

# Controversial Dam Threatened NPA, TRIBES MOUNT ARMED RESISTANCE

By MA. FLOR SEPULVEDA

The Mountain Provinces of Northern Luzon has been cordoned off from the rest of the country in the wake of armed confrontation between gov't troopers and the joint forces of Kalinga-Bontoc tribesmen and the New People's Army.

The NPA, which has formed two battalions composed of 300 men each, and the Kalinga-Bontoc militia men numbering 600, are fighting efforts of the gov't to displace 15,000 Kalinga-Bontoc families from their ancestral lands to make way for the Chico River Dam Project.

According to the *New York Times* (3/14/76), the Dept. of Tourism ordered all areas north of Baguio, the Philippine's summer capital, sealed to tourist traffic. The Philippine Airlines has also cancelled its services to Bagabag, the air approach to the ancient Ifugao rice terraces, a major tourist attraction. These moves were prompted by the ambush of two civic action units, 13 of whose members were killed and four wounded by the tribesmen.

Earlier, PC Chief Fidel Ramos, Major Roger Brown (US base commander of Camp John Hay), and the governors of Benguet, Ifugao and the Mountain Provinces, narrowly escaped death when the lead vehicle in their convoy was ambushed by the New People's Army in Buguias, Benguet. The party was headed to inaugurate the Monhoyhoy-Huduan road. Three PC and two Civilian Home Defense Unit soldiers were killed, while three others seriously wounded. Major Constanio Sabater, assistant PC provincial commander who was in the same vehicle escaped unhurt.

## ARMED RESISTANCE UNEXPECTED

Meanwhile, military officials are still assessing

the situation in the north and are planning tactics to contain the insurgency — an indication that the regime was surprised and caught totally unprepared for the tribes sudden shift to armed struggle. Previous to the ambushes, the tribesfolk and their predominantly religious supporters pursued peaceful and legal channels to stop the construction of the Chico River Dam.

The controversial dam (one of four being built), threatens to submerge the fertile fields of the tribesfolk, thus stripping them of their only means of live-  
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During the visit of the Anti-Martial Law delegation to the Philippine Consulate in New York City, Rev. Sinnott (above left) was roughly manhandled by consular officials (above right). Sinnott and Mark Schnapp were later invited back into the building where they were arrested by New York City police.

## Sinnott, Schnapp vs. Consulate Marcos Critics Face Trumped-up Charges

By SHERRY VALPARAISO

NEW YORK — Despite an original unwillingness of the prosecutor to hear the case, the Philippine Consulate in NY has pressed criminal charges against Mark Schnapp and Fr. James Sinnott, the arrested members of an international delegation that visited the Consulate Office on Dec. 29, 1975.

The charges come in the wake of a Consulate request to the US State Dept. to intervene in the case. According to confidential sources, the State Dept. put pressure on both the Manhattan District Attorney and the (Federal) US Attorney of the South District of NY to press charges. The FBI has also been brought in to "investigate" the defendants, Schnapp and Sinnott.

At the preliminary hearing on March 15, a misdemeanor charge of "criminal trespass" was set. Osmundo Umali, the Consulate official in charge at the time of the December incident, claimed that the Philippine gov't is pressing on with the case "because it has become an international issue."

The misdemeanor charge, however, came as a surprise to the defendants. Both the prosecutor and the judge, at the first arraignment of Jan. 6, were of the opinion that the case was better settled outside of court and have asked Umali to agree to an ACD (Adjournment in Contemplation of Dismissal).

Shortly afterwards the consulate contacted the US State Dept. to intervene (this was also announced by the Consulate and reported in the pro-Marcos newspaper, *Filipino Reporter*). By the next hearing on Feb. 26, consulate officials did not even appear and the prosecutor made a turnabout from his previous position and pressed charges. Outside the hearing room, however, the prosecutor made a brief remark and characterized the Consular officials as "vengeful and militant."

The Anti-Martial Law Coalition (AMLC) denounced the Consulate's manipulative actions, and called for a strong protest at the handling of the case. Inday Refi, a New York spokesperson for the AMLC said, "This incident is not the first time for the Philippine Consulate's integrity to be put in question."

- In 1973 a blacklist of anti-martial law Filipinos compiled by the Philippine Consulates was revealed by defecting Los Angeles Consul Gen. Ruperto Baliao;

- ex-San Francisco Consul Gen. Trinidad Alconcel was part of a \$100,000 bribery attempt to stop ex-Marcos man, Primitivo Mijares, from testifying at a Congressional hearing in 1975;

- and today two Filipino housekeepers who "ran away" from bad working conditions under Seattle Consul Gen. Julia Palarca, are seeking political asylum for fear of reprisal should they be deported back to the Philippines.

"Furthermore," said Refi, "This is a clear example of how the Marcos Dictatorship operates inside and outside borders and we vehemently condemn Marcos's interference of US judicial

*(continued on page 8)*

## US-RP MILITARY TALKS SET FOR APRIL

By FRANCISCO OCAMPO

MANILA — The renegotiations of US-RP military agreements, especially the bases treaty, is scheduled to start in Washington, D.C. on April 12. The meeting, announced by Pres. Marcos in a news conference last week, followed preliminary discussions on the matter that were started during US Pres. Ford's visit here last December. The talks will be pursued by Foreign Affairs Sec. Carlos Romulo and Sec. of State Henry Kissinger.

Ford, during his Philippine visit, strongly expressed US opposition to relinquishing control of the strategically situated bases, now considered America's first line of defense in the Pacific. (There are 22 US bases in the Philippines, two of which are Subic Naval Base and Clark Air Force Base, the largest installations outside the continental US.)

Marcos has expressed agreement with the US position, stating that US presence must be preserved especially in a post-Vietnam war Asia.

With both positions secured, substantial change in US-RP relations is not probable. This will limit the scheduled renegotiations to a bargaining round with the Philippines asking for certain concessions or compensations in exchange for continued US extraterritorial privileges in the country.

Meanwhile, review of the economic agreements will be held earlier, but at a still unspecified date, in Manila.

The Philippines, since the declaration of martial law, has received a total of \$118.7-M in official US military assistance, an increase of about 100% to the \$60.2-M total for the 3 years prior to martial law.

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KDP is a mass organization based in the US and is committed primarily to the struggle for the basic and long-term needs of the Filipino people, both in the Philippines and here in America.

Because of this, KDP supports the struggle of the Filipino people against the Marcos dictatorship and pledges to help build a broad-based movement among Filipinos in the US to oppose martial law.

However, KDP sees that the root cause of all the misery and poverty in the Philippines is the imperialist control, exercised principally by the U.S., over the economy and politics of the country. The Filipino people can solve this basic problem only through long and difficult revolutionary struggle for a truly genuine democratic and independent Philippines.

Here in the US, KDP is committed to struggling for the democratic rights of the Filipino minority. Katipunan views the racial and national discrimination experienced by the Filipino people, as part of and stemming from, the monopoly capitalist system in the US. KDP members understand that the US government is in fact, not democratic, but in the hands of a tiny minority of monopoly industrialists and bankers.

KDP sees that the people of the U.S. also need fundamental, revolutionary change to solve the basic ills that plague American society. The Katipunan understands that the working class must firmly control the government before it can rightfully be termed a government "of the people and for the people."

KDP sees that greater numbers of Filipinos are coming to these same political understandings. KDP is an organization open to all who agree with our political programme. In addition, KDP is committed to working in close cooperation with all progressive Filipinos to build a strong Filipino people's movement in America.

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## EDITORIAL

# CELEBRATE JUNE 12 PHILIPPINE NATIONAL DAY!

BY K.D.P. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

Far more attention is being given this year to celebrating June 12th in the Filipino community than in the past. Broader community participation and discussion is being encouraged and ambitious plans for the day's activities are being mapped out.

We in KDP think that the popularization of this day is a good one because June 12th commemorates an important event in our home country's history. On that day in 1899, Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, leader of the Philippine revolutionary forces against Spain, declared the first independent Republic of the Philippines. Although Philippine sovereignty was soon crushed by US colonialism by 1902, June 12th is still remembered in our hearts as the birth of the Philippine nation, and now symbolizes the Filipino people's struggle for genuine freedom and independence — a struggle that continues until today.

Because of its historic and nationalist significance, June 12th then stands out as a day more representative of Philippine heritage, as compared to July 4th, a day also well-noted in the Filipino community here.

This noticeable popularization in June 12th celebrations can also be seen as a start towards establishing a day that could become known in the future as a "national day" for Filipinos in the US — one day out of the year that Filipinos would commemorate our national heritage and our contributions to America. Like the Irish and St. Patrick's Day or "Cinco de Mayo" and the Mexican community, June 12th has the potential to become that "special day" for the Filipino community in the US.

\* \* \*

### FIESTAS — A GOOD DEVELOPMENT

This year people seem to be talking about holding community fiestas on June 12th with cultural performances, games, food, and educational booths, etc. This is certainly an improvement over past years where our activities were more narrowly restricted to formal cocktail parties and dances. Everyone in the community can go the Fiesta! There are tremendous advantages in holding such an informal, daytime activity — many more families can participate, and the children and young people will surely find the fiesta more fun and interesting. June 12th Fiestas can easily become the most popular annual activity in the Filipino community.

### BEWARE — JUNE 12TH IS NOT A COMMUNITY ENDORSEMENT FOR MARTIAL LAW

The Marcos regime has no right to claim hegemony over the June 12th celebration here in the US. The repressive and unpopular character of the Marcos dictatorship has been widely denounced in the Philippines, in the international arena and here in the Filipino communities. Certainly many people in the community still hold opposing positions on this question. The KDP feels, that for the sake of unity, we should be able to tolerate the differing opinions about martial law and all work together to assure a successful June 12th celebration.

For this reason, we are opposed to any underhanded maneuvers by Malacanang to dominate the June 12th proceedings in the US. And create the false impression to Washington D.C. that "all the Filipinos love the martial law regime." Rumor has it that Imelda may be in the US at that time fishing for more US military and economic aid. Beware! She may be planning to swoop down on some innocent and unsuspecting community fiesta and "steal the show," getting all the publicity and notoriety. We in KDP feel that this type of trick would have a very destructive and disunifying effect on our Filipino community celebrations.

### WE OPPOSE THE IMAGE OF "LITTLE BROWN BROTHERS" — TO COMMEMORATE OUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO AMERICA, LETS NOT NEGLECT OUR JUST STRUGGLES — PAST AND PRESENT

Unfortunately "colonial mentality" still has a strong grip on our community. This becomes especially evident when we are commemorating our peoples' part in building and developing America. All too often we try to prove ourselves to the broader public and show that we have been a "well-behaved minority," that we have overcome, without protest, all the obstacles of discrimination and prejudice placed in our way. We tend to reduce our contributions to the achievements of a few "outstanding individuals." Although its true some of our people have received "good citizen awards," become successful businessmen, etc. . . . but what about the vast majority, what have been our achievements and contributions?

Our Filipino people, like many others, have come to these shores as workers. And it is as part of the American working class that we have struggled to transform and change America into a better place to live. Herein lies some of our greatest contributions! For example...asparagus, grapes, sugar, pineapple...our people have bent their backs in the hot sun, side by side with Mexicans, Japanese, Arabs...in California, Hawaii, and Washington. Filipino labor has been in the past, and continues till today, to be one of the cornerstones of America's agricultural empire. But our contributions do not end here, they also lie in the fact that we have not rested content with starvation wages, bad working conditions and no unions. The struggle to unionize agricultural labor in the country has been long and hard; our people have led and participated in many strikes; we have even shed our blood to build what today is the union-strength of the ILWU in Hawaii, the United Farmworkers Union, etc.

Filipinos are brown-skinned people, but America has long been a country scarred by slavery, lynchings, racial prejudice, and discrimination. To have come here from a "foreign country" one faces hardship, but to come as a "non-white foreigner" ...the hardship is doubled. In the 20s and 30s it was against the law for Filipinos to own land or marry a white person in California. During the war, as we entered the armed services, custom and prejudice restricted Filipinos to the task of "shining the officers boots" and "cooking the sailors food." Today we still face concrete examples of racial and national discrimination...our schooling from the Philippines is considered "inferior," we are bypassed in hiring and promotion because of Filipino accent...yet a French or English accent is considered "elegant."

The question is...as a community what do we take pride in? Do we commemorate all the times we have remained silent in the face of injustice and humiliation...the times we have "behaved ourselves as a good minority?" Do we hold up as models the few who...despite of the barriers...have achieved some token success? If so, then where is our contribution in the making of a better America? No! We should be proud of all the times we have struggled to tear down the barrier of racism and discrimination that divides the people of America. These past and present community struggles against injustice should not be seen as a source of shame or embarrassment. Those who say that Filipinos should "mind their own business and not be troublesome," surely they do not understand our real history and contribution to the building of America!

In this light, the KDP hopes that the June 12th Fiestas can also be seen as an important opportunity to educate the community about many of the concrete problems and issues that confront us. Therefore we hope that many community service organizations become active in the preparation for the June 12th celebration. We look forward to a very broad and unifying activity with relevant and educational themes. □

## Behind ASEAN, Int'l Confabs MARCOS SEEKS BOOST IN DIPLOMATIC CREDENTIALS

By MA. FLOR SEPULVEDA

For those impressed or confounded by Pres. Marcos's diplomatic performance in the recently concluded Group of 77 conference in Manila and the ASEAN summit in Bali, his seemingly progressive posture remains just that — an empty posture.

His diplomatic stunts, which ranged from scolding the rich countries for dispossessing the poor, to jockeying for the leadership of ASEAN, were unmistakable attempts to reverse his unpopular image as a US puppet.

While the participation of the Philippines in these conferences was a welcome and positive development, the captive Manila press's attempts to portray Marcos as a champion of the Third World's cause, is a gross overstatement.

The truth is, Manila's decision to cast its lot with the underdeveloped and "non-aligned" countries of the world is a rather belated move made inevitable by the changed world situation. In this sense, Marcos certainly cannot be regarded as the "trail-blazer" who is setting the trend for other nations to follow.

### ECONOMIC CRISIS FORCES ALIGNMENT WITH "GROUP OF 77"

The regime's participation in the Group of 77 conference for example, was predicated upon the worsening economic crisis it faces. The Group of 77 (G-77) membered by some 110 developing nations, is the lobbying bloc of Third World countries in the United Nations. During the Manila conference, the G-77 caucused to adopt strategies and resolutions in preparation for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development scheduled for May in Nairobi, Kenya. Among the important proposals adopted was the demand to restructure international trade to raise the value of exports and export earnings of developing countries.

In particular, the conference called for improvements in the Generalized Scheme of Preference (GSP) program of developed countries like Japan, the US, the European economic community and Australia. The GSP which is supposed to grant preferential trade treatment to manufactured exports of poor countries, has instead been used by capitalist countries to unilaterally determine the supply and market price of Third World exports. The G-77 are demanding lowered tariffs for all top earning exports. The Philippines which expects to accrue a trade deficit of \$7-M to \$8-M, stands to gain from this proposal should it be passed in the UNCTAD conference.



'I WON'T DANCE TO HIS TUNE.'

Graphic: Far Eastern Economic Review

### INTERNATIONAL PUBLICITY — ADDED ADVANTAGE

The secondary benefits of the conference was the international attention and publicity the regime succeeded in focusing on itself. Marcos, eager to exonerate himself from his pro-US stigma and gain international acceptance for his martial law rule, seized the occasion to build himself up as a Third World leader.

Keynoting the opening session of the conference Marcos warned the developed countries to work for a more equitable sharing of the world's resources "lest the evergrowing number of the world's poor would challenge the ever-diminishing number of the rich for just farming of these resources."

His fiery rhetoric earned him the compliments of UN Secretary Gen. Kurt Waldheim, who called Marcos "the moving spirit" behind the conference and "the defender of the interests of developing countries." Overjoyed by the G-77's invitation for him to address the UNCTAD conference in May, Marcos blustered: "Certainly any man steeped and believing in the ideals, principles and aspirations of the Third World, as I do, cannot but accept this invitation with thanks and gratitude." (sic)

To boost his diplomatic credentials, Marcos hesitatingly gave \$50-M to the conference in what he termed "a modest share of a developing country in bringing about the establishment of a common fund." In domestic terms, the pledge represented a big chunk out of the country's revenues, accounting for one-quarter of the total export earnings of the

## Despite Cheaper Crude Oil OIL PRICE HIKE IMMINENT

By FRANCISCO OCAMPO

The Marcos gov't has acted favorably on the price increase petition of oil companies (mostly US-owned), despite the fact that Middle East oil producing countries have lowered crude oil prices. Ernesto Granada, a Manila newspaper columnist, the Oil Producing and Exporting Countries (OPEC) decided to lower the price of oil to encourage sales.

Notwithstanding this development, the Philippine Oil Industry Commission (OIC) is expected to allow the increases, although the OIC was supposedly created to safeguard the interests of the consumer. Actually representing the interests of the oil companies, OIC has granted seven oil price hikes since martial law was declared. And its token attempts to enforce price control regulations have been flagrantly violated by the oil companies.

For example, Caltex Philippines (Texaco), ignoring an earlier OIC regulation, arbitrarily raised its price for the Manila Electric Co. (MERALCO) by P13.79/barrel more than the OIC ceiling price of P70-M since Oct. 1974, an added cost that will be passed on to the consumers.

The increase in the price of oil has immediate effects on the Philippine economy, especially in the cost of living. Already, the National Power Corporation (NPC) has raised their electricity rates by about 17%, gasoline prices has risen to about P0.15 more per liter, and petitions to raise public transport fares for buses, jeepneys, and ships have been filed.

The failure of Marcos to curb the profiteering of the oil companies has further burdened the consumers who are always ultimately absorbing the added expenses. The Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino (Federation of Filipino Workers), who are presently being harassed and its leaders arrested by the military for petitioning for decent wages, recently point out, "...why doesn't the military arrest the owners of the oil companies? These foreign companies have been amassing huge profits and yet, they have been continuously petitioning for higher prices." □

Philippines for 1975.

### ASEAN SUMMIT — JOCKEYING FOR FIRST PLACE

The Bali summit however, was less of a diplomatic feat for Marcos than the Group of 77 conference. It was one instance where Marcosian rhetoric outpaced regional realities. Since the liberation of Indochina, Marcos has sought to revive the dormant Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to ostensibly serve as a regional shield against the newly-established revolutionary governments in Cambodia.

(continued on page 10)

## Pagbabalikwas (In revolt)



### NPA PUSHES CAMPAIGN IN MINDANAO

ZAMBOANGA CITY — "Since it started small scale operations here in late 1974, the New People's Army in western Mindanao has wiped out 100 enemy troops, with 58 confirmed killed, in about 20 ambushes or encounters," so reports Talamandan, the regional bulletin of the Communist Party of the Philippines. "It has also confiscated more than 40 firearms including six M-16 rifles, five garands, nine carbines, and hundreds of rounds of ammunition." Furthermore, the NPA, in cooperation with the residents of their mass bases, have eliminated more than 250 bandits, cattle rustlers, thieves, land grabbers, spies, informers, and rapists.

Talamandan also reports that gov't soldiers have used terror tactics against suspected sympathizers of the NPA and other innocent civilians. For instance, in Oct. 1975, gov't soldiers killed seven barrio officials including the barrio captains from the municipality of Sergio Osmena, Sr., Zamboanga del Norte.

Since June 1975, the gov't soldiers have launched "search and destroy" operations in western Mindanao. The NPA, however, with support from the people, have survived these operations and scored successes in their small-arms operations. (Condensed from PAHAYAG, Feb. 1975 issue.) □

### RADIO ANNOUNCER EXPOSES MARTIAL LAW ABUSES

ZAMBOANGA CITY — Cesar Climaco, known for his "crime-busting" feats as a radio announcer before martial law, is back on the tracks. This time Climaco is bombarding the city gov't and military authorities with letters of protest, cabling Pres. Marcos regularly, and exposing various atrocities through his radio program.

Well-listened to in this city because of his reputation for honesty, he exposes with sweeping attacks illicit activities, atrocities, and abusive displays of power by the military, including grenade throwing, grudge killing, armed robberies, indiscriminate firings of weapons by drunken soldiers, extortions, etc.

He also sends letters to civic and religious leaders, a typical example of which goes: "Mr. Mayor, the community is in danger, in danger of detention or death or both. I am afraid the community is not safe, so I say again, please take over while I take cover." He has also said to Marcos in his cables that the situation in the city is much worse than before martial law.

His friends have expressed fears for his life since he has openly attacked the military and martial law gov't. He has been receiving death threats and anonymous phone calls but he insists that "I'll

keep doing this until things change or they get me." □

### ANOTHER PRIEST CHARGED WITH REBELLION

QUEZON CITY — Fr. Jose Nacu has been charged by the military with rebellion and insurrection, averting the possibility of his obtaining immediate release. The charges were filed after his lawyer, former political prisoner Sen. Jose W. Diokno, filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus before the Supreme Court asking for the release of his client, since Fr. Nacu had not been charged with any crime since his arrest. Fr. Nacu, a La Salle priest, has been illegally detained since this past year.

The preliminary investigation was held Feb. 20 in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City before a military tribunal. Also named respondents in this case are Vilma Buenaventura, Ariel Yutuc Ojalia, and several John Does.

Fr. Nacu was active in community work among the poor in Hillcrest, Quezon City and well-known for his work in the Mga Kaibigan ng Zoto (Friends of Zoto), a support organization of the Zone One Tondo Organization. He integrated with Tondo's slum-dwellers before martial law and supported them in resisting persecution.

He was first arrested and imprisoned on Jan. 29, 1973 following the Misa ng



Fr. Nacu — shown in court during a preliminary hearing before a military tribunal at Camp Aguinaldo — "The people will not remain oppressed forever." (Credit Photo: Philippine Times)

Kalayaan (Freedom Mass) at the Binondo Church, and detained without charges at Fort Bonifacio. On June 4, he escaped and went to the French Embassy to seek political asylum but was refused. He was captured again sometime afterwards.

Fr. Nacu said then to the press at the French Embassy, "My escape from Ipil Detention Center in Fort Bonifacio is an act of defiance against the martial law administration. As a Filipino and a priest, I cannot, in conscience swallow the violence and deception the present dictatorship bring to the Filipino people.

"The Filipino people will not remain oppressed forever. I remain united with them in active hope for freedom and justice in our land." □

## Observations of a Minister: Philippines - In a State of Great Rebellion

Rev. Larold K. Schulz is the Executive Director of the Center for Social Action of the United Church of Christ. He visited the Philippines for eight days, during the last weeks of February and was able to observe the church playing a key role in the collection and dissemination of information of the resistance in the Philippines. — Editor

K.D.P. NEW YORK CHAPTER  
Special to the AK

AK: What are your impressions of the Philippines in general?

LS: It's obviously a country in great state of rebellion. I think anybody who goes to the Philippines even without knowledge of what is going on will be aware of that, because of the presence of military troops all over the country. (Military troops in civilian clothes are deployed all over the country —Editor) Ambushes against the military is a common occurrence. Even the newspapers, when I was there, had a story about five persons from the Philippine Constabulary who had been ambushed in Baguio. Shortly after our arrival in Iligan, five persons were ambushed just outside the airport. An hour away from Iligan to Marawi City, we were stopped at checkpoints every 2 miles by gov't troops. That night in Marawi City at about 3 A.M., we heard shots and the following day we learned that a son of a sultan had been murdered by gov't troopers.

My sense is that everywhere you go, there is an undercurrent of antagonism towards the gov't. I went to church on Sunday and in the ceremony, I heard an unbelievably strong tone against the dictatorship; although not advocating the overthrow of the gov't, it seemed very close to it. I also talked to a number of people and I felt that the antagonism towards Mrs. Marcos seems to be greater than that towards the President.

Of course, it is like this unbelievable program of resettling the slum dwellers, putting them on trucks, and moving them out 20 miles out of Manila; and they even expect these people to commute each day back to Manila to work. Of course, they could not afford to do that. It's just an incredibly inhumane situation. I sense the disorder may be part of that; being aware of the Philippine situation even before I went. The other part of it is the large use of police in a country like the Philippines. I happened to land at the time when the President was returning from the ASEAN Conference in Bali and my guess is that there were about a dozen troops at the airport.

AK: What about the economic scene, what are your impressions?

LS: Well it is incredibly bad, the average wage is 10 cents an hour and the majority seems to be in obvious poverty. The thing that really hits me is the attempt to make Manila look like a very wealthy city. However, the minute you go off to any of the side streets you see that it is not. They are presently building 14 to 16 new hotels to accommodate the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Conference and I was just appalled by the efforts being made to get ready for that occasion in making all these physical changes in Manila when people are really in destitution.

### "ALTHOUGH THEY WERE IN PRISON THEIR SPIRITS WERE REALLY HIGH"

AK: I would like to direct a question on your experience with prison camps. The Anti Martial Law movement in the US has really been working to expose the plight of political prisoners. I would like to get your impressions of these.

HS: We toured and visited Camp Olivas in Pampanga and we had a list of 14 persons being held in solitary confinement and separated from the rest of the prisoners in the compound. I'm taking about the group led by Fr. Ed de la Torre.

When I gave the list to the commandant, he was shocked that I had those names. I told him that in the US we know who you've got in prison and he was visibly shocked by that. My guess is that altogether there were only about 150 prisoners in one compound but I was surprised to find out the political prisoners were mixed together with those who have committed criminal acts. There was this lawyer who said he was serving time for murder and he was being held right there with students who had been working for the college newspaper and detained obviously for political reasons.

It looked like they had an equal number of bunkbeds in double decks, so it appears that each person has a bed, but they were fairly close together. But they had no mattresses, they were either

# Italian Priests Protest Deportation

By FRANCISCO OCAMPO

VATICAN CITY — Two Italian priests protested against their summary deportation from the Philippines at a press conference in this city. Fathers Francisco Alessi and Luigi Cocquio were put on a plane bound for Rome 3½ hours after their arrests. They said they were expelled because "they had done more than pray for the poor."

Fr. Cocquio, parish priest of Tondo, was accused of circulating a petition to free Sen. Benigno Aquino and assisting Manila slum dwellers in organizing protest demonstrations against the gov't. Fr. Cocquio denied such charges but admitted taking part in demonstrations including the La Tondena Distillery strike. (See Ang Katipunan, Nov. and Dec. 1975 issues.)

Fr. Alessi, head of the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions in the Philippines (PIME), was accused of backing the alleged illegal activities of Fr. Cocquio. Fr. Alessi told reporters that "priests living in slums had to do more for the poor than pray for them on Sunday. Priests had to show concrete support."

The two priests were given only a 15-minute hearing before they were deported. Even such a hearing violated an agreement between the Roman Catholic Church and the Philippine gov't, requiring the presence of the local bishop when a priest is questioned by either civil or military authorities.

### IMMEDIATE RETURN DEMANDED

Meanwhile, in Manila, letters of protest and statements of support for Frs. Alessi and Cocquio were pouring in to the office of Pres. Marcos and other authorities.

PIME, in its letter to Pres. Marcos, expressed complete shock of "this inhuman dealing since the priests did not even have a chance to even be represented by counsel to defend themselves from the alleged charges." It also pointed out that PIME has not even received an official report from the gov't as to what actually took place. PIME also requested the reentry of the two priests so that the "alleged charges against them can be fairly contested in their presence."

Concerned priests, religious and laymen circulated a petition demanding the immediate return to the Philippines of the two priests; a public apology from the gov't for the summary deportation; and a firm assurance that there will be no repetition of this injustice. The petition also declared that Fr. Alessi courageously supported all of the work for the poor and oppressed; Fr. Cocquio gave persistent support and encouragement to the slum-dwellers of his parish and "was feared by the oppressors of the urban poor." "Both priests," the petition continued, "spoke Pilipino well so as to identify themselves with and to serve their people better."

Fr. Jose Blanco, S.J., in an open letter he wrote responding to the incident said, "this action is undignified, unjust, and inhuman. The gov't and military personnel... have not acted as men of reason... these two priests staked their lives in service to the poor and oppressed Filipinos."

The Order of the Society of Jesus, in another letter, pointed out, "such a sudden and secret procedure of deportation is an attack to the many foreign religious priests who have been working in our country for our people for decades. Human rights have to be respected whether people are Filipinos or foreigners: any law or any process that does not respect human right is unjust."

The Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines (AMRSP), in their letter to Archbishop Jaime Sin of Manila, queried, "what protection (do) we have for the church against such summary treatment?... especially in the light of martial restrictions." □



Headquarters of the Zone One Tondo Organization: Bloody confrontations between squatters and Manila government foreseen. (Ang Katipunan photo)

sleeping on a blanket or sheet that had been stretched over the wires. The place looked clean, I imagine they cleaned it themselves.

Then we were allowed to see the prisoners who were in hunger strike, the group led by Fr. Ed. They looked very thin but they didn't look sick. They had been eating food brought by people from the outside. They refused to eat prison food brought by the guards from the prison.

They had just been moved to a new compound made of individual cells. The time we were there was their first night and they weren't sure when they were going to be let out. But in the morning, the guards unlocked the cell doors and left them open. But the second night they came and locked them in their cells again. Fr. Ed and the group were going to complain and ask that the cell doors be left open all the time since it a compound within a building completely surrounded by a steel fence. We were allowed to meet with this group privately. There were no guards present for about an hour and 15 minutes. The major things that they communicated were on the tortures they have gone through when they were arrested.

AK: Did they share anything with you in particular?

LS: Well, actually in terms of the tortures, I have here some of the letters they wrote and these I had even before I went; they didn't say anything that was different. I think they all said that they had not been

tortured after they arrived at Camp Olivas.

We then talked to a woman who had been raped repeatedly and electrodes placed on her breasts. Another woman had been beaten so badly that she was kept under house arrest alone for about 21 days until she recovered.

Actually, there were 14 and then four more were added to that group (Fr. Ed). You see, originally all of them were in the compound together, they then separated out Fr. Ed. and 13 others because they were "bad influence" on the other prisoners. They were organizing them. And then four went on hunger strike to protest the separation of Fr. Ed's group and these four were also moved out. I sensed that they had done a good job of politicizing a number of the others.

AK: Did any of them, Fr. Ed. in particular, give any message to be brought out to people here?

LS: Yes, the main thing he said was to get this information to as many people as possible. Right now, I'm working with some members of the US Congress to get these documents published.

In a sense, I felt that this group is in control of the situation. Although they are in prison, their spirits are high. In fact, I saw a (written) request for some changes on the conditions in the cells; and it had gotten the approval of the camp doctor. I then asked the Commandant of the camp whether they will grant it and he said, "Well, I have to because they have such good access to the outside. And if we don't they will create more problems for us."

### MARCOS DICTATORSHIP — UNPOPULAR, ISOLATED

AK: We in the anti-martial law movement feel that the issue of the Political Prisoners is very concrete proof that the Martial Law of the Marcos dictatorship is in fact unpopular. What is your opinion on this?

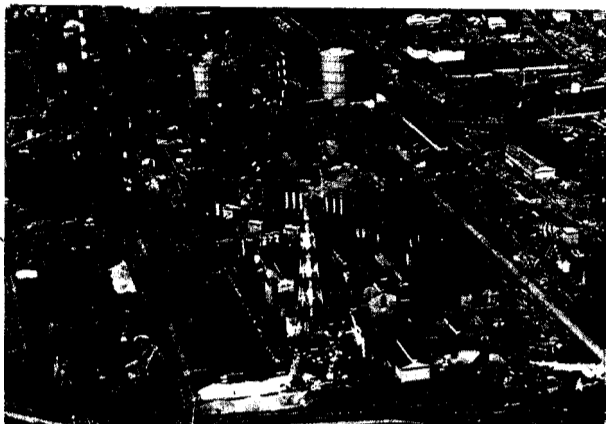
LS: There is no question in my mind that it is unpopular among the masses. We also met political prisoners who come from a variety of sectors: there were laborers, carpenters, a couple of teachers, Fr. Ed — of course, a lawyer, and many students.

One of the things that bothered me was how people seemed to disappear. Nobody knows where they are. About three to four nights ago when I had dinner Senator Salonga (an outspoken Marcos critic — Ed.), he had spoken to about 200 people in which there were students present. Apparently, about a couple of days later about 15 of them

(continued on page 7)

## JAPANESE PROTEST KAWASAKI PLANT IN MINDANAO

CHIBA CITY, Japan — "Don't make Mindanao another Chiba!" urges the residents of Chiba City, a densely polluted industrial area in Japan. These residents have launched a leafleting campaign to further expose the pollution potential of the Kawasaki Sintering Plant now being constructed in Mindanao. The Japanese residents charge that the plant emits fine soots and noxious gases that has already claimed 19 lives and incapacitated hundreds with bronchial asthma, chronic bronchitis, and em-



The Kawasaki Sintering Plant in Japan: 19 lives have already been claimed by its noxious emissions, hundreds more are crippled for life. "Don't make Mindanao another Chiba!" (Credit Photo; Ampo)

physema in their city. A similar protest was aired by residents of the area in Mindanao where the new plant is being constructed (see ANG KATIPUNAN, last issue, p. 4).

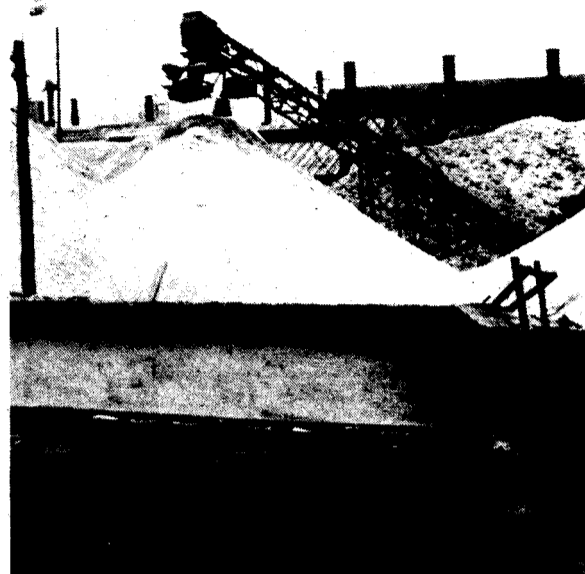
Kawasaki decided to locate this new sintering plant in Mindanao in the wake of a new militant stage in the antipollution movement in Chiba where Kawasaki has five other sintering plants. It was also from Marcos' urging and invitation that this plant is being constructed in Mindanao. Marcos contends that Kawasaki's investment is impressive and adds to the country's "reputation as a good place for foreign investors," and will thus generate

## New Study Reveals: FACTORY WORKERS EXPOSED TO HEALTH HAZARDS

Factory workers in the Greater Manila Area (GMA) are constantly exposed to health hazards due to inadequate or lack of safeguards against dangerous toxic emissions and dusts in their work places. Although the Marcos regime has been aware of these conditions, pollution control requirements have not been enforced on the managements of such factories.

"These factory hazards have indicated high incidences of long-lasting lung diseases that can cripple for life," exposed Dr. Francisco Jose, a University of the Philippines professor on occupational health, in his study of various plants and factories in GMA.

He found out that 1 of every 10 workers in a sulfuric acid plant are affected by sulfur dioxide emissions of which 1 out of 20 had developed asthma because of the dense pollution. In a chlorine factory, 1 out of 20 warehouse workers showed symptoms of sustained chronic bronchitis. Steel factory workers are suffering from chronic lung disease at a 5 to 10 ratio. Dust pollution in textile, feed mill, and cement factory revealed 1 out of 20 suffering from "byssinosis" or cotton dust disease; 1 out of 7 suffering from chronic bronchitis, and 1 out of 7 have persistent coughing, indicative of lung infections. These diseases are also caused by high temperature and humidity in the work areas, a common condition of factories in the Philippines. □



A San Miguel Corporation bottle processing plant located in Tondo, Manila spews fine grains of pulverized glass into the air which is inhaled by nearby residents. This is just one of the health hazards created by factories which causes lung diseases that can cripple for life. (Ang Katipunan Photo)

more foreign investments in the future. An integrated steel mill is also expected to be set up in this same vicinity to complement the operations of the sintering plant.

Given the regime's pro-imperialist stance, the National Pollution Control Commission, as expected, has taken a "nonintervention stand" on the issue, despite its own admitted recognition that the dust collectors on the plant are inadequate and ineffective. On the whole the pollution potential of this plant seems to have been grossly miscalculated

by Marcos.

Also in the long run, the plant will actually not even benefit the Philippines. Since the product, iron steel, is badly needed by Japan, the Philippines will not be given access to it. Employment probabilities at the plant are also relatively low. Only 700 persons will be hired out of the 1,686 families dislocated by the construction and pollution zone area.

Needless to say, the plant will just be another source of woes and health problems for the people once operational. □



### Buod ng mga Balita (Gist of the News)

#### AIRPORT TO DISLOCATE PEOPLE IN BUKIDNON

QUEZON, Bukidnon — The residents of Sta. Rita, this town, will be deprived of their livelihood when the plans for the construction of a national airport in this area are finalized. The airport will take over 120 meters wide and 4 kilometers long area reaching the next barrio of Mibantang: covering a barrio school, a corn mill, coffee shops, fruit trees, coconut groves, etc. which will all be ultimately destroyed.

The residents affected have filed petitions with the provincial board claiming that they will lose their means of livelihood and reduce the chances of sending their children to school. These petitions, however, were dismissed since the board claimed that no other suitable site exists in that area.

Even the prospects for the residents to be compensated is made slimmer since Aliado Company has been given the construction contracts and the wife of the owner of the Aliado Co. is also a relative of Pres. Marcos. This same company bulldozed portions of the same area in 1973 to give way to another Marcos project, the Davao-Sunod-Campo Uno Highway. It never paid or compensated the residents for the seizure of their properties. This earlier experience sets the basis for the fear of the residents that they will just simply be uprooted from their homes and livelihood and left on their own. □

#### FARMERS THREATENED WITH DETENTION

Farmers in Zamboanga City who are unable to repay their loans to the local Masagana 99 supervised credit program have been ordered arrested and detained by the city mayor and local Masagana 99 chairman, Joaquin Enriquez, Jr. This

punitive action was taken despite a recent report that the average repayment rate of Filipino farmers covered by this credit program has reached a peak of 95%.

The order also belies the govt's claims that Masagana 99 extends liberal credit terms to the farmers and "has set aside the traditional concept of collateral conscious credit."

In a related report, Agriculture Sec. Arturo Tanco, Jr., recently said that the small Filipino farmer is a better borrower than his big-time industrialist counterpart."

If freedom from arrest has become the new collateral for rural loans, it is not surprising that farmers "are better borrowers." □

#### 6,000 JOB SEEKERS DEFRAUDED OF P12-M

Unemployment is so high in the Philippines (35%), that thousands of Filipinos are seeking any opportunity to work overseas. 6,000 of these job seekers, however, have already been defrauded of at least P12-M after they have fallen prey to illegal job recruiters who promised them job placements abroad.

The Bureau of Employment Services reported that there are about 150 of these illegal organizations that charge unsuspecting victims exorbitant fees for non-existent overseas jobs. □

#### JUDGES GO ON WORK SLOWDOWN

About 70,000 cases have piled up on dockets of municipal courts all over the country because the judges concerned have not been given their pay raises. The judges "have lost their enthusiasm for their work" when Pres. Decree No. 537 which circuitized municipal courts failed to give the judges a corresponding salary raise for the added work load they have

assumed. These judges are in the lowest strata of judges and justices in the country but are the ones who render about 70% of the judicial services to the population. □

#### EXTRADITION TREATY WITH INDONESIA SIGNED

The Philippines and Indonesia have agreed upon the final draft of an extradition treaty. Filipinos who elude Philippine law by fleeing to Indonesia, will be sent back. This treaty gives a similar right to Indonesia on its citizens who flee to the Philippines.

The treaty also covers high crimes including hijacking, espionage, murder, subversion, etc. Persons committing these crimes will be extradited to their respective countries for prosecution.

The Philippines is seeking similar treaties with Malaysia and the US. The Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in Mindanao is using Sabah, Malaysia as a jumping off point for gun running and smuggling other military supplies into the Philippines, while the US has the largest overseas Filipino population with very active anti-martial law organizations. □

#### GOV'T AUDIT UNDERWAY

About 700,000 gov't employees are being subjected to another performance audit to "further streamline gov't personnel" in preparation for cutbacks to lessen its projected budget deficit of \$583.7-M for this fiscal year. Supposedly "designed to rid the gov't of misfits and undesirables" and "develop state personnel as well as improve the performance of civil service," the audit is being conducted by the Civil Service Commission (CSC) and its 30 evaluation committees.

Earlier, several other agencies and corporations were placed under the control of the CSC to insure that the audit can cover "all workers in gov't-owned and controlled corporations and agencies." The centralization of the performance audit under the CSC actually enables Marcos to get rid of uncooperative and disloyal persons in the civil service. Marcos is imposing a similar scheme in the military at the moment. □

#### A.F.P. MAKES ARMORED VEHICLES, SMALL ARMS

The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) has been engaged in developing artillery equipment and armored vehicles as part of its continuing intensive militarization program. The AFP Logistics Center report that they have developed a new reconnaissance armored vehicle, 50 and 30 caliber machine guns, and an instant prefab barracks for soldiers. The armored



AFP soldiers inspect locally manufactured amory—part of the US sponsored "self-sufficiency programs of the military."

vehicle is now being constructed at the Industrial Research and Development Unit of the Logistics Center.

These newly developed weapons and vehicles are part of the US gov't subsidized "co-production" venture financed through the Military Assistance Program. The US has been setting up "self-reliance" programs like this to avoid direct military aid allocations.

With this trend towards "self-reliance" on the manufacture of small arms, vehicles, and other minor military equipment, the US military aid package can now include more sophisticated and heavy weapons systems.

In a related development, the AFP, alluding to its continuing defeats at the hands of the New People's Army, has offered cash rewards for any new invention "which would help us achieve victory in the combat zones." □

# FILIPINO Community



The history of the International Hotel tenants and supporters has been one of active and organized protests.

## A Gain for San Francisco's Int'l Hotel... BOARD HALTS DEMOLITION

By TERESITA BAUTISTA

SAN FRANCISCO — The struggle against the demolition of the Int'l Hotel on Kearny Street, home for many elderly Asians in Chinatown, met with significant victory when the Board of Permit Appeals cancelled the demolition permit last March 17.

Int'l Hotel Tenants Association (IHTA) and their lawyers succeeded in blocking the demolition, because the permit had actually expired and was originally issued a year ago without an accompanying "Environmental Impact Report." Many are sure that Hotel owners Four Seas Investment Co. failed to mention its intention of high rise development at the time of application.

While I-Hotel tenants joyfully welcome the action of the Board, they are faced with court proceedings to begin on March 29 at City Hall to decide whether or not Four Seas can evict the tenants. IHTA Attorney Gilbert Graham reported, "Our defense, which rests on the 'retaliatory' nature of the eviction, will show how Four Seas wants only to be

rid of the tenants' active and organized protests to the city of their substandard living conditions." The jury trial is seen as a way to bring the I-Hotel's case into a more prominent place for public knowledge.

As the legal struggle intensifies, the IHTA continues its battle to buy the Hotel. They have already received \$100,000 from the Campaign for Human Development for the purchase, provided the owners agree to sell. This agreement will be difficult to reach, however, since the Hotel is located on choice Downtown property and realtors know that it could be profitably developed.

The I-Hotel residents, who are mostly elderly Filipinos, have been fighting since 1968 and will not move until the city provides alternative low-cost housing. Looking with hope towards the future, Charles Smith of the IHTA told the AK: "We want cooperative housing for elderly Asian people run by the tenants themselves — this is our big goal! We are striving for a place in which we find a sense of dignity by having control over our rent, managing ourselves, and developing mutual respect for one another." □

## FMG DEFENSE LAUNCHES PETITION CAMPAIGN

In view of the present campaign to stop the deportation of Filipino and other foreign medical graduates affected by a US State Dept. ruling, the following article presents the broader context for this problem as part of a general doctor shortage and health care crisis in the US. See page 6, this issue, for further explanation of FMG issue — Editor.

By AIMEE CRUZ  
AK Correspondent

NEW YORK — A nationwide petition campaign to stop the unfair State Department ruling on the repatriation of Foreign Medical Graduates has been launched by the Emergency Defense Committee—FMG (EDC—FMGs). The National Coordinating Committee of the EDC-FMG recently said that the petitions were being disseminated through local defense committees in New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Sacramento, Seattle, and Hawaii with a goal of gathering 10,000 signatures by May 30. The signed petitions will be the leverage of the EDC—FMG when it commences its congressional work for the total revocation of the State Dept. ruling.

### THREE-POINT DEMAND

The three-point demand of the "Petition to Stop the Unfair State Dept. Ruling on the Repatriation of FMGs" include the following:

1. "FMGs currently in training programs who have applied for permanent residence from 1972-1975 (whether subject to the two-year foreign residency requirement or not), be permitted to remain in the US with the continued sponsorship of the Education Commission-FMG until completion of their training; and that upon completion of such training, they be permitted to remain in the US until

an alien number is available to them.

2. "FMGs who have completed their training programs and have applied for permanent residence from 1972-1975 (whether subject to the two-year foreign residency requirement or not), be permitted to remain in the US until an alien number is available to them.

3. "FMGs who have dropped their petition for permanent residence for fear of State Department threats to have their training discontinued and to subject them to repatriation be permitted to reinstate their petition with the priority they would have had, if they had not withdrawn their original petition."

The three points were based on the final interpretation given by the State Dept. in its ruling which calls for the gradual repatriation of exchange visitor FMGs who filed applications for permanent residency and who as yet, have not received their alien numbers (see AK, last issue). The petition also exposes the unfairness and discriminatory aspects of the State Dept. ruling in that it is being applied retroactively and negatively affects certain nationalities who already face a long waiting period to obtain available alien numbers.

In addition, the petition speaks to the significant role being played by FMGs within American medicine and points to the adverse effects a massive repatriation of these doctors would bring to the quality of American health care.

### HAND-IN-HAND WITH EDUCATION WORK

Based on initial experiences in gathering petitions in the New York-New Jersey area, pre-education work is proving to be crucial in gaining support of the community. This education work has taken several forms: person-to-person discussions, informal

## HEARING POSTPONED Consulate Housekeepers Seek Political Asylum

By DALE BORGESON  
AK Correspondent

SEATTLE — The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) hearing on whether to grant political asylum to two Filipina housekeepers who fled the household of Philippine Consul General Julia Palarca has been delayed again, this time until March 29. Bob Yamagiwa, legal attorney representing the women, said the INS offered the postponement because of a scheduling conflict. It was the second straight postponement for the case, which had originally been scheduled for Feb. 6.

Estelita Almirante and Francisca Abuel ran away from Palarca in September, 1976 because of the bad working conditions under her. Palarca is trying to have them deported, but the two women have received legal and material support from the Filipino community in their fight to stay in the US. They have applied for political asylum because they fear their outspoken criticism of Palarca will trigger retaliation by the martial law gov't of Pres. Marcos if they return to the Philippines.

Supporters of the women within the Filipino community have organized the Abuel-Almirante Defense Committee. On Feb. 29, the Defense Committee held a fundraising activity that drew over 100 people and raised about \$175.00. Speakers from the youth, middle-aged, and elderly sectors of the community vowed to support the two women's right to stay in the US. It was announced that over 500 signatures had already been gathered demanding political asylum for Abuel and Almirante.

According to Defense Committee Chairman, Silme Domingo, the delay will strengthen the case in two ways. First, it gives the Defense Committee more time to line up witnesses and document the political persecution in the Philippines. Secondly, it enables the Committee to build up further political support in the community. Domingo says that the Defense Committee plans to continue the petition drive, to hold an educational forum on political persecution in the Philippines, to get wide media coverage for the case, and to mobilize people to attend the hearing. "Community support is key to winning the case," he points out.

"Historically," Domingo adds, "the INS has been used to threaten and hurt the Filipino people. By winning this case, we can bolster the courage of Filipinos to fight for their rights, especially those who face persecution for their criticism of the Marcos regime." □

meetings or teach-ins in hospitals; and meetings with community organizations, church groups and sympathetic medical associations. The recently produced EDC-FMG pamphlet, "FMGs: A Case of Retributive Justice," has already shown to be a helpful and effective tool in explaining the issue.

In New York, establishing hospital core groups was decided upon as one method of facilitating signature gathering. This concept would answer the need of manpower and is in recognition of time limitations of most medical workers. In each hospital, two to three persons are asked to be the core for dissemination, follow-up, and collection of petitions. Already in a week's time, petition gathering has begun in over 50 hospitals.

In other areas where the FMG issue has not been well-publicized, massive leafletting has been conducted outside hospitals or in residential areas where many Filipinos live. In this way, a public discussion of the issue unfolds and opinions are encouraged to generate. Shortly thereafter when the petitions are circulated, many persons are aware of the issue and ready to give their signature.

Involving the Filipino community is one of the main outreach aims of the EDC-FMG and unity is constantly stressed as the only weapon people have to safeguard our democratic rights.

For more information on the petition campaign, contact Dr. A. de Guzman, 204 E. 25th Street, Apt. 2B, New York, N.Y. Tel. (212) 889-2705. □

## Great Rebellion...

(continued from page 4)

disappeared. Nobody knows where they were.

I think the major problem, and I want to get this clear, is the support of the US gov't to the Marcos regime and the support of US multi-national corporations. I just have to say that I don't think the Marcos regime would last a week if the US quit supporting it. And then of course, the fact is that all the US corporations in the Philippines want to maintain the situation because Marcos can deliver poverty wages on a work force, that aren't even allowed to strike.

In fact, I talked to one businessman who is an Asian manager of a large US corporation and I asked, "You're in charge of all the Asian operations, why are you living in Manila?" He said, "Manila is the last place in the world where people like me can live the good life."

AK: The US military aid to the Marcos Dictatorship has really been tremendous, even the torture gadgets are being imported from here.

LS: Yes, and the guns. One of the interesting pieces is when they captured rebels in the south and many of them have US weapons and they traced them to the fact that they can either buy it through the black market, or the gov't troops sell them to the rebels. So we got the situation where the US gov't is supporting the Marcos dictatorship and the rebels, too. (hah!)

AK: Were you able to visit ZOTO (Zone One Tondo Organization)?

LS: Yes, briefly. I feel that ZOTO is stronger than ever. I predict that there will be a real confrontation maybe even a bloody confrontation between ZOTO and Mrs. Marcos on the issue of the resettlement drive.

### PUT MORE PRESSURE ON U.S. CONGRESS

AK: Is the United Church of Christ involved at all in the plight of political prisoners?

LS: Yes, we have been working for some time here in the US with members of Congress, particularly with (Congressman) Donald Frasier. Now I am actively involved with the Amnesty International. I met with Amnesty in Japan and I gave them all the documents regarding the political prisoners which I smuggled out the Philippines.

AK: What actions would you suggest to individuals here so that we can take an active part in the struggle?

LS: Put on more pressure — I think the main thing is to get the US Congress to withdraw the support. Also, I doubt that many middle class Americans understand the Philippine situation. About the repressive conditions, we need to put out a lot of factual data and show them what is really going on. Furthermore, we should really get together to do just that. □

## Seattle Int'l District:

# HOUSING ALLIANCE PICKETS MAYOR'S OFFICE



At City Hall, ID residents protest continued government neglect for their decent low-cost housing needs. V. Guballa reads statement charging discrimination by city officials in recent allocations of Section 8 housing subsidies.

By ELAINE KO  
AK Correspondent

SEATTLE — Led by the Int'l District Housing Alliance, the struggle for more low income housing is intensifying as clearly evidenced at a militant picket on March 4 at the City Mayor's office. Elderly residents came in the largest number since the beginning of community resistance to the Dome Stadium construction next to the ID back in 1972.

ID resident Vecent Guballa charged the Mayor in a statement read to the crowd of 80: "We demand that you (Mayor) lobby for a double amount of Section 8 (rent subsidies) this year from the Housing and Urban Development. As true to the historic racial discrimination upon the ID residents, the Mayor is consciously preparing to drive us out."

While the picketers loudly shouted slogans, a delegation went inside to present the statement. The Mayor was out of his office so the group gave the charges to a city subordinate. Immediately after, the group went downstairs to the City Council office to demand that the occupancy permit to open

the stadium not be issued "until gov't bodies adequately address the housing and employment problems of the ID." Since the visit the City Council has issued the permit with plans for the stadium opening in full swing.

### INDIGNATION TO GOVERNMENT NEGLECT

Indignation to the government's negligent handling of the ID housing needs is sharpening throughout the community. Although the ID has been allocated a token 99 units for the year 1975, these monies constitute another barren gesture. Last month property owners in the ID came to the conclusion that there are serious financial faults with this federal program. Thus, the 99 units have remained unclaimed, while the city and HUD are idly ignoring this particular problem facing property owners of the ID.

Meanwhile, residents and small businesses are viewing the stadium opening with anger and fear, as their livelihood hangs on a tenuous limb. Residents, small businesses, community agencies and other community supporters, realizing they must act collectively, are planning a "counter-action" to coincide with the "Grand Opening" festivities for the Dome Stadium scheduled for March 27, 1976. □

## On the Front

### MORE FUNDS RAISED FOR PHILIPPINE POLITICAL PRISONERS

HONOLULU — More than \$750 was raised last month when about 400 friends and sympathizers turned out to support the fundraising dinner for families of political prisoners in the Philippines. The event took place Feb. 29, 1976 at the East West Center's Jefferson Hall in Lanai.

Amy Cahill, the main speaker for the event, talked about the repression in the present martial law regime of Pres. Marcos. Taking issue with a Marcos gov't spokesman who claimed that political prisoners are treated justly, Ms. Cahill read portions of letters from political prisoners describing torture and harassment in the military camps. She added that documentation of these tortures have been sent to Amnesty International.

Those who attended were entertained by a performance of the Luviminda Dance Group and songs by members of the Friends of the Filipino People (FFP), the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP), and the Farmworkers Support Committee. Door prizes were also given away to lucky ticket holders.

The event sponsored by the FFP-Hawaii Chapter, received much support from many individuals concerned with continued lack of civil liberties under the martial law regime. □

### CONGRESSMEN CALL FOR END TO U.S. AID TO MARCOS

WASHINGTON D.C. — The momentum to stop military aid to the Marcos Dictatorship is steadily building as witnessed by the recent introduction of a specific amendment to stop US aid to the Philippines.

Though the latter amendment was defeated it would have drastically reduced the military aid to the Philippines from the proposed \$19.6-M to \$6.6-M. The introduction of the amendment by Congressmen Berkely Bedell of Iowa, Pete Stark of California and Edward Koch of New York was considered a victory by anti martial law forces as it set the basis in Congress for serious deliberation of the human rights conditions in the Philippines.

In presenting the amendment Congressman Bedell explained its necessity to 1) "serve notice to the world that we stand for freedom; and 2) "reverse the pattern of escalating military aid which has developed since the imposition of martial law in 1972."

Bedell further cited Marcos' illegal "one man rule" and "gross violations of internationally recognized human rights" since 1972.

While reaching a consensus opinion that the Marcos regime is repressive, Congress voted 46—16 against the amendment. The opposition stemmed either from fears that such action would jeopardize the existence of US bases in the Philippines or from the attitude that military aid to the Philippines would be reviewed by the appropriate committee in accordance with Sec. 101, the Human Rights Amendment. □

### HONORARY DEGREE TO MARTIAL LAW CRITIC POSTPONED

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — An honorary doctoral degree awarded from Araneta University in the Philippines to a noted American critic of the Marcos regime was postponed "due to unavoidable circumstances." The intended recipient is Dr. Daniel B. Schirmer, an active member of the Friends of the Filipino People and a faculty person at the Goddard/Cambridge Graduate

School in Social Change where he teaches a master's degree program in Philippine history.

Two weeks before his scheduled March 13 visit to the Philippines to accept the award, Schirmer received a telegram informing him of the delay, though no specific reasons were given for the postponement.

Contacted for his response to the action, Schirmer stated, "I was surprised when the Philippine Dept. of Education agreed to the award of the degree since I am an avowed critic of the Marcos dictatorship. Consequently, I was not surprised when it became impossible to award the degree at the present time." □

### JUDGE DISMISSES LIBEL SUIT AGAINST MARCOS-BACKED NEWSPAPER

SAN FRANCISCO — The multi-million dollar libel suit by Steve and Presy Psinakis was dismissed against the *Filipino Reporter*, a Marcos-backed newspaper in the US. The action was taken by US District Judge George B. Harris who ruled that there did not exist a genuine issue of material fact that the privilege as public journal had been abused under California statute.

The suit arose out of the newspaper's publication of the Marcos government's "Ingles Report" which charged that the Psinakis couple were engaged in a conspiracy to assassinate Marcos. The report had been issued as a cover-up to the well-publicized Mijares Bribe attempt, which is now under Federal investigation.

The March 8 decision was a complete reversal of Harris's earlier refusal to dismiss the case. The defense in appealing the motion, claimed that the "Filipino Reporter had only reported on proceedings of the US legislature and on a Philippine government official report."

Gerald N. Hill, lawyer for the Psinakises, argued that the *Manila Journal* and the *Filipino Reporter* were not entitled to a privilege under California Civil Code because "they are propaganda arms of the Marcos regime."

The latest ruling was based on the premise that the *Filipino Reporter* could not be held responsible for libel since it appears that it was the source, Philippine gov't, and not the publication which had lied. □

# Hawaii's Residents Protest SB-1

By **RUSSELL VALPARAISO**  
AK Correspondent

HONOLULU — A campaign to stop US Senate Bill One (SB-1) was initiated here March 3, 1976, when 65 people held a rally in front of the Federal Court Building in Honolulu.

The speakers at the rally informed the demonstrators and onlookers that "SB-1 will be a weapon in the hands of the government and its real masters, the rich monopoly capitalists, against the people. . . it's pretty clear who will be attacked by Senate Bill 1 and who will be thrown in prison. . . people who stand against flagrant evictions from communities, criminal wars like Viet Nam, and many striking workers and even people who fight against such measures like SB-1 and the Prison Master Plan."

According to the People's Prison Task Force, the fight to stop SB-1 is linked up to the current struggle in Hawaii to stop the move by Gov. George Ariyoshi to develop a bigger and tighter prison on Oahu (The Prison Master Plan) that could cost the taxpayer \$40-M to construct. "We can begin to see why the government is so interested in stronger walls to cage up 'law-breakers' when we look at the kind of laws they are going to pass," said the speaker from the People's

Prison Task Force.

One of the targets of the rally was Hawaii Sen. Hiram Fong, who is a member of a group of senators responsible for SB-1. After the rally, the demonstrators proceeded to the Finance Factors Building where Fong's office is located. There, the protestors confronted the staff of Sen. Fong (Fong was not in) and demanded that a petition signed by a thousand persons to stop SB-1 be given to Fong to show that his constituency are against his sponsorship of the bill.

The rally was organized by an Ad Hoc Committee Against SB-1 made up of various groups including People's Prison Task Force, People's Coalition for Welfare and Employment, Heeia-Kea, Catholic Action of Hawaii/Peace Education Project, Hui Paio, Workers Against Monopoly Capitalism, People Against Chinatown Eviction (PACE), and the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP).

Throughout the country many similar protests and educational forums are being held to inform people about the dangers of SB-1. The organizers of the rally felt that the rally demonstrated the growing awareness of people across the United States about SB-1, and that the movement will continue to grow as more people begin to understand the implications of this fascist bill. □

# TRUMPED-UP CHARGES

(continued from front page)

process and the State Dept.'s buckling down to the whims of a Dictator."

"The cooperation extended by the US State Dept. to the Consulate is a reflection of the US governments general posture of support to Marcos regime, manifested in the rising military aid to the Philippines."

"We will meet this action like we have done in the past. Marcos's unpopularity both in the Philippines and internationally has taught him to seize at the slightest expression of dissent and to resort to actions in panic and desperation. The AMLC will expose every attempt to export Marcos tactics to the US."

Planning to help defend Schnapp and Sinnott, AMLC announced, "We have already taken note of some notorious lies by Mr. Umali, though he was under oath. And also the Philippine gov't is using its diplomatic station as a 'battering ram' to smash their way through the American judicial system. We can see by these events that the 'long arm of martial law' has stretched here to the Filipino community in the US. It is trying to spread its tentacles in a shameless defense of the Consulate's own harassment of our delegates."

The AMLC considers this trial of international importance and plans to well-publicize it and expose the repressive character of the Marcos regime.

The trial is scheduled for Monday, April 19, 1976 at 9:30 a.m., 100 Center Street, at Part AB 9, second floor in Manhattan. □

## Sulong! (Forward in the Struggle!)



For students at Fresno State, the S. California Regional Council Meeting of the West Coast Confederation of Filipino Students was the 1st of its kind. It drew nearly 40 Filipino students on March 6 to plan more joint activities for their region.

### FILIPINO STUDENTS PLAN WEST COAST SUMMER CONFERENCE

BERKELEY— The Steering Committee of the West Coast Confederation of Filipino Students (WCCFS) convened its first meeting here last weekend (Mar. 20-21) and made plans for the 1st Annual West Coast Student Conference scheduled for early summer.

Eleanor Yaranon, newly-elected Confederation Coordinator, reported, "In the 2-day meeting we summarized the Confederation work in the three regions to examine the strengths and weaknesses of the the student organizing thus far. We found that the resolutions passed in regional student conferences last December are being well implemented." Presently Confederation activities in the regions range from sports days, potluck dinners, to cultural fairs.

The Steering Committee also set the Student Conference tentatively for June 19-20 in the N. Calif. region and distributed preparation work among the three regions. The main goal of the summer conference is to adopt a Constitution and to vote on the Confederation name and logo.

"It (Conference) will mark a long-awaited

milestone in organizing Filipino students in the US," commented Yaranon, who will principally oversee Conference preparations. "We look forward to having the June conference succeed in serving the needs of students and organizing efforts on our respective campuses," Yaranon finished.

Regional representatives in attendance at the Steering Committee meeting were Roselyn Ibanez, Johnny Carido, and Herb Tuyay of S. Calif.; Jackie Agtuca, Lynn Domingo, Lolie Sarinas, and Alex Borromeo of the Pacific Northwest; and Paul Porras, Paulette Vitin, and Eleanor Yaranon of N. Calif.

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Regional activities of the Student Confederation continue to draw broad participation from several college campuses. Following is a schedule of its events for the coming months.

#### Southern California

Apr. 3 Deadline for Reg'1 Newsletter  
Apr. 10 Reg'1 Council Meeting at UCLA  
Apr. 24 Reg'1 Cultural Day and Volleyball at Crown Point on Mission Bay in San Diego (Registration/Food:\$2.50)

#### Northern California

Apr. 10 Reg'1 Volleyball Tournament &

Fundraising Dance at Los Medanos College in Pittsburg  
Apr. 24 Cultural Day in Sacramento-Stockton vicinity  
May 6-8 "ISUDA TI IMUNA," Nourse Aud., SF Unified Schools  
Pacific Northwest  
Confederation support for FWC working committees from March-September □

### SEATTLE FILIPINOS HOST SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISER FOR UPCOMING CONVENTIONS

SEATTLE — In an excellent start to insure the success of the 1976 Filipino People's Far West Convention (FWC), \$900.00 was raised at the 1st community fundraiser on March 6. Under the banner of "Pag-Isahin Ang Sambayanan" (Unite the People), the theme for this year's FWC, over 250 people gathered at the Filipino Community Center here for a luau dinner and dance.

Dinner included an entertaining program of folk dances by Kayumanggi Dance Troupe together with songs and a skit by KDP's Pagbabalikwas Cultural Group. Mrs. L. Agtuca of the FWC Interim Task Force opened the program with

encouraging remarks about the upcoming convention. Local merchants and supporters donated door prizes and raffle prizes, adding benefits to an evening dedicated to popularizing the 1976 FWC.

Meanwhile, concrete plans for the 6th annual FWC are now in full swing, as the Filipino Community expresses its growing support for the 1976 FWC.

With the decision of the theme and site finalized last month, a productive work meeting was also conducted at the Wing Luke Museum on March 12, when the different working committees (program, site/logistics, publicity/outreach, and finance) further outlined their future work. Plans for the next several weeks include: preparation for sectoral conferences on youth, labor/employment, and housing; securing contracts for the use of facilities at the University of Washington campus; establishing "mobile speaking teams" to promote the FWC in the community; and writing a newsletter.

Questions about the 1976 FWC can be directed to members of the Interim Steering Committee, Ben Rafanan, Mrs. L. Agtuca, Nemesio Domingo, Jr., and Angel Doniego, at (206) 622-8895. Donations can be sent to: P.O. Box 4245, Seattle, 98104. □



## DOMESTIC / INTERNATIONAL

## SCANDAL GROWS

## U.S. CORPORATIONS ADMIT FOREIGN BRIBES

By VICTOR UNO

Recent revelations of multi-million dollar bribes, kickbacks and payoffs by major US corporations are starkly exposing the multinational's corrupt "code of business practices."

The growing scandal, most recently highlighted by disclosures of Lockheed bribes to foreign officials, is also revealing shady corporate dealings are a common occurrence, used by the US multinationals to influence sales of products and services abroad.

Over 40 major US corporations have either admitted or are charged with funneling hundreds of millions of dollars to influence foreign sales. To a lesser degree, but no different than Lockheed's bribes, were revelations of massive foreign payoffs by Exxon, Gulf Oil, McDonnell Douglas, Northrop, United Brands and dozens of other American multinationals — a growing list that, in the words of one observer, "reads like the Fortune 500 register of top capitalist enterprises."

Thus far, the Lockheed payoffs have been the biggest of the scandals. The gigantic US defense-contractor admitted that it shelled out \$202-M in commissions and questionable payoffs with \$22-M going for outright bribes. Foreign agents and gov't officials in Japan, the Netherlands, Italy, Turkey and other countries were the recipients of Lockheed's payoffs, and the money was admittedly used to grease the sale of Lockheed's aircraft.

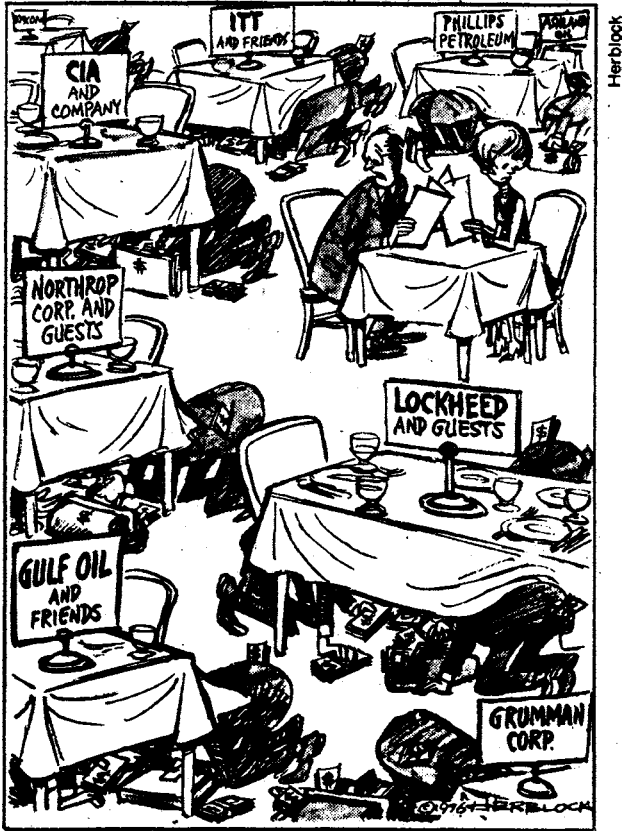
The Lockheed bribes were especially outrageous since the huge multinational was the recipient of a 1971 federally guaranteed loan totalling over \$1.5 billion. Adding to the outrage was the federal gov't General Accounting Office (GAO) recent report that the aircraft giant would not be able to meet its loan repayment due this quarter.

## FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS SHAKEN

Besides the domestic uproar, revelations of the US multinational's bribes have rocked the countries where the payoffs occurred. The international outcry is strongest in Japan where Lockheed paid out \$12.6-M in bribes, \$7-M of which went to Yoshio Kodama, an ultra-rightist and militarist highly influential in Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party. Japan's parliament is now conducting a massive investigation that reaches into the upper echelons of the LDP, including investigations of ex-Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka. Demonstrations

by as many as 14,000 Japanese have also demanded a full disclosure of the persons involved.

In addition to the upheavals in Japan, the Netherlands launched an investigation into charges that Prince Bernhard had accepted Lockheed payoffs. The scandal also hit Italy, forcing the resignation of Italy's Minister of the Interior Luegi



"My, there are a lot of important people here tonight."

Gui, and causing reverberations in the Christian Democratic Party to which Gui belongs. Other countries hit by the scandals and launching investigations are W. Germany, Spain and Greece.

## POLITICAL IMPACT OF BRIBES

The current investigations into the US multinational's foreign bribes and payoffs are an outgrowth from earlier Senate Watergate investigations into illegal corporate contributions to the two major US political parties. Like the enormous and secret payoffs by the dairy industry and ITT to ex-Pres. Nixon's reelection campaign fund, the US multina-

tional payoffs are aimed at influencing a country's political and economic life to insure a continuing "business climate" advantageous to the multinationals.

Exxon's "donations" of \$5-M to the Italian Christian Democratic Party, Gulf Oil's payoff of \$4-M to South Korean dictator Park Chung Hee, and the well-documented case of ITT-CIA dealings in Chile are examples where US multinational payoffs and maneuverings were made to protect already existing investments against the threat of nationalization.

It is also no coincidence that the payoffs were made to traditional rightist parties since they represented the status quo and therefore shared vested interests in continued business dealings with the American corporations.

Besides the political impact the multinational bribes have on foreign countries, the recent disclosures have also shown that the corporate bribery often forces a country to purchase costly and unnecessary military hardware or equipment they could make themselves. This is one of the causes of Japan's outcry, where billions were paid for Lockheed-manufactured anti-submarine warfare (ASW) planes when the ASW's could have been built in Japan. Or the scandal in Columbia when a Lockheed payoff to two Columbian airforce generals caused that country to buy unneeded and expensive US weapons.

## "ACCEPTED BUSINESS PRACTICE"

There is little chance, however, that any important action will be taken against the US multinational's under-the-table payoffs, as such practices are not covered by existing US statutes. And while Senate investigators have expressed shock and anger over the misdealings, the general attitude of business is to readily admit that bribes and payoffs are "the name of the game" for the huge corporations, an "accepted business practice."

Some individual companies may suffer temporary sales losses due to the current outcry. Japan has already cancelled their contracts with Lockheed, forcing many of the multinationals to talk about a uniform "code of ethics" to outlaw such practice. But the statement of an Atlanta-based Rollins Co. executive best sums up the multinational's attitude towards future bribes: "We will continue to do so (bribe) where no reasonable alternative is available." □

## Health Care Crisis:

## NOT ENOUGH MD'S TO GO AROUND

By MARTIN BROWN  
Pacific News Service

SAN FRANCISCO — With more doctors per person than any other country except the Soviet Union and Israel, the US still faces a growing crisis in meeting its most basic health needs.

Though their ranks are increasing, doctors are so poorly distributed by region and specialty that there are 1,200 areas where substantial numbers of Americans cannot find a doctor when they need one.

Most doctors go where the money is, and not surprisingly place income and environment above medical needs of communities in choosing where to practice. They flock to the cities and the pleasant climates of the coasts, practice among the affluent rather than the poor, and affiliate with well equipped, academically glamorous medical centers rather than overcrowded county and inner-city hospitals.

Thus the doctor-to-patient ratio in urban, affluent states like New York, Massachusetts, California, and Connecticut averages about 150 doctors per 100,000 population. But in rural and poor states like Indiana, Wyoming, South Carolina and Alabama, the ratio is only about 80 physicians per 100,000 population.

Even within wealthy states, certain regions may be without adequate care. In New York City, for instance, there are about 280 physicians per 100,000 population, compared to the national average of

about 120. But in the poverty ridden New York City area of South Bronx, there are only 10 doctors per 100,000.

## OVERSPECIALIZATION

Perhaps even more serious than the regional maldistribution of doctors is their maldistribution by speciality.

Again, physicians choose glamorous specialties like surgery, with average incomes much higher than those of general practitioners. But while such specialties are overcrowded, there is a critical shortage of primary care physicians — those who take care of the crucial everyday needs of patients.

Primary care physicians — general practitioners, general internists and general pediatricians — are actually falling in number in proportion to the population; by 1963 the number had fallen to 53 per 100,000, and by 1971 it had dropped to 41. Today, the average general practitioner must see 172 patients per 50-hour week — giving him less than 20 minutes per patient.

A 1972 study published in the New England Journal of Medicine concluded that for adequate primary care, the US would require almost twice the number of primary care physicians as are actually available.

In order to shore up its failing primary care, the US drains other countries of their medical graduates. Over 68,000 foreign-trained doctors are currently practicing in the US., usually as staff physicians in hospitals and clinics. Most of these physicians come from countries like India, Iran and the

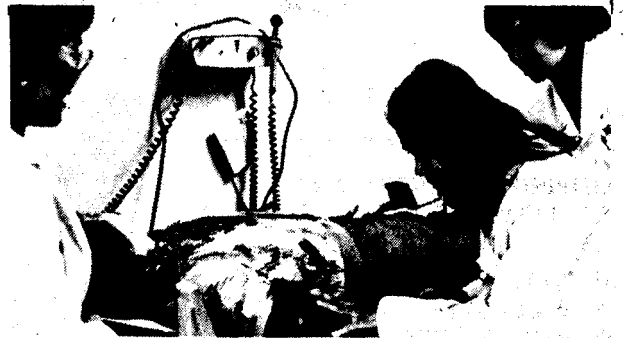


Photo: Emergency Defense Committee for the FMGs (New York).

Philippines — countries that are themselves in desperate need of doctors.

In contrast to the severe shortage of primary care physicians, there is a vast surplus of surgeons in the US. Surgeons, in fact, total twice the number of general practitioners.

Coincidentally, the rate of surgery in the US is twice that of many other advanced countries, such as England — surgery that a series of independent studies has confirmed is often unnecessary, expensive and even dangerous.

In a 1971 survey conducted by the American College of Surgeons, 11% of those responding stated that "operations of questionable value" occur in their hospitals "once a week or more." Common-place surgery such as appendectomies, hysterectomies, hemorrhoidectomies and tonsilectomies are particularly excessive, studies have shown. □

## America in Turmoil

FORD PLANS "REFORMS" FOR F.B.I., C.I.A.

Pres. Ford in early March unveiled proposals to "reform" the gov't intelligence agencies scandalized by disclosures of massive domestic spying, foreign assassination plots and other nefarious covert actions. The main aspects of the proposed "reforms" are increased centralization of authority over covert operations into the hands of the President, legalization of previously illegal spying operations, and increased legal repression to stop the leaking of covert operations to the press.

While Ford expressed "concern" over apparent "improper" acts by the \$3-B funded intelligence network, the White House proposal would only serve to strengthen the spy agencies. Ford is demanding "anti-leak" legislation which would allow for the prosecution of anyone "who without permission told any unauthorized person about US intelligence 'sources and methods.'" The "unauthorized persons" could be the general American public and the legislation would serve to stop public knowledge of illegal CIA or FBI activity.

In addition, the centralization of covert spy acts into the hands of the President would not change the present situation as Congressional investigations have revealed that the most outrageous of the CIA's operations, foreign assassination plots, came at the behest of the White House. The proposed reforms would also legalize increased domestic spying, broadening the agencies' prerogative to conduct surveillance when there is "reasonable belief" that illegal activity exists. □

### RACIST ANTI-BUSING ATTACKS CONTINUE

BOSTON — Demonstrations and riots by racist, anti-busing forces, aided by the city gov't, have effectively undermined US District Judge Arthur Garrity's Dec. 9 decision to put South Boston High School under federal receivership. The decision had attempted to insure that Blacks and other minorities could attend any school in the city without fear for their safety.

The latest demonstration on Feb. 29 involved over 2,000 members of ROAR, (Restore Our Alienated Rights), the Klu Klux Klan, American Independent Party, and the John Birch Society, as well as city council members and State Rep. Ray Flynn. Boston's Mayor Kevin White granted a permit for the march despite a court ruling banning demonstrations within 300 yards of the school.

Though some speakers, including Flynn, insisted they "were not bigots," the content of the speeches supported ROAR's racist positions and urged intolerance with any court-ordered solutions. During two hours of racist harangues the crowd was urged to "uphold the American way of life," and "not to wave the white flag . . . (as) in Korea . . . (and) in Vietnam."

Two weeks earlier over 70 policemen were injured in a two-hour melee with 400 goons from ROAR's para-military group, the Marshals. The riot had provoked Boston Police Commissioner Robert DiGrazia to angrily call an end to a "two year policy of tolerance" towards the anti-busing forces. Despite DiGrazia's stated intentions, his forces were nowhere to be seen during the Feb. 29th demonstration. □

### FORD VETOES JOB BILL

Underscoring his determination to force the working class and unemployed to bear the brunt of the current recession, Pres. Ford recently vetoed a \$6.8-B appropriation to fund public works jobs. Congress fell a few votes short of overturning the veto.

Ford sought to rationalize his veto by asserting his economic "austerity" program was working and cited statistics showing an alleged drop to 7.8% unemployment. Gov't sources admit, however, that this figure does not include the one million persons who, in frustration, have given up looking for work or whose unemployment benefits have just run out. This group of uncouneted unemployed is also expected to increase sizeably as Pres. Ford last month terminated a Federal unemployment extension past 39 weeks in all states that fall below the federal cut-off level.

The failure of the Democratic-majority Congress to override the veto bolstered Ford's claim that "we are on the road to recovery." If economic indicators continue to increase "favorably" and unemployment and inflation do not rise drastically, it is likely Ford's current economic policies will continue. Ford's policies call for food stamps cut-backs, recent proposed revision in Social Security's Title XX that seeks massive cut-backs in aid for elderly, disabled, and in child care programs—all purportedly to overcome the mounting deficit in the nation's budget.

Out of a proposed federal budget of \$395-B for fiscal year 1976-77, between \$40-B and \$50-B will be cut from social services—\$28-B below what is necessary to just maintain the present programs. While cutting back on social services, Ford has promised that military expenditures "will show an essential increase over the current year." □

# Angola Victory Sparks Rest of Southern Africa

By VICTOR UNO

The recent victory of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) over Western-backed armies and an invasion by S. African forces has greatly bolstered the growing struggle of the African people against colonialism and racist apartheid rule.

While the new gov't has yet to fully expell remaining S. African forces and resolve the many economic and social problems brought about by years of colonialism and the war, the progressive regime has pledged itself as a strong base against the last bastions of apartheid rule in S. Africa and Rhodesia.

"We cannot limit ourselves to our own independence," Angola's Pres. Agostinho Neto declared Feb. 29. "Our people, the first in Africa to fight S. African forces, will extend their action to liberate other countries—such as Namibia—at present occupied by the racists—and Zimbabwe (Rhodesia)—which can achieve independence only by armed struggle."

Neto's speech pointed out that Pretoria's invasion of Angola was possible only because of S. Africa's present illegal occupation of Namibia, a former German colony. The MPLA has voiced its support for the South West African People's Organization (SWAPO) which is leading the struggle of Namibia's 900,000 black Africans against the S. African occupation. Formal links between the MPLA and SWAPO were recently established and the new progressive gov't of Angola does not rule out the possibility of MPLA action in Namibia against S. Africa.

### SOUTH AFRICA SHAKEN

The defeat of its troops by the MPLA and the specter of MPLA actions into Namibia have greatly shaken the racist regime of S. African Premier John Voerster. The AP reported that the apartheid regime has amassed 20,000 troops on the Angola-Namibia border in a frantic response to its setbacks.

Despite its recent military defeats, the Voerster gov't had the gall to demand "guarantees" from the MPLA for S. Africa investments in the Calueque dam before fully withdrawing its troops. MPLA response has been to firmly reject S. Africa's demands, pointing out that the dam serves Namibia and that the Voerster gov't has no right to press for any guarantees.

While the S. African gov't worries about possible MPLA actions into Namibia, world opinion is firmly against the racist regime. The UN has condemned S. African occupation of Namibia since 1966 and the UN Commissioner to Namibia, Sean McBride, has stated that the world organization would not take actions if the MPLA or their Cuban allies decided to aid SWAPO against the S. African armies.

"The occupation of Namibia is illegal," declared the Nobel Prize winner McBride. "I do not think that the UN would contemplate rescuing S. African troops."

Besides pointing out the world's condemnation of

Pretoria's illegal rule over Namibia, McBride's Feb. 18 statement also hit S. Africa's apartheid regime, where 20 million Black Africans are brutally ruled by a racist gov't serving the country's four million whites.

### ZIMBABWE STRUGGLE HEIGHTENS

Angola's victory has also spurred the struggle of Zimbabwe's (Rhodesia) six million Black Africans against the apartheid gov't by that country's 270,000 whites. Recently two of that country's liberation movements, ZANU and ZAPU, formally established the Zimbabwe Military High Command, uniting the two movements which have been waging guerrilla war against the Smith gov't. The



establishment of the alliance took place Feb. 7-8 in Mozambique, with the presidents of Tanzania, Zambia, Botswana and Mozambique attending.

Highlighting the growing conflict in Zimbabwe was Mozambique's closing of its 800-mile border to the Smith regime March 2. Declaring that a state of war existed between the two governments, Mozambique's Pres. Samora Machel charged the Smith regime with numerous border violations.

Observers noted that while the declaration did not constitute a full outbreak of hostilities, the Smith regime would face increased attacks by guerrillas from both Mozambique and Zambia. In addition, the possibility that Mozambique will take military action against the white-minority regime exists and Zambia declared that it would support any action by Mozambique against the Smith gov't.

While the racist Smith regime has been holding talks with the moderate African National Council (ANC) leader Joshua Nkomo in the hopes of staving off a future of Black African majority rule, no substantive agreements have been reached. The US press has urged Smith to make concessions to the ANC, the only nationalist group willing to hold talks with the white regime. Nevertheless, UN Commissioner McBride predicted that the Smith regime could collapse as early as Easter under an offensive from its rebels. □

## BEHIND ASEAN...

(continued from page 3)

dia, Laos and Viet Nam.

To cloak his true purpose, Marcos has advocated economic and technological cooperation as the tactical basis of unity with other Asian nations. In particular he has called for the establishment of a free trade zone and a complimentary industrialization project. While verbal unity was achieved with the other ASEAN member nations (Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia), the Bali summit failed to translate this unity into concrete action.

Beneath the cordial wording of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation that was the outcome of the summit, lurked national differences that refused to yield to concrete forms of regional cooperation. Moreover, the fear that Marcos was jockeying for ASEAN's leadership invited suspicions for Manila's proposals.

Apart from the "compromise consensus" that characterized the Bali summit, Marcos returned to Manila with at least one accomplishment: more publicity. According to Far Eastern Economic Review, March 12, 1976, the Philippine delegation brought the largest media contingent composed of 182 newsmen. Marcos's craze for publicity prom-

pted an American newsmen to ask him "whether he was not granting too many press conferences."

### MARCOS — SAME OLD DOG WITH A FEW NEW TRICKS

Marcos's progressive sounding rhetoric is merely a sophisticated disguise for his essentially pro-US stance. While he has made foreign policy changes in accordance with new international trends, this has not meant a decisive shift from his pro-US policies.

This is evident in the foreign policy guideline enunciated by Sec. of Foreign Affairs Carlos P. Romulo:

"How then do we express our national aspirations in this time of change? First, we want to renegotiate the bases question on terms compatible with our sovereignty and the realities of post-Vietnam Asia. We believe that continued American presence in Asia is desirable and new foundations should be built to sustain it. Second, we continue improving relations with countries with whom we could cooperate in matters of economic development, without regard to ideological beliefs. Third, we continue to search for ways to improve our security, realizing that our security is our principal responsibility and not that of other countries." □

# Puerto Rico: The Struggle For Freedom

## PART TWO: COMMONWEALTH AND "OPERATION BOOTSTRAP"

This is the second of a three-part series on Puerto Rico's national liberation struggle. Part one covered the period beginning with the 1898 seizure of the island nation from Spain by the US, through the subsequent years of US colonization and domination of Puerto Rico, and the growing resistance of the Puerto Rican masses to colonial rule, culminating in the bloody suppression of the 1950 Nationalist Rebellion. — Editor

By WALDEN BELLO  
AK Correspondent

The violent agitation of the Nationalists, coupled with the profound rural working-class unrest due to the crisis of the agricultural economy during the Depression, shook the US and the colonial gov't, and forced them to search for political and economic solutions which would stabilize the situation within the framework of colonialism. The "New Deal" for Puerto Rico that they came up with was the reformist formula combining the political status of Commonwealth with and economic program called "Operation Bootstrap."

The Commonwealth, negotiated by Luis Munoz Marin, was the realization of the autonomists' dream of a state that would combine the trappings of self-government with the preservation of the "special relationship" with American capitalism. The most blatant symbol of US colonialism, the governor-general, was withdrawn; an elective governorship was created; and the colonial legislature was granted additional legislative power.

These changes were, however, largely cosmetic, and the political essence of colonialism remained: the US Congress continued to possess the power to enact federal laws governing the conduct of Puerto Ricans.

"Operation Bootstrap" sought to attract US industrial corporate investment through the use of a wide variety of "incentives": generous tax exemptions, unobstructed profit return, duty-free movement of goods between the island and the US, and, above all, cheap labor.

Unfolding in the context of the Cold War, "Bootstrap" was partly intended to set an example of successful industrial development by non-Western society within the confines of imperialism. And, in a very real sense, "Bootstrap" served as a stalking horse for a new pattern of imperial exploitation of Third World countries, a pattern which would become evident elsewhere by the early sixties: the movement of corporate investments from the traditional extractive and plantation enterprises to the manufacturing sectors of these economies.

"Bootstrap" profoundly altered Puerto Rican society. In 15 years, from 1950 to 1965, the vast majority of the population was transformed from a rural working class into an urban one with a large industrial core. This measure of industrialization was, however, bought at the high price of destroying the rural economy—both the cash-crop sector and what remained of the food-crop sector—as foreign investment shifted from sugar to manufacturing, the labor force left the latifundias (plantations) for the slightly better paying factory jobs, and the Yankee sugar corporations focused their efforts on exploiting their landholdings elsewhere in the Caribbean, where cheaper labor conditions prevailed.

With this shift in the colonial foundation of the colonial relationship, the island's power structure was also modified. US sugar interests lost ground to US industrial, financial, and commercial capital; and the local power balance drastically shifted from the Puerto Rican sugar barons like the Serrales family to the local managers of US industries, the indigenous intermediaries of mainland banks and commercial enterprises, and the upper echelons of the Popular Democratic Party. What elements of the Puerto Rican national bourgeoisie had previously managed to survive by running marginal industrial enterprises when sugar dominated the economy were now swamped by the invasion of US industrial corporations.

The industrial structure that emerged, however, was one built on sand. It was not an integrated industrial structure calculated to give Puerto Rico a greater margin of economic freedom, but one which in fact deepened the colonial link with the US. The light-industrial firms that were established or relocated to Puerto Rico did not work with, or spur the



The effects of 'Operation Bootstrap' — continued poverty and economic stagnation. Above, shanty town outside San Juan.

creation of, Puerto Rican suppliers of raw materials or capital goods, but were dependent on US-based suppliers. Nor did they serve the needs of the Puerto Rican market, but were intended to service mainland demand.

Puerto Rico merely served as one link in a productive process that began and ended on the mainland—a phenomenon which has become scandalously evident in the case of petroleum refineries like the gigantic Commonwealth Oil Refining Corporation (CORCO), which serves as a processing point for Venezuelan oil destined for the mainland market. As one student of the island economy put it, "Bootstrap" only worsened a condition whereby "Puerto Rico produces that which it does not consume, and consumes that which it does not produce."

### CONTRADICTIONS AND CRISIS

Like all reformist schemes under capitalism "Operation Bootstrap" merely combined old con-

mass of reserve labor created by the destruction of the rural economy, but this was masked by the large-scale emigration of bankrupt small landholders and impoverished rural workers to the East Coast of the US. With the prolonged recession on the mainland, however, a pattern of reverse migration has begun, making this safety valve for the draining of social conflicts no longer available.

The inherent contradictions of the program of colonial industrialization have today been worsened by the effects of the generalized crisis of the international capitalist economy to create an economic crisis of alarming proportions. Not only is 40% of the population unemployed, but 71% of the population has been forced to resort to the Food Stamp Program. Approximately one tenth of the Federal government's \$5-B allocation for this program is, in fact, currently spent in Puerto Rico. In its efforts to soften the contradictions and dull class conflict, the colonial gov't has become massively indebted to financial institutions and is currently experiencing a fiscal crisis as bad as New York's.

Washington has indicated that the only way out now for the colonial gov't is a combination of repressive measures against working-class unrest and further economics to restore "fiscal soundness" to the island. Thus the Tobin Report, produced by an economic advisory group headed by Yale professor James Tobin, has proposed massive gov't dismissals, affecting as many as 50,000 gov't employees, and the freezing of wages in the public sector. The significance of this proposed move is best grasped if one realizes that public employees make up 28% of the labor force, and their wages served as a guidepost for the wages of the most poorly paid industrial labor force.

The current crisis has given rise to speculation among some petty bourgeois independentista circles that Washington will become more and more inclined to abandon Puerto Rico as it becomes a fiscal burden to the US. This is highly unlikely.

Even with its current troubles, Puerto Rico remains of strategic interest to the multi-national corporations. As of 1975 American investment in Puerto Rico totalled \$14-B. Profits derived from the island made up one-tenth of the total profit owing to US investment outside the US and amounted to 40% of the profit derived from US investment in Latin America. The average rate of profit comes to 90% of every dollar invested — far in excess of the 30-40% that is "normal" elsewhere.

Moreover, Puerto Rico is a valuable haven for "hot capital" due to its extremely loose laws governing the taxation and use of foreign capital. Thus many corporations sink their investments in low-risk, high-profit activities from which they can easily be withdrawn when better opportunities for profit-making appear elsewhere on the globe.

The economic importance of Puerto Rico to multi-national interests is paralleled by the strategic military importance it continues to possess for the US Defense Dept., both in terms of Caribbean "defense" and the wider nuclear "defense" system. The big naval complex at Ceiba already houses and services a part of the Polaris submarine fleet.

Given all these advantages, separation is clearly not something that the US will willingly grant but a political concession that must be forcibly extracted from it. □

(To be continued next issue)

Next issue: Part 3, Colonial Crisis and Class Struggle — the present struggle in Puerto Rico for national liberation and socialism.

### Why Puerto Rico is unique as a place for manufacturers to make more profits

by Malcolm S. Forbes



The President and Editor-in-Chief of Fortune magazine tells how a unique relationship with the United States allows Puerto Rico to provide manufacturers with advantages for profits that they won't find anywhere else in the world.

Read his "fact and comment," then send the coupon below for more details.

●●● Puerto Rico is unique in all the world—and I don't mean for tourists, although it is that. I mean from the U.S. manufacturer's point of view. I call Puerto Rico "unique" because of a very practical set of circumstances there that encourage employment and growth and a decent profit for manufacturers.

**Saw economic wonders**  
In 1958 I first saw the economic wonders the people of Puerto Rico were bringing about.

My wife and I, on a visit to Puerto Rico, asked a mutual friend to arrange a meeting with Governor Luis Muñoz Marín. This was the man who started it all. And this was the period when their economic development program was beginning to show its first significant signs of success. With Muñoz as our guide, we learned about it firsthand.

**A gamble they had to take**  
Muñoz named the program Operation Bootstrap. And he told us what a big

And for good reason. Operation Bootstrap was working. Why? Not out of idealism. But because it offered them and in fact offers now something for everyone involved. The Government, which wants to improve the economy of the island. The workers, who need jobs. And manufacturers, who see the benefits of this kind of close cooperation.

The people at Puerto Rico's Economic Development Administration (they call themselves "Promoters") can give all the pertinent facts and

#### Puerto Rico's Unique Benefits

- 1. No federal taxes. Federal taxes on corporate profits do not apply.
- 2. 100% exemption from all local taxes. No tax on corporate income, real or personal property. No "excise" or city taxes. Up to 30 years.
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traditions with new ones, making further maintenance of the colonial capitalist system extremely difficult, if not impossible, in the near future. By the mid-sixties, the relative "social peace" characteristic of the first 15 years of "Bootstrap" began to come apart as the essentially irrational and unplanned character of colonial industrialization began to manifest itself.

Capitalist investment had initially directed itself into labor-intensive industries like leather, textiles, and clothing. With these industries becoming less profitable due to stiff competition by the lower-priced and better-quality goods of other countries in the US market, investment drastically shifted toward the establishment of highly technologically and capital-intensive enterprises like petrochemical, pharmaceutical, and petroleum-refining firms.

Aside from creating tremendous pollution problems, the shift reduced the labor-absorbent capacity of the economy and left a significant portion of the labor force in the declining light-industrial sector unemployed. Unemployment, which in the best years of "Operation Bootstrap" never seemed to have gone below 20% of the labor force, now stands at more than 40%.

Even during the early years of "Bootstrap" the industrial sector could never really absorb the vast

## Macapagal, Others Charged With Plot to Kill Marcos

By FRANCISCO OCAMPO



Former Pres. Diosdado Macapagal — Marcos believes Macapagal has a large political following "especially in the grass-roots level." (Credit Photo: Philippine Times)

MANILA — Former Pres. Diosdado Macapagal together with labor, church, Muslim, and other political opponents of the regime were accused with conspiring to assassinate Pres. Marcos. This sudden disclosure came after Macapagal's demand to convene the ad interim National Assembly was gaining momentum (see article on National Advisory Body, *Ang Katipunan*, last issue, p. 12).

This ridiculous accusation was obviously a ploy to discredit Macapagal whom Marcos believes has a large political following "especially in the grass-roots level." During his speech in the 71st anniversary celebration of the founding of the Philippine Military Academy, Marcos referred to Macapagal when he blamed rebel and underground elements against the gov't as efforts of "rightist zealots and partisans bent on capitalizing on certain old society issues to retain their appeal to certain sectors for mounting all sorts of platforms against the New Society."

Marcos has been known to scream "assassination plot!" each time his opponents gain ground in rallying support against his dictatorial regime Sergio Osmena et al, the Lopezes, and the Psinakises have been accused during separate incidents of conspiring to kill Marcos.

Marcos's paranoia, a common affliction of dictators, has driven him to conduct numerous loyalty purges and reorganization within his regime to thwart any attempts of a coup d'etat. The purge engineered by Melchor, the military revamp and the gov't performance audit presently underway are indicative of this insecurity.

This "assassination fever" has also proven to be embarrassing. During the ASEAN summit in Bali, an American tourist was hustled out of the convention site on the supposed basis that he was plotting to assassinate Marcos! □



The "resignation of generals," creations of new Department of Defense positions, trimming down Enrile's authorities will lessen the threats of a coup d'etat.

## To Curb Threats of coup d'etat

# MARCOS PUSHES MILITARY REVAMP

By FRANCISCO OCAMPO

MANILA — The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Dept. of National Defense (DND) are undergoing extensive reorganization and purging to insure that substantial power is not concentrated in certain persons, groups, or factions that could potentially pose a threat to Marcos's one-man rule.

Using the people's sentiments against the abuses and brutalities of the military as a timely excuse to undertake the revamp, Marcos has: reassigned supervision of the 43,000 strong Integrated National Police (INP) to the National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM); created two new undersecretary of defense posts; ordered his top generals to "tender their resignations"; and fired over a thousand military men.

During a press conference at the Mansion House in Baguio, Marcos justified the reorganization as a means of "strengthening the AFP against the resurgence of leftist-rightist conspiracy, reinforced by new elements who are conspiring to seek aid from other countries." He also revealed "how the upper echelon of the AFP has cooperated by submitting their courtesy resignations." Marcos claims that the mass resignation has "allowed for the complete revamp within the first quarter of the year."

The purging of the rank-and-file, amounting to

some 1,500 officers and enlisted men, was only a token gesture to defuse criticisms prevalent against the military. No prosecution proceedings have been taken against these soldiers. Neither have the brutal prison authorities known to be responsible for the tortures, beatings and deaths of political prisoners been arrested.

### TRIMMING OF POWERS?

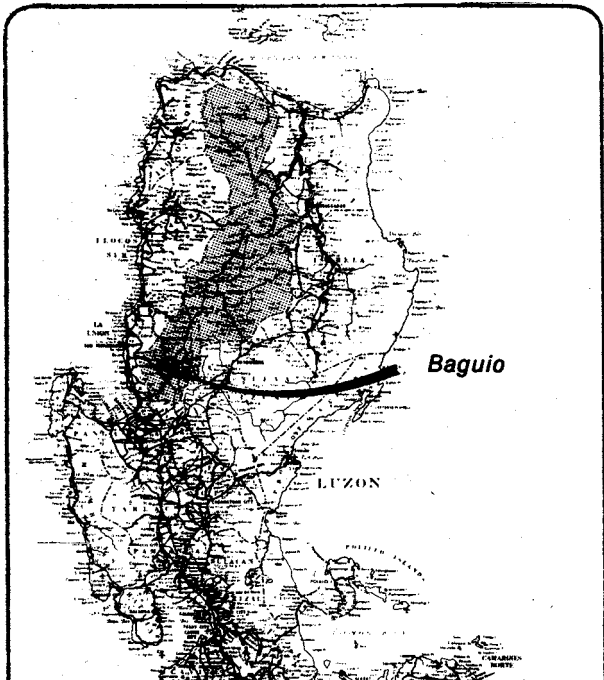
In a related development, the Dept. of National Defense headed up by Defense Sec. Juan Ponce Enrile (who barely escaped a purge himself six months ago), is also undergoing "reorganization." Through the scheme of decentralizing the powers of Enrile, Marcos has created two more undersecretary positions and placed staunch Marcos supporters there. One position has been filled by Isabelo Castro, a close province-mate of Marcos; the other by Carmelo Barbero, who now overshadows Enrile in the newspapers. Barbero has taken the upper hand in initiating the military performance audit and discharging officers and enlisted men, instead of Enrile.

In addition, Teodulo Natividad has been assigned to head the National Police commission and supervise the 43,000-man Integrated National Police. Previous to Natividad's appointment, Enrile had direct control of the INP. □

## MT. PROVINCE

(continued from front page)

lihood. This in turn will force them into the forested interiors of the mountains or along the northern coast. Marcos has urged the tribespeople to view the construction of the dam on their land as a national sacrifice made "for the sake of progress and development." The Chico River Basin will allegedly pro-



The Mountain Province lying 400 miles north of Manila, has been cordoned off from the rest of the country. Military officials say terrain provides "excellent guerilla sanctuary."

vide electricity and irrigation for the people of the region. The tribes quickly point out, however, that the people in the sparsely populated Mountain Provinces have little use for the dams so called "benefits." The real beneficiaries of the dams are the multi-national corporations: electrification would maximize the exploitation of the mountains ore resources by mining interests and irrigation would entice agribusiness investments into the abundant Cagayan Valley. Not surprisingly, the Chico River Basin Project, is financed by the World Bank.

### SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS

While Major Gen. Fidel Ramos bitterly blamed the New People's Army for "stirring the tribes into dissidence," the tribes have been long prepared for an armed confrontation with the government. Last year, the Kalingas and Bontoc signed a peace pact declaring: "We are not going to allow the destruction of our homes and fields as long as the breath of life is still in us." That they invoked their peace pact was largely due to the Jan. 11 presidential directive ordering the arrest of anyone interfering with the dam project.

Should the regime decide to wage an all-out military campaign against the tribes, it would be to their decisive disadvantage. First of all, the majority of NPA cadres in the region are Ifugaos who know the terrain exceptionally well. According to a retired military officer who recently surveyed the Mountain Provinces, "... the area could provide excellent guerilla sanctuary." The only way the military could flush out the revolutionary fighters from the densely forested mountains is through bombing and strafing. But this would be at the expense of turning the richly endowed mountain provinces (a mining haven) into a deeply ravaged war zone. □

## US-RP MILITARY TALKS...

(continued from front page)

Such official military aid comes through various channels and has increased in volume since martial law was declared. The Military Assistance Program (MAP) which started aid grants in 1946, has channeled \$7.8-M more during the last 3 years of martial law than the 3 previous years. Foreign Military Sales credit has extended \$8.6-M in 1974 and \$7-M in 1975, credit the Philippines did not have access to before martial law. In the form of Excess Defense Articles, \$7.2-M of excess military equipment was received prior to martial law; during the last 3 years of martial law, this allocation catapulted to \$21.8-M. Ship transfers amounted to \$1.8-M in 1972; in 1973 it went up to \$22.8-M even when the 1972 US congressional hearing programmed only \$4-M worth of naval vessels. Military assistance in the form of the Joint US Military Advisory Group (JUSMAG) was valued at \$1.7-M in 1975, up from \$1.4-M in 1972; the advisers number 50 military and 9 civilian personnel, the tenth largest of the 47 country US military missions in the world. The only component in the aid that declined is the Officer Training: there were 453 officers trained in 1972, 400 in 1973, and 292 in 1974; but this cutback has little significance since the Philippines has an extremely swollen annual contingent in the MAP training. A total of 14,475 Filipino-officers were trained under MAP, making the Philippines the eighth largest contributor of 72 countries. (Above data was taken from "The Logistics of Repression," *Philippines Information Bulletin*, Volume 3, Nos. 2 and 3, July 1975). □