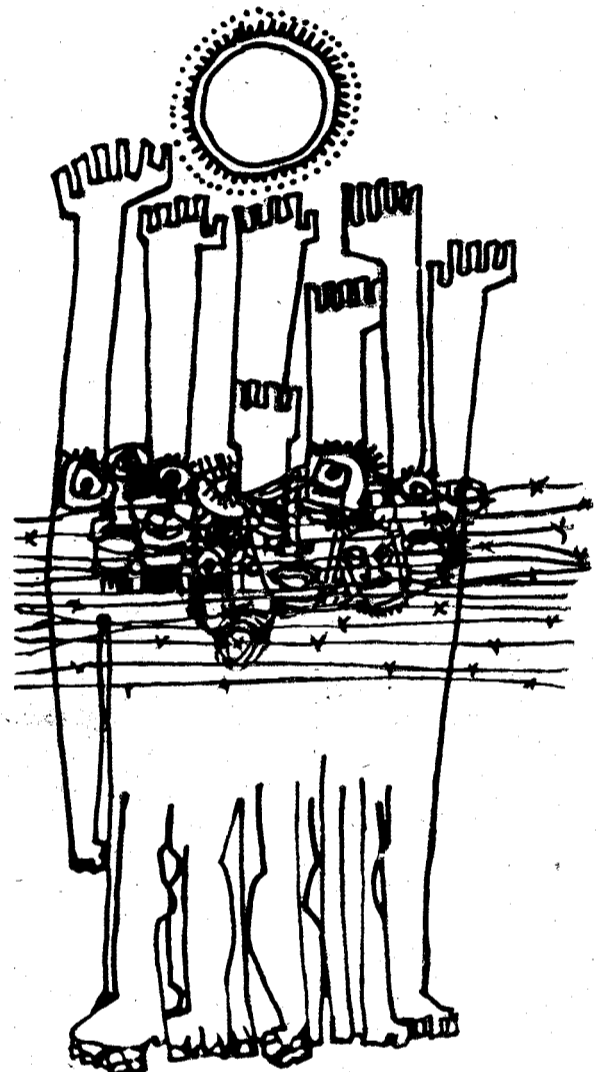
While the report, following the pattern set in similar reports in the past two years, continues to carry a tone of "impartiality" which ends up in Marcos's favor, it does stop short of being a whitewash. This year's report is particularly significant because the U.S. Congress will soon take up the first-year appropriation of military assistance to the Marcos regime under the recently concluded bases agreement. The tone of the report, anti-martial law activists in Washington point out, indicates that the Carter administration will not try to defend the Marcos regime's human rights record in pushing for the vastly increased military assistance appropriation for fiscal year 1980. The appropriation, these sources say, will likely be defended mainly on security grounds.

The Friends of the Filipino People (FFP) and the Anti-Martial Law Coalition (AMLC) announced the release of their new publication *Conditions of the Filipino People Under Martial Law*.

This document is the report of an investigating team's visit to the Philippines.

The Investigating Team of nine Filipinos and Americans, sent by the AMLC and the FFP was commissioned to probe the refugee situation in that country. The number of refugees that has reached critical proportions under military rule became such cause for alarm that the FFP and the AMLC jointly launched an effort to look into the problem.

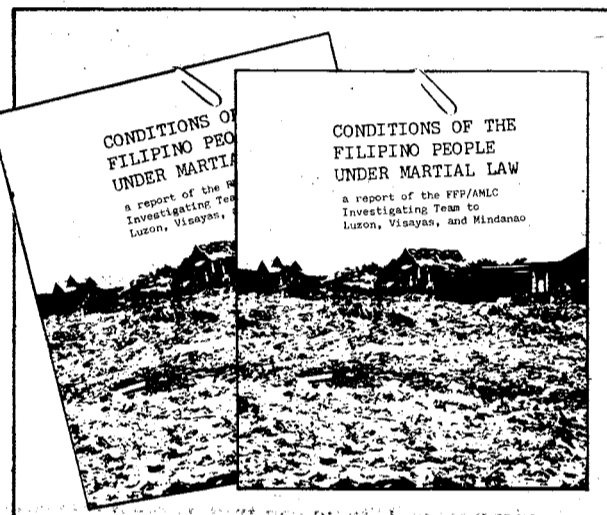
Filipino anti-martial law activists in the U.S. and Americans with "varied political perspectives and



TORTURE CONTINUES

The report, one of several country reports required by the U.S. Congress under the Human Rights Amendment to the 1975 Foreign Assistance Act, points out that "There have continued to be credible reports of torture in 1978 as well as of the involvement of military units in abductions and murders of dissidents as an alternative to their arrest and imprisonment." It also notes that although the government announced in January 1978 that the 22 existing military tribunals would soon be phased out, by July 1978 only seven had actually been disbanded and 10 additional ones were created in their place.

The report's grudging acknowledgment of continuing violations of political rights, however, does not extend to the sphere of economic rights. Its judgment that there has been a "small reduction in the extent of poverty" and that "income distribution . . . may be improving slightly" flies in the face of overwhelming evidence of continuing deterioration of public welfare. Its assertion that rural incomes "probably have increased somewhat" and that "urban incomes have remained roughly constant" is contradicted by the Philippine government's own statistics which show that real wages have declined by more than 30 percent in the past six years. □



concerns" composed the team. The nine members were distributed in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao where they stayed from one to two months. In this brief time period the mission witnessed the plight of the Filipino people and how the dictatorial regime of Pres. Marcos has affected and shaped their lives and struggles.

The mission likewise examined the deep relation of the Marcos government to U.S. policy makers who continue to aid the regime with millions in U.S. military and economic aid.

In *Conditions of the Filipino People Under Martial Law*, six members of the team report and communicate what their experiences and the result of their investigation in the Philippines have been.

The publication is available for purchase at \$2.00 per copy. Bulk prices are also offered. Requests for orders should be sent to Pandayan, P.O. Box 24707, Oakland, CA 94623. □

Unconditional Amnesty Urged For R.P. Political Prisoners

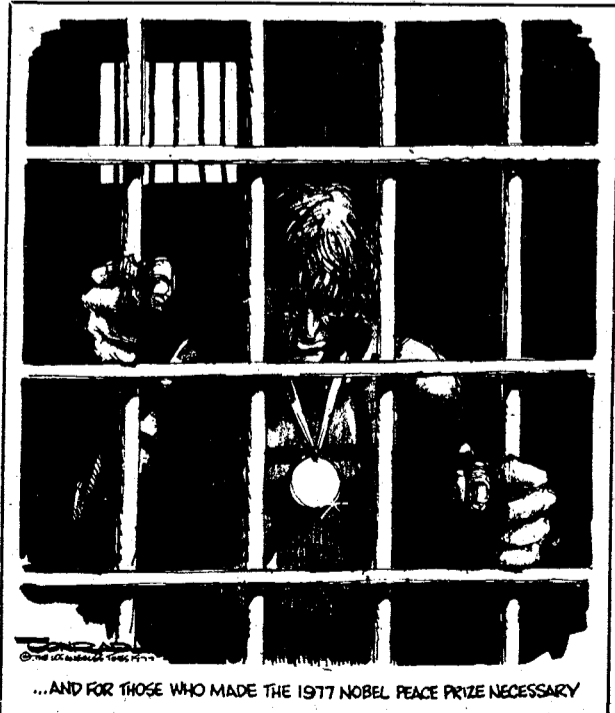
Since 1973 the martial law government has been promising amnesty to political prisoners. To date, not one detainee has been released on account of the amnesty proclamations of the regime. Oftentimes, detainees are granted amnesty long after their release, when the military decides that they are no longer a threat to national security.

More frequently, amnesty applications pile up in the amnesty board created by Marcos and it takes years before the military begins to process them. In both cases, the implementation of amnesty is meaningless, specially after if it is granted to a detainee who has already spent several years in prison.

Frustrated with the situation, parents, wives, relatives, and friends of political prisoners have launched a nationwide campaign urging Pres. Marcos to grant full and unconditional amnesty to all political prisoners. Formed into an association called *KAPATID* (Association for the Release and Amnesty of Political Detainees), relatives and friends of prisoners are taking the Marcos regime to task for its long delayed promise of amnesty.

KAPATID is urging the broadening of Presidential Decree 1429 to cover all political prisoners. P.D. 1429 was issued to achieve, in Marcos' words, "national unity and reconciliation." However, under its present terms, P.D. 1429 is partial and makes distinctions between suspected "leaders and followers."

Last year, *KAPATID* presented a petition signed by 12,000 persons to Marcos urging the granting of general and unconditional amnesty. The National



...AND FOR THOSE WHO MADE THE 1977 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE NECESSARY

Resource Center for Philippine Political Prisoners (NRCPPP), based in Oakland, California, has taken up this petition campaign to solicit more signatures. Since the campaign ends in the last week of March, NRCPPP has issued a call to all human rights advocates to assist in this effort. Petition forms may be obtained from the NRCPPP, P.O. Box 27118, Oakland, CA 94602. □

Protest Greets Romualdez In S.F.

FLASH! — Eduardo Romualdez, Philippine Ambassador to the U.S. and the highest diplomatic representative of the Marcos government arrived in San Francisco, only to be greeted by a militant and defiant demonstration denouncing his presence here.

Organized by the Anti-Martial Law Alliance (AMLA) S.F. Chapter, 25 demonstrators picketed outside the Sheraton Palace Hotel where Romualdez attended an annual event commemorating those Filipinos who served in the various branches of the Armed Forces. The event was sponsored by a Filipino organization of retired veterans.

According to AMLA spokesperson, Paulette Vitin, "We came here tonight to make it perfectly clear that any person representing the Marcos government will be met by demonstrations denouncing the repressive regime." She continued, "Romualdez represents the hypocrisy and pretense that are distinguishing 'trademarks' of Marcos' propaganda gimmicks in trying to make his regime appealing . . . the Filipino community will not fall for that trick anymore, no matter how many diplomats he sends here." □

Honolulu Housing Struggle

Retired Filipino Workers Fight Evictions

continued from front page

Nabora's family is one of two Filipino families left at 1189 River St. who have remained to continue the struggle for low-cost housing in Chinatown. There used to be eight families living in the building, but most left after years of continual harassment and intimidation from the city. When pressure began to increase, they took the \$4,200 which made their bitter experience a little easier to swallow. But the Naboras and the other family, the Malalongs, have remained steadfast in their stand.

Lau's Place at 42 N. Pauahi St. is another building whose residents are also faced with the grim prospect of being evicted from their wooden, age-bitten building which they call home. Cayetano Bautista is a 79-year-old Filipino who lives at Lau's Place and is a member of the steering committee of the People Against Chinatown Eviction (PACE) organization.

Bautista has lived in Chinatown for 57 years, since 1922. He was born in Sinaít, Ilocos Sur, Philippines in 1899 and came to Hawaii in 1919.

Although 79 years old and hampered with poor eyesight, Bautista has been one of the staunchest fighters for low-cost housing for the people of Chinatown. He has not allowed his age and disability to keep him from joining his fellow residents in the numerous demonstrations and confrontations that PACE has organized to pressure the city to build low-cost housing in Chinatown since 1975.

"Our place right now is not fit for human beings to live in," Bautista remarked. "People ask me why we live here, but we like living here. Because of urban renewal, landlords make no repairs . . . so the buildings go bad, like this one here," explained Bautista. "The city and landlords work together to evict people. City no can find us good relocation we can afford, that's why we stay."

According to Bautista, their eviction struggle, like that at 1189 River St., is now with the State Supreme Court.

BARE SURVIVAL

The situation faced by Victorino Nabora and Cayetano Bautista is similar to that of hundreds of other elderly Filipinos in Chinatown Honolulu, who make up the great majority of the more than 1200 residents. Single and retired, many barely survive on an average income of \$205 a month, which they collect from their pension or social security. As a result of the city's intention to "re-invigorate" downtown Honolulu, these low-income residents of Chinatown, who live on fixed incomes, are being pushed out as brand new, tall office buildings and expensive shopping malls for tourists are being erected.

Many are bitter with their experience of being shoved from one building to another. After spending 30 to 40 years of their most productive years in life building Hawaii, these retired workers are made to feel like an old shoe that doesn't seem to fit with the times anymore. Some have taken the city's \$4200 offer and moved out of Chinatown, others have gone back to the Philippines (many for the first time since coming to Hawaii in the 20's and 30's). But there are also those, like Victorino Nabora and Cayetano Bautista, who have stayed in Chinatown and taken a stand to stop evictions and fight the city to build low-cost housing.

Victorino Nabora and Cayetano Bautista narrated their life story, which is typical of the first wave of Filipino immigrant workers who came to Hawaii and the U.S. in the early decades of this century.

"I came to Hawaii 52 years ago," recalled Nabora. "I was born in Luna, La Union. That was 73, or is it 74 years ago? I forget already," he laughed. "When I came to Hawaii, I was assigned to the Baldwin Plantation in Paia, Maui. I bust ass working them sugar cane for seven years," he continued.

Nabora said he took part in the famous Puunene strike in Maui on 1937. The strike was organized by the *Vibora Luzviminda*, the last Filipino racial union in the islands. "I was young and strong then, no afraid...then the strike leaders asked to walk off the job because our pay poor, really low. In our camp in Poliho, we make only one dollah a day, you know," Nabora shook his head as he remembered those difficult years. After the strike was settled,



Chinatown community residents are fighting against eviction attempts.

[AK Photo]

many workers, according to Nabora were evicted by the plantation from their camps. Nabora left Maui and came to work in the plantation fields of Kunia, on Oahu, where he stayed until the outbreak of World War II.

In 1942, Nabora moved to Honolulu and established residence in Chinatown where he has lived ever since. He worked as a stevedore on the docks for 27 years before retiring in 1969. He was an active member of the ILWU which he saw develop into the most powerful union in Hawaii.

"When I started work in stevedore, I got paid 95¢ an hour. That was a big deal then! But the work was tough, really tough on your back and shoulders," Nabora painfully remembered. He showed his roughed hands and marks of scars on his arms and back, what he calls his medal of honor. "We no got the machines like today, you know. Everything we carried on our back," he said.

He described with great pride how he took part in the historic dock strike in 1949, which lasted for six months and broke the back of the Big 5 companies (the term used to describe the five big business firms which controlled Hawaii's economic and political life for more than half-century). The strike, which was organized by the ILWU, finally earned the union a voice in the economic life of the islands and gained workers a measure of respect from the business community. Nabora said it was the sacrifice of the workers, many of whom were Filipinos, Japanese and Hawaiians, that made the victory of the strike possible. "Everyday for six months, we walked the picket lines, from 6 in the morning to 12 in the evening, sometimes fighting off the scabs and the police," he added.

SMALL GRIND

Cayetano Bautista's life story is no different. He too, went through the hard grind of life that workers go through. "I arrived in 1919 and got sent to Pahala Kau on the Big Island (Hawaii) and worked in the sugar plantation. I worked there until the big strike in 1924," Bautista recounted. "You know, boy, Pablo Manlapit (the famous Filipino labor leader in the 1920's) was the one who sent us the word to strike," he proudly recalled. Thousands of Filipinos throughout Hawaii had walked off their jobs in the plantations as an expression of labor solidarity. "But we lost the strike after several months and the plantation bosses kicked us off the plantation," Bautista added.

Bautista remembered the difficulty in finding work in Hilo because of the practice of the sugar growers of blacklisting workers who took part in the strikes. That was when he decided to move to Honolulu.

"I have lived in Chinatown since 1927 and I still

remember some of the guys who were with me and are now with PACE, like Mr. Asuncion at Maunakea Hale," Bautista said with a smile. He said he worked at the Dole Cannery in 1928 and was paid 25¢ an hour. He stayed at Dole until the war broke out when he went to work at Hickam Air Force Base near Pearl Harbor. There he remembered with bitterness how the military discriminated against "alien" workers. "I was mechanic and did the same work as the other guys. But they made more money than me," Bautista said in disgust. After the war he returned to Dole Cannery as a cook until he retired in 1964.

Nabora and Bautista have seen many changes in Chinatown. They remember how large and alive Chinatown was with the bustle of its small businesses, restaurants, movie houses and dance halls. Today, it is one-fourth its original size before urban renewal began its destruction in the 1950's.

According to Nabora, "Many people, small businesses and residents, were pushed out. Landlords give us one month notice to move out . . . we can do nothing." Nabora continued, "The city promised us we can move back and housing will be built, but no way. Those who were promised relocation no can move back."

"Today, no one believe the city . . . hard to believe what the government says," added Bautista. The residents of 1189 River St. and Lau's Place received their eviction notices in 1975. After finding the city's relocation offers inadequate, the residents of both buildings decided to fight the evictions. In July 1975, the tenants of 1189 River St. and Lau's Place joined with other residents in Chinatown to form PACE.

The struggle of both 1189 River St. and Lau's Place is now in the Hawaii State Supreme Court. Their cases are up for hearing March 2.

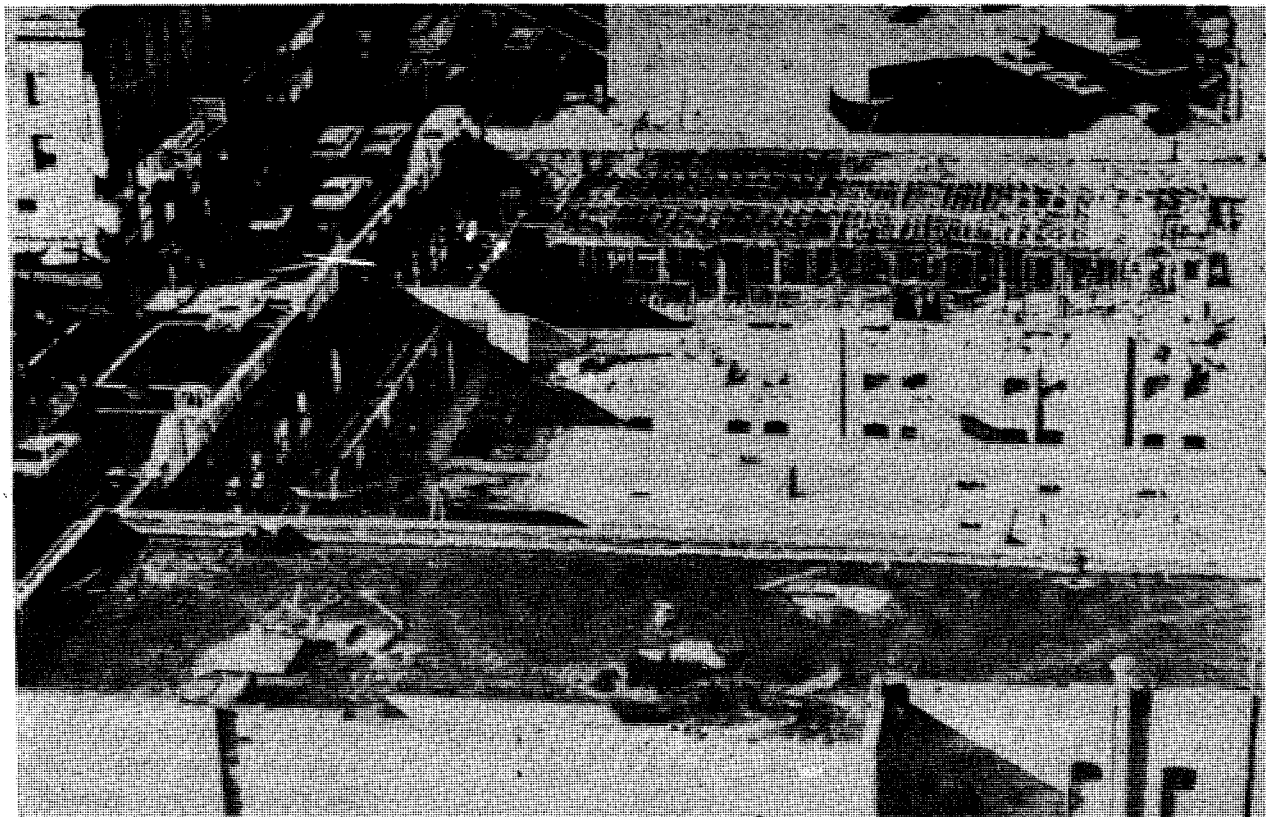
SHOWDOWN

With sincere feelings, Victorino Nabora expressed his deepest hopes, as he pondered what the future might be if they lose the court case. "We hope it doesn't become violent," he said. "We don't want to get anyone hurt." But Nabora repeated that they don't want to move if it is only temporary. They want to make sure that the housing they will get is permanent and affordable.

At this moment, the housing struggle in Chinatown is moving quickly towards another confrontation between the City and PACE. Eviction notices have been given for the PACE office and Health Clinic. But the district court has ordered negotiations between PACE and DHCD, to avoid any confrontation similar to what happened at Aloha Hotel in 1976 — when PACE and supporters occu-

continued on page 8

I-Hotel Under Demolition



An aerial view of the I-Hotel reveals nothing more than a skeletal shell.

[SF Journal Photo]

Reprinted from San Francisco Journal

In their latest attempt to save the International Hotel, the Board of Permit Appeals voted to overturn a discretionary action by Bureau of Building Inspection director Robert Levy, to withhold issuance of a stop-work order to Four Seas from demolishing the hotel.

The board cast a 4-0-1 vote to overturn the decisions by Levy. Board member, Mattie Jackson, also the head of the ILGWU (International Ladies Garment Workers Union), abstained from voting, and rescinded all previous votes on the International Hotel.

Jackson made the request to the board citing a conflict of interest stemming from a 1975 Superior Court ruling when Jackson last supported the hotel. Her request was approved 4-0 by the board to reflect as abstentions.

The board decisions were the result of protests by attorney Sue Hestor and John Diamonte against the January 10 lifting of the stop-work order on the demolition permit of the I-Hotel. Hestor argued that Four Seas should not have been issued a demolition permit, and Levy should have continued the stop-work order because Four Seas has violated various laws by previously defying a stop-work order to demolish the hotel. She voiced her criticism against the city for allowing the current

demolition crew to work on the hotel after they illegally attempted to demolish the hotel without permission from the city.

Levy failed to issue a stop-work order when the board had agreed three weeks ago to hear a protest filed by Hestor and Diamonte. Normally, when the board agrees to hold a hearing on a protest, a stop-work order is issued by the Bureau of Building Inspection until the issue is resolved. This action is performed by Levy and not by the board which is considered "discretionary."

According to City Attorney George Agnost, the Board of Permit Appeals decision has no effect on the current situation as the demolition of the hotel is proceeding. Duane Garrett, Four Seas attorney, reported to the board that the hotel was 80 percent demolished. The roof and rooms have been torn down, only the second floor ceiling and the third floor supports remain and the I-Hotel is currently a shell.

Sue Hestor, contacted by the *Journal*, reported that the Four Seas has been permitted by the city to use cranes only on weekends to demolish the outer structures of the hotel.

Supporters of the I-Hotel are seeking ways to halt the demolition of the hotel in order to rehabilitate the hotel for low-cost housing for the elderly and low-income families. □

Hawaii-Chinatown...

continued from page 7

ped the building for nine days until the City was forced to relocate the tenants to a city-owned building in Chinatown. Terms for the negotiations are currently being discussed by both parties.

When asked what their demands were, Charley Correa, a PACE steering committee member said, "We demand that negotiations include the settlement of the PACE office and Free Health Clinic cases, plus those of 1189 River St., Lau's Place, and 4A N. Hotel St." According to Correa, PACE also wants the City to rehabilitate two housing buildings which it owns, Pauahi Hale and Maunakea Hale, to be used as permanent relocation housing for victims of evictions in Chinatown.

Many people in Honolulu are wondering if PACE has the ability to win its struggle against the city. According to Victorino Nabora, "People used to tell us to give up our strike (in 1949) because we no can beat the Big 5 and the government. The government was on the side of the Big 5 you know . . . today, people also tell us that PACE no can win because the city is against us . . . government no can lose, they tell us. But I tell them we try."

So far, PACE has managed to hold off all efforts by the city and the developers to evict residents. But these new rounds of actions coming up will put the Naboras and the Bautistas in Chinatown to a hard test. Whether they will force the City to accept their demands will depend on the ability of PACE to win support from the residents of Chinatown and the rest of the broader community in Hawaii. □



PACE office and community Health Clinic. [AK Photo]

L.A. Charts '79 June 12 Events

By REMY GALEDO
AK Correspondent

LOS ANGELES — The Filipino Community here has begun preparations for the traditional celebration of June 12. The second planning meeting of the Philippine National Day Planning Committee (PNDPC) held Feb. 22 at the Echo Park Recreation Center discussed the principles of unity for this year's PND and the site for the June 16-17 event.

Before proceeding with the planning item in the agenda, Greg Santillan, acting coordinator of the PNDPC reported the recent conflicts with the Downtown Evening Optimist Club of L.A. to jointly sponsor a single event.

Since both organizations were scheduling a celebration of June 12 on the same day (June 9-10) at MacArthur Park, the PNDPC proposed that the Optimist co-sponsor the event with equal distribution of management, tasks, and responsibilities. However, the Optimist flatly refused, saying that they would consider joint sponsorship only on one condition — that the Optimist control the event.

At this point, negotiations broke down with the PNDPC stating that both groups and any other interested group should equally control the event.



Greg Santillan (left), acting coordinator of this year's PNDPC. [AK Photo]

As the question of the park could not be resolved between the two groups, the issue was brought before the Board of Commissioners of Public Parks and Recreation.

The Board, confronted with the same issue last year, had stated a policy then that no park could be reserved any earlier than six months prior to an event. Following this policy, the PNDPC has placed a reservation for MacArthur Park exactly six months in advance. The Optimist, on the other hand, had placed their reservation seven months in advance.

On Feb. 8, however, the Board decided in favor of the Optimist, expressing a policy of "first come, first serve," and contradicting its own policy stated last year.

PNDPC PLANS CONTINUE

The Board's decision ignited a strong protest from the PNDPC. However, Santillan said that the planning committee will not be stopped by this injustice or by the Optimist and will proceed with the event organizing.

Those present, while admitting that two events would be unfortunate, enthusiastically proceeded to plan the Philippine National Day celebration for the set dates. The date change will thus enable the L.A. Filipino community to go to both celebrations.

The committee reaffirmed as one of its principles that June 12 belongs to all Filipinos. It will involve all those interested regardless of their religious, political, regional, professional, or social affiliations. "It would encourage cooperation and a free flow of ideas in the planning, organizing and management of the event," declared Santillan.

Any organization interested in assisting in the preparation for the PND may call Greg Santillan (283-3466) or M. Salomon (613-1520). □

Seattle's FCSI:

Wheels of Change Start in Motion

Special to the ANG KATIPUNAN

SEATTLE — The 1979 Filipino Community of Seattle, Inc. (FCSI) elections have come to a close, yet for many of its progressive members the wheels of reform have just begun to turn. Along with the victory celebration and the installation of the newly elected council comes the sobering look towards the future of the community organization.

Can the reform movement really be implemented — this is the question crossing many people's minds.

Increasingly, many feel that the answer is a confident yes. However, the responsibilities are demanding and mean a good deal of hard work. The Filipino-Americans for Reform and Progress (FARP) has not only taken time to study the current deficiencies of the FCSI and draw up a program for improvement. It has also developed a plan to translate those ideas into a reality.

What the reformists have found is that there is a multitude of much needed projects to be done in the organization but they can not be addressed in just one broad sweep. Many of them may take years to complete. So the approach that FARP is using to tackle the problems is one step at a time.

Among the projects FCSI is considering are building and maintenance, financing and administration, and membership participation. Under each category there are numerous works to be accomplished including building renovation, establishment of hall rental policies, clearing up financial records, auditor reports, newsletter productions, mass meetings, and constitution review.

PRIORITIES

In fact some of these programs have already been initiated. At the second monthly meeting of the new council members, Feb. 11, a few planning committees were formed. Out of a number of committees proposed, the new leadership selected four committees as priorities in carrying out the immediate tasks.

The employment and job training committee would seek to work with city, state and federal agencies to organize summer jobs for the youth. Already a plan to move on this will be implemented this spring.

The other important committee created is the Ways and Means Committee that would draw up a

Prop 13 Victim

Asian Health Services Fights Cutbacks

By JEANETTE LAZAM

"The major goal of Asian Health Services is to provide for quality health care services to segments of the Asian Community, who because of language barriers, cultural differences and/or inability to pay, are not able to receive such services."

Organized largely by students, community people and medical professionals that advocated quality low-cost health care for the Asian Community, the Asian Health Services (AHS) opened its doors in 1973.

The goals and objectives of AHS have not changed substantially within the last five years. However, AHS has increasingly found it difficult to maintain their same standard of quality low-cost and accessible health care as it faces potentially crippling budget cut and an ever expanding Asian population in Oakland.

Two AHS clinics include General Medicine and Optometry, which are partially funded by the Alameda County, services over 1,600 families. The Health Education-Outreach program encourages disease prevention through patient counseling and health education/outreach projects. AHS also offers a Referral Service which provides information on where to obtain sensitive and low-cost medical care, and other related health services.

The present staff of this community center numbers 11, half of whom are paid on a part-time basis.

AHS ORIGINS

AHS' birth was partly due to the growing political consciousness around health care in Oakland's Asian communities. Like other existing community-based agencies now, its historical roots are based in the 1960's and 70's.



FCSI members casting their ballot during the January elections.

[AK Photo]

budget and assess the financial state of the FCSI. This, said one FARP member, will at least determine the debts and income of the organization.

The two other priority bodies deal with the constitutional revision and the athletic committee that will forge recreational teams for volleyball and other activities for community members of all ages.

Three of these four committees are chaired by FARP members.

NEWSLETTER

The need for a FCSI newsletter to communicate with the members was also underscored at the meeting. FARP member Connie Pacis revealed that many members feel resentful that they never hear what their organization is doing except during elections when they are required to pay their \$2 membership dues.

Pacis added, "It is our responsibility as FCSI leaders to inform the membership of what our

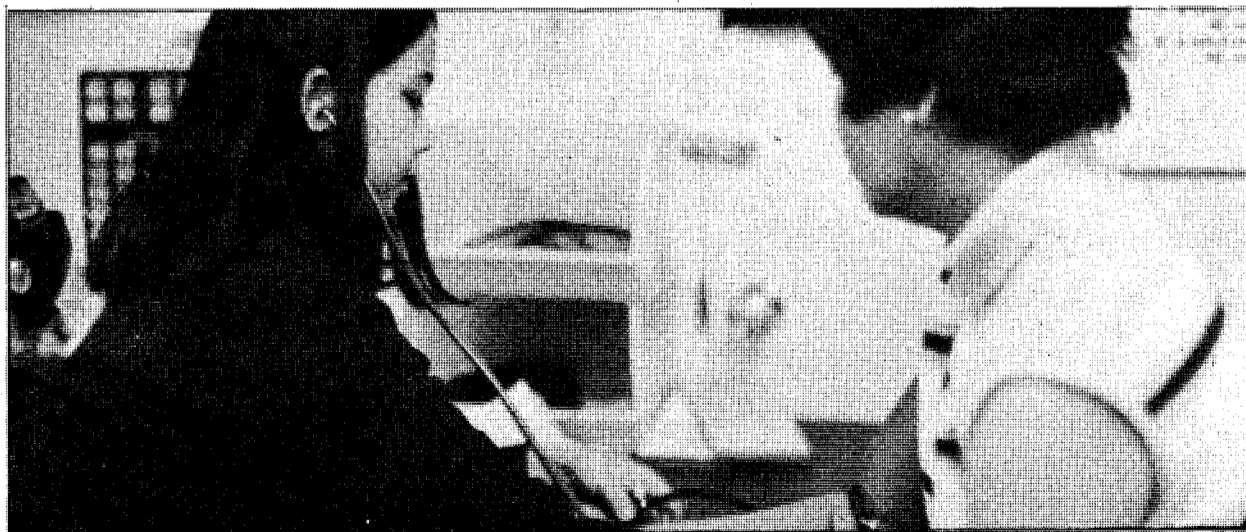
organization is up to. We owe them this duty."

Though her motion was readily seconded there was concern over the maintenance of this project "that could prove to be costly over time." Thus, it was decided that this proposal be further discussed at the next meeting next month.

The other item in the council meeting was the traditional Philippine National Day celebration. Secretary David Della, last year's PND committee chairperson, formally requested FCSI's support in the preparation for the PND. In his letter, Della stated that FCSI can concretely support this community event by financing and assisting its preparation.

In response the council agreed to send a representative to a PND planning meeting on March 9.

At the conclusion of the meeting, one FARP member declared, "the transformation of the community rests on our shoulders. But our unity will give us the confidence to tackle the job." □



Asian Health Services serves over 1,600 families and individuals a year.

[AHS Photo]

It was during this period that mass social unrest and discontent among the disadvantaged and minority people erupted into wide-scale demonstrations and activism. Masses of people took to the streets demanding jobs, better housing, quality health care and political power.

Hard fought battles for Civil Rights, the establishment of Third World Studies and other struggles to reform the social services field won significant gains. Both national and state governments bowed to an onslaught of pressure to partially respond to the immediate needs of the people.

Since its formation six years ago, AHS has gained wide respect and popularity among the Asian community. Its services not only cover the immediate health needs of the community, but also provide education on basic health care needs.

However, these services are presently being

threatened by major cutbacks as a result of the passage of Proposition 13.

According to Terry Lee, Health Education Outreach Worker, "Many of the community agencies in Alameda County receive funding through Revenue Sharing. Revenue Sharing is all money obtained by taxation, which is then distributed among different groups and agencies.

"When Prop. 13 passed, it restricted property taxes (a major source of revenue), and limited the ability of local governments to raise new revenues. The result is limited funding for social agencies like AHS which now can't receive the same amount of funding that it did last year."

Ms. Lee also revealed that many schools, libraries, recreational facilities have either been closed or received drastic cutbacks due to Prop. 13. Legal mandates such as the Beilson Act, which

continued on back page

ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL
ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL

Volunteer Army

Rightists Press For Military Draft

The size of the United States armed forces, especially the inability of army recruiters to maintain enough enlistees for the Pentagon's liking, were lamented by right-wing congressional and military leaders in mid-February. Charging a serious lack in uniformed personnel, specifically in the army, the rightist called for an end to the volunteer army and a reinstatement of the military draft.

Senator John Stennis, powerful chairman of the Senate Armed Forces Committee and a long-time arch conservative, raised his voice in the pro-draft call during a congressional speech in mid-February. Charging that the U.S. has "no means for mobilizing the millions of persons we would need in the event of a widescale war," the 77-year-old Stennis said that the "all-volunteer concept has proved not to be the answer to either our peacetime or our wartime military manpower requirements."

Stennis added his voice to a growing number of Pentagon generals who have been calling for an end to the volunteer army and a reinstatement of the draft. Last November, General David C. Jones, chairman of the Joint Chiefs-of-Staff, told CBS-TV's "Face the Nation" that he and his fellow officers favored reviving the draft to better meet a potential national military crisis. Such a call has since been echoed by congressional representatives such as Paul McCloskey (R-Ca), Charles Bennett (D-Fla) and Sen. Robert Morgan (D-NC). Potential legislation to the House of Representatives has been offered by Rep. John Cavanaugh (D-Neb) to revive the draft.

Figures released by Rep. Robin Beard of the House Armed Services Committee says that active-duty forces fall 80,000 short of projected wartime strength, while reserves, including the national guard are 180,000 short. In addition, the lack of an adequate apparatus to draft soldiers raises the possibility of a 500,000 soldier shortage in the event of an outbreak of a major war.

Currently, the United States volunteer army has

about 790,000 enlistees, covering the Navy, Air Force and Army. The soldier-shortage controversy is centered on the Army, which has historically borne the burden of America's wars.

Numerous shortcomings of America's volunteer army have been raised since the draft was abolished in 1973. Poor morale, high rates of AWOL (Absence Without Leave), disillusionment and resentment have plagued the military's recruitment efforts as enlistees fail to find the skills or adventure as promised in the military's \$1.4 billion recruitment ads. Military authorities are also worried, for racist and national chauvinist reasons, about the increasing number of Black and Spanish-speaking recruits. Numbers of minority soldiers have increased only because of economic pressures which find large numbers of minority youths unable to find jobs.

The first instance of a U.S. military draft was met with opposition when military conscription began during the Civil War. Then, rich families could buy their way out of the draft by paying a servant to take the place of a recruit, thus opening the draft mainly to the poor. Since then, the draft has largely symbolized the system which recruits the poorer sons of working people to serve as cannon fodder for Washington's numerous overseas war.

During the height of the Vietnam war, widespread opposition to the war and to the military draft saw hundreds of "Stop the Draft" protests occur in cities across the U.S. The unpopularity of the war, and a military conscription system which drafted large numbers of minorities to serve an unpopular war, forced the adoption of the volunteer army in 1973.

The latest soldier-shortage controversy, and the call for reinstatement of the draft, have pointed to the inability of the military to successfully recruit enlistees, even during periods of severe economic instability. Forced conscription seems to be the military's final — and only — means of gaining more numbers to a highly unpopular U.S. institution. □

U.S. Inflation: Prices Rise Sharply



The Wholesale Price Index, a major indicator of the U.S. economy, shot up by 1.3 percent for January.

The increase, the largest monthly rise in four years, raised the specter of a huge annual increase of 17.2 percent, far above the Carter Administration's prediction of "only" 7.4 percent. It also appeared far above the 1974 recession year's double digit inflation of 12.2 percent.

For U.S. workers, the higher cost of living has been paid out for huge increases in the cost of beef, poultry, pork and other grocery items, as well as for durable goods such as new cars, furniture, and appliances. Prices for heating oil, gasoline, tobacco and cosmetics also saw substantial increases.

What cost U.S. workers \$100 to buy in 1967 would now cost \$205.30. Added to the problem of inflation are official estimates of 6 million workers unable to find jobs. Unofficial estimates of unemployment run at twice that figure.

Corporate earnings, however, did not suffer in January. According to earnings reports, oil companies, such as Gulf, Exxon, Texaco and Standard, reported profit gains from 45 percent to 134 percent and banks recorded an average of 26 percent profit while food packers, such as Nabisco and General Foods scored profit gains from 15 to 79 percent. □

Wage Increase Demanded

Massive Lettuce Strike Hits California

Thousands of California lettuce workers — on strike since their United Farmworker's Union contract expired Dec. 31 — have escalated their walkout virtually paralyzing the Imperial Valley region which produces almost 90 percent of the nation's lettuce crop.

The strike, now focused on 10 major Imperial Valley farms, involves over 4,200 UFW members who are demanding a substantial wage increase from growers. Massive community support for the union has seriously hampered grower efforts to import strikebreakers, and grower instigated violence against the strikers has already claimed the life of one UFW picket.

The Feb. 10 murder of UFW member Rufino Contreras sparked a massive outpouring of support for the fallen unionist. Shot to death by a foreman on the struck Mario Saikhon farm, Contreras was buried Feb. 14 as thousands of farmworkers attended his funeral in Calexico, stopping all farm production in the area.

Grower instigated violence against the strikers, while abating immediately after Contreras' death, escalated again in less than a week. On Feb. 21, police attacked 500 UFW strikers at the Abatti Produce farm just north of Calexico. At the Joe Maggio farm, in the Imperial Valley, sheriff deputies attacked some 1,500 UFW pickets with tear gas and clubs, while in the Salinas Valley, county sheriffs clashed with strikers at Sun Harvest, arresting some 16 pickets.

The UFW strike is the largest action of its kind since the passage of California's Agricultural Labor Relations Act in 1975. Since then, UFW membership has grown from 7,000 members to more than 30,000. Wage increases, as well as a notable economic stability for the farm workers due to the winning of labor contracts and even unemployment benefits in slack harvesting periods, have won the



Striking UFW members clashed with sheriffs in Salinas Feb. 21.

[UPI]

union widespread support.

In the lettuce strike, the UFW is pushing for a substantial wage increase from \$3.75 to \$5.25 for the arduous stoop labor. Compared to other unionized farm workers, the UFW maintains that the wage increase is long overdue. Unionized shed workers, who trim and pack lettuce picked by UFW members, will earn \$4.70 hourly beginning in March. Teamster members in the canneries make

\$5.58 an hour.

Lettuce growers have vowed not to give in to the union's demands, offering only a seven percent raise as proposed by President Carter's wage guidelines. Efforts to import scab labor, through radio announcements and newspaper ads, have failed to produce any sizeable number of strikebreakers, largely due to the prestige and massive support for the UFW. □

LEFT DEMANDS ROLE IN GOV'T

IRAN REVOLUTION SURGES FORWARD

The popular insurrection which overthrew the pro-Western Bahktiar government Feb. 9-12 finally brought an end to 25 years of the shah's absolutist rule. The subsequent ascension to power of the Ayatollah Khomeini and his premier-designate Bazargan ushers a new phase in the democratic revolution that has been sweeping Iran for about a year.

Though the situation remains chaotic and the direction the country will ultimately take appears uncertain, the past two weeks since the fall of the old regime have witnessed many rapid changes in a progressive direction. All over Iran, the insurgent masses have risen to actively dismantle every remaining vestige of the deposed regime. Popular committees have sprung up to take charge of arming the masses, cleaning out police stations, rounding up SAVAK (secret police) agents, and freeing thousands of political prisoners from captivity.

Simultaneously, democratic forces began organizing their own grassroots government. In Tehran, the committees took over the supervision of traffic, public services, and the evacuation of the wounded in the fighting. Significant sections of workers apparently independent of the Ayatollah's influence have seized control of the oil refineries, key communication centers, munitions plants, and other workplaces. Large numbers of people have armed themselves and formed autonomous militia units in the cities, towns, as well as villages throughout the country.

The democratization process has thus enabled revolutionary organizations to gain tremendous mass influence. Though by far pro-Khomeini forces comprise the largest grouping to emerge out of the anti-shah resistance movement, the Ayatollah has found himself not in complete command as he assumes power. He has had to accommodate a growing mass movement that is autonomous of his influence.

Acceding to the demands of several thousand people in the streets, the new Khomeini-Bazargan government carried out the execution of the hated SAVAK chief Nematollah Nassiri and seven other generals, the dismissal of 26 air force generals and the rounding-up of supporters of the deposed regime.

In an unprecedented move, the new government extended recognition to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and terminated the former



Thousands of Iranians took up arms to overthrow the pro-West Bahktiar government. [UPI]

government's long-standing political and economic affinities with the racist regimes of South Africa and Israel, vowing never again to export oil to them. (Iran supplies 60 percent of Israel's oil needs.)

But while Khomeini has on the one hand taken such progressive steps, he has on the other tried to put a brake on the further advance of the revolution in response to the rising influence of the left. The Ayatollah has backed off from challenging the very underpinnings of the shah's dictatorship, that is, existing U.S. economic interests and has instead sought to "maintain good ties" with Washington.

While the Ayatollah has purged the more notorious generals loyal to the shah, he has also retained some, notably Maj. Gen. Mohammed Wali Qaraneh, a long-time stalwart of the shah's officer corps, who the new government reappointed army chief-of-staff, and Mohammed Ali Nowruzi, the deputy police chief, renamed police chief. More importantly, Khomeini has left intact the units of the Imperial Army under the command of U.S.-trained junior officer corps which chose to remain "neutral" in the showdown between the democratic forces and those loyal to the Bahktiar government. According to the New York-based Guardian it is likely that these army leaders may have struck "a deal with Khomeini to back his government while retaining their strength to be used if the left gets out of control. One of Khomeini's first announcements after Bahktiar's

resignation was a call to turn in their arms, later amended — when this seemed unlikely to work — for all holders of weapons to register at local mosques."

Moreover, though the Ayatollah has in the past expressed opposition to "foreign investment" and Iran's close military ties with the U.S., his fear of the rising left influence has obliged him to turn around and cooperate with the U.S. and resume oil production. By so doing, Khomeini now hopes to draw loans and investment capital to finance his undertakings, even if this would in the long run undermine the very base of support among Iranian merchants and workers on which he stands.

Although the U.S. has been forced to evacuate 7,000 Americans shortly after the raid on the Tehran Embassy, it has adopted the pragmatic view, expressed by a White House aide that, "We would rather have an Iran run by an inward-looking group of neutralists than a bunch of activists looking for Soviet support." Predictably then, Pres. Jimmy Carter swiftly recognized the Bazargan government shortly after Bahktiar's demise, expressing as he put it, "hope for very productive and peaceful cooperation with the Bazargan government."

As Khomeini adopts a conservative stance more and more, mass pressure to push the revolution beyond its current standstill is correspondingly escalating. In a show of force, the People's Fedayeen, the biggest leftist guerrilla organization, mobilized 70,000 supporters to a rally Feb. 23 at Tehran University to call for 1) the Imperial Army's dissolution and its replacement by a people's army; 2) open people's tribunals to try the shah regime's officials instead of Khomeini's secret Islamic courts; 3) the distribution of arable land — much of which is owned by the religious — among the farmers, together with free electricity, water and interest-free loans; and 4) the nationalization of banks and the oil industry.

Indications are that Iran is thus rapidly coming to another crisis as the democratic forces seeking the further reformation of the country gear up to face Khomeini who has nervously lined himself behind the pro-U.S. military. Although the outcome of such a confrontation remains to be seen, it will depend in large part on the ability of the left, particularly organizations such as the People's Fedayeen to mobilize the masses under its leadership in order to surmount the new hurdles placed before its path. □

Carter in Mexico: Looking for Oil

By DENNIS SCHALL
Reprinted from the Guardian

President Jimmy Carter, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and the rest of the U.S. entourage landed in Mexico City for two days of talks Feb. 14.

The two-day visit did not produce any major breakthroughs on key issues in U.S.-Mexico relations, particularly in the fields of oil, immigration and trade. More important, the visit symbolized the changing economic relationships between the two countries as the Mexican national bourgeoisie seeks greater control over the country's resources. The primary reason? Mexico has oil, and apparently lots of it — an estimated 50 billion barrels in proven reserves.

President Jose Lopez Portillo set the tone for the discussions during a luncheon toast on Feb. 14. "It is difficult, particularly between neighbors," he began, "to maintain cordial and mutually advantageous relations in an atmosphere of mistrust or open hostility."

"TOUGH TALK"

Using some undiplomatically blunt talk, the Mexican president got right to the oil issue and the shifting Mexico-U.S. relationship during the airport welcoming ceremony.

"Because of a nonrenewable resource and the financial self-determination it provides, [Mexico] has been given the opportunity of becoming the free, secure and just nation envisioned by its great leaders of the past," Lopez Portillo said. "Mexico has thus found itself the center of American attention — attention that is a surprising mixture of interest, disdain and fear, much like the recurring vague fears you yourselves inspire in certain areas

of our national subconscious.

Lopez Portillo's statements were clearly orchestrated in part for domestic consumption, where tough talk against the U.S. can be politically useful in gaining influence among workers and peasants.

And Lopez Portillo, a main representative of Mexico's national bourgeoisie knows he can certainly use some help on that score. There is an estimated 25 percent unemployment rate in the country, simmering unrest, high illiteracy, malnutrition and disease, widespread poverty — and an understandable distrust toward a government that conducts a campaign of repression against political and labor protests.

"TYPICAL YANKEE SLUR"

And if indeed there will be an oil bonanza for Mexico, the working class and poor will probably see little of it. In exchange for funding, Lopez Portillo has agreed to International Monetary Fund requirements to hold down wages and government spending.

Carter did not reply directly in public to the Mexican criticism. Instead, during the luncheon, he delivered a disjointed reply referring to his interest in jogging and an earlier visit to Mexico.

"My first running course was from the Palace of Fine Arts to the Majestic Hotel where I and my family were staying," Carter said. "In the midst of the performance, I discovered I was afflicted with Montezuma's revenge [diarrhea]." Carter's "typical Yankee slur," as some dubbed it, obviously did not endear him to his Mexican hosts.

The major decision to come out of the 48-hour parley was an agreement to begin governmental negotiations toward the U.S. purchase of Mexican natural gas — a pact that could pave the way for

future oil deals.

Last year, at the urging of Energy Secretary James Schlesinger, the Carter administration blocked an agreement worked out between six U.S. companies and Mexico for the purchase of natural gas. The U.S. reasoning was that the \$2.60 per thousand cubic feet price was too high since it went over the current price for Canadian gas. The stymied agreement proved a political embarrassment for Mexican officials, especially Lopez Portillo. Mexico had already ordered construction of a large pipeline to carry the gas to the U.S. border.

UPCOMING NEGOTIATIONS

In the upcoming negotiations, the U.S. will press for a "fair" price for natural gas — at a level lower than the initial pact.

Mexico, using its newly discovered, vast oil wealth as leverage, will push for a higher price than the U.S. and will attempt to link oil deals to immigration and trade issues.

There was no reported progress during the meeting on immigration and trade. The two sides issued a joint communique at the close of the talks in which Lopez Portillo agreed that the presence of thousands of undocumented Mexican workers in the U.S. constituted a problem for both countries. This has been the Mexican position for some time.

On the trade issue, the Lopez Portillo administration argues that ever-changing U.S. trade policies — sometimes opening the door to Mexican exports, sometimes closing it — hurts business and makes it difficult to plan commercial activity.

But for all the blunt talk about financial self-determination and an equal relationship during the Feb. 14-15 meeting, it is far from clear how far the Mexican government was willing to push during private sessions with Carter. □

Regime Escalates Slum Evictions

BMP — Demolition activities will start this week with 454 Metro Manila slum families on the eviction lit as the Marcos regime revs up its campaign to clear the area selected for "development" projects.

Affected are 350 families in Navotas and 104 in the Tondo foreshore area, according to sources within the National Housing Authority.

(As of presstime, BMP is following up reports of eviction plans in Marikina, San Juan and other parts of the metropolitan area.)

In Navotas, the affected families are facing demolition because their houses lie along the route of the proposed Navotas cut-off channel, a flood control project.

Although the residents had been told that they would be transferred to the resettlement project at nearby Dagat-Dagatan, they are worried over the inhabitable conditions at the site. The housing structures that are available have posts and roofs but no walls and partitions. They complained about the uncertainty of their getting the necessary materials from the government and the amount of

amortization or rent they would be compelled to pay.

The slum dwellers also complained about the lack of a water system at the relocation area.

Reports received by BMP said the government decision to push through with the project was made despite stiff opposition from affected residents. Last year, the poor families involved have requested the government to provide them with decent and humane conditions at the relocation site.

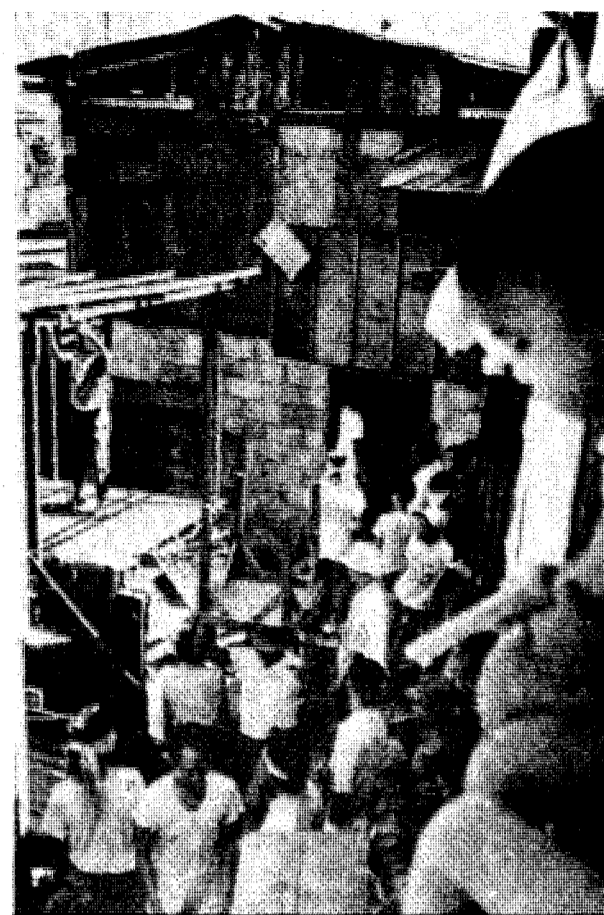
Over at Tondo, 104 families in Luzviminda Village were recently served eviction notices. They composed the first batch of some 800 families from the Tondo foreshore area which the regime intends to evict this year. They included 64 families with legal titles to the lots they occupy.

Another 80 families are scheduled to be moved out next month and an average of the same number during the other months of the year.

An international port will be constructed at the Tondo foreshore area. Financed by the World Bank, the P2.5 billion project would involve the dislocation of thousands of slum families in the area — the largest concentration of urban poor dwellers in the country.

NHA sources said the government has not provided any resettlement site for the to-be-displaced slum dwellers. The relocatees will also have to fend for themselves.

The eviction plan was temporarily shelved last August when it sparked a series of protest moves from the urban poor and other concerned sectors. □



A Manila slum.

[D. Luce]

Legal Rights For Aliens Upheld

Reprinted from the SAN FRANCISCO JOURNAL

The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Services (INS) has revised its regulations regarding the rights to legal counsel of aliens facing exclusion and deportation proceedings.

The new regulations require INS to inform aliens who face deportation or exclusion proceedings of their rights to counsel and of the availability of free legal services programs in the area where the proceedings are to be held.

More specifically, INS must provide aliens with a list of organizations providing free legal services programs in the area by providing them with a **Written Notice of Appeal Rights, Form I-618.**

In addition, the new regulations establish procedures on how a legal organization may be placed on the INS directory of free legal services programs.

There is no provision in the regulations requiring that an alien be advised of his legal rights in his native tongue and the **Written Notice of Appeal Rights (Form I-618)** is printed only in English and Spanish.

The new INS regulations become effective on February 22, 1979. They may be found in the Federal Register, published on January 23, 1979. □

Asian Health Services...

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insures public health care to the indigent, were also suspended.

"The hardest hit," continued Ms. Lee, "are those most dependent on the public sector services and jobs . . . the elderly, disabled, women, children, and minorities as the swift ax of Prop. 13 takes swing."

Recently, the Alameda Board of Supervisors stated that they intend to cutback further budget allocations of all community agencies and public services.

Responding to the Board of Supervisors' actions, AHS and a number of community and labor unions joined together to form the Alameda Community and Labor Coalition. The Coalition's main thrust is to organize against any cutbacks, and to conduct education regarding the effects of Prop. 13.

It thus seems that AHS has its hands full in trying to service the day to day health needs of the Asian community, at the same time organizing against the crippling effects of Prop. 13.

But according to AHS spokesperson Sherry Hirota, "Our original goals haven't changed, we still maintain that quality health care must be a right for all people, not merely a privilege for those who can afford the cost. We formed on that basic principle and we shall continue to fight for its implementation . . . Prop. 13 just makes it all the more harder."

For information about AHS services or the Alameda Community and Labor Coalition, call 763-4111. □



Clergy confront police in a Manila protest.

Church...

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country and she "quickly became aware that my concerns were up in the clouds as far as the Filipino masses are concerned. I wanted to become involved, but didn't know how. On the night of the La Tondena strike (September 1975), I received a call at 10:30 p.m. that priests and nuns were needed to support workers."

At the La Tondena factory, the site of the first major strike under martial law, she joined 20 nuns and five priests. "At 2 a.m. we received word that police buses were coming to ferry arrested workers to prison. As we approached the buses, we saw workers being beaten and pushed into the buses with truncheons. Two sisters tried to board the first bus. When the door was closed in their faces, they clung onto the bus door until they were pulled off by police two blocks away. Watching this, all my hangups about violence dissolved."

"I now have a new meaning to my religious life. But when I was first hit with these new realities, I felt like I was betraying God, the church and all that is right, that I was beginning to follow the anti-Christ." Because the trauma of the first confrontation between religious belief and repres-

sion is common to religious in politics, there is much sharing of experiences among them. As a result, religious orders are not only communicating, but also cooperating closely with each other whereas 20 years ago there was sharp competition among them.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND NATIONAL DEMOCRACY

The integration of the church sector into the National Democratic Front is by now irreversible. Priests, nuns, brothers and other religious play key roles in struggles involving all sectors of Philippine society. They have been and continue to be closely involved in the consolidation of the national democratic front. As the Mindanao CNL put it: "We urge church leaders to go the masses, analyse the situation and take a political stand on the basis of truth and the people."

"Whether or not a victorious national democratic government would simply become a new oppressive force depends ultimately upon the level of the people's participation in this movement before, during and after liberation. The greater the level of the people's participation in forming policies and decisions, and in bringing about the revolution and sustaining it, the lesser the possibility that the new government could become divorced from the aspirations of the people. . . ." □