

Marcos Launches Major Gov't, Military Purge

By ANITA BORJA

A major shakeup of the military and local government is underway, following reports of increased concern by Marcos over the loyalty of the rank-and-file. Defense Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile disclosed early May that a purge to weed out "misfits and undesirables" in local government is in the offing. Local elections originally scheduled for the end of the year were also cancelled, because, according to Enrile, "Elections at the local level would trigger dissension at this time." A more important development is the announced

retirement of 44 generals, more than half of the countries top brass.

Although the regime is publicizing these moves as routine administrative revamps, observers believe that the shake-up is meant to check the popular dissatisfaction created by the April 7 elections among the government's ranks. Long before the elections, the opposition LABAN party predicted a purge against government employees and officials whose loyalties were in question. A statement by LABAN revealed that a secretly conducted government survey showed that many employees intended to vote for the opposition. Only

30 per cent indicated their support for the Marcos-backed KBL party. The 70 per cent who cast their support for LABAN, most likely comprise the "undesirables and misfits" Enrile has targeted for sacking.

Breaches of loyalty were also evident in the military over the election period. Apart from the active participation of the low ranking officers at Fort Bonifacio and Nichols Air Base in the oppositions' "noise" rally last April 6, a manifesto issued by a clandestine anti-Marcos organization within the AFP, was widely circulated.

continued on page 3

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National Newspaper of the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP)



New York City Meeting

story page 6

Successful Nurses' Conference Held



After a highly successful second National Conference, NAFL delegates pose for a group photo. (nafl)

Despite Mondde's 'tough talk' in Manila

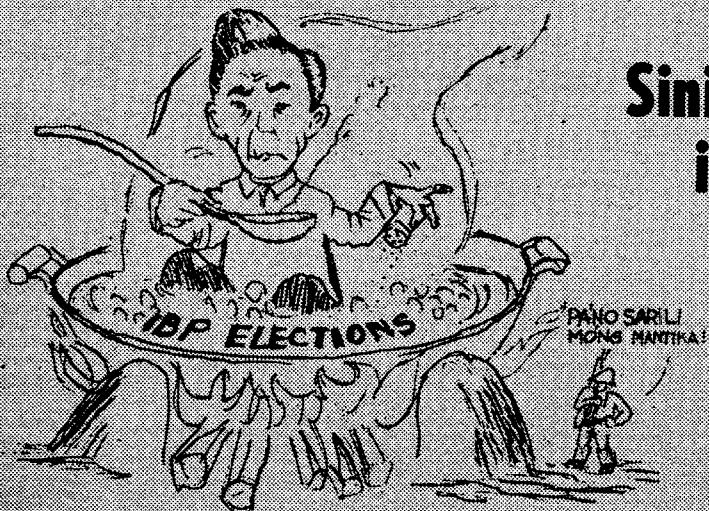
Carter Administration Maneuvers To Block R.P. Aid Cuts

see page 2

South Africa Invades Angola



South African troops, shown above arresting a black demonstrator in Pretoria, launched a massive invasion into Angola on May 4, killing over 582 Namibian refugees. See story on page 11.



Sinisimulan sa isyung ito:

Pilipino Kolum Ni TaTa Selo

page 5

Bakit kapag tumatagal, lalong sumasama ang lasa?

IN THIS ISSUE:

Hawaii Residents aid Tondo Fire Victims

p. 12

AFP Unleashes Bacteriological Warfare

p. 3

News Analysis On US-RP Business Relations

p. 4

Bay Area Protests Repressive Bill

p. 10

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Editorial



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White House Maneuvers to Stymie Aid Cuts

Carter Administration Continues to Back Marcos

By VICTORIA LUNA

Anti-martial law demonstrators who turned out in Manila to protest the visit of U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale knew what they were doing.

For all of the reports of Mondale's "tough talk" to Marcos on human rights, his actions since his return indicate that, far from threatening withdrawal of support, this representative of the Carter Administration, in fact is working to insure continued support for the Marcos regime.

U.S. Senator John Glenn (D-Ca.), who earlier had planned to introduce an amendment to the U.S. Foreign aid bill in the Senate advocating a 13 per cent reduction in military aid to the Philippines, announced through an aide that he had been talked out of the move by Vice President Mondale upon his return from the Philippines. Glenn promised Mondale he would reserve judgment on the Marcos regime for one more year.

Reliable congressional sources also report intense lobbying by the Carter Administration against the 50 per cent aid-cut amendment which was introduced in two separate House subcommittees, first by Rep. Leo Ryan (D-Ca.) and then by Rep. Yvonne Burke (D-Ca.).

The same sources report that Mondale was eager during his trip to conclude negotiations on the bases treaty, but that Marcos, in his current mood of pseudo-nationalism, balked.

Mondale staged a number of dramatic performances to imply disapproval of the Marcos regime during his trip. He brought up the issue of human rights upon arrival during his airport speech and was the highest-ranking U.S. official to meet with the representatives of the opposition.

Mondale's later actions, however, reveal that he—representing the Carter Administration—and Ferdinand Marcos have worked out, at least for now, a way to live together. At this point, the U.S. Government sees no alternative to continuing its support for a puppet who causes a good deal of embarrassment.

Ferdinand Marcos has lately seemed less and less capable of serving U.S. needs effectively. When a new alternative presents itself, the Carter Administration could do an abrupt about face.

But clearly, for all this administration's talk, human rights is not a real factor influencing its foreign policy. Mondale's actions in the U.S. Congress since his return speak much louder than his "tough" words in Manila. For now, these actions spell support for one of the world's most widely recognized violators of human rights. □



U.S. Vice President Mondale is greeted by Marcos during his recent Philippine visit. (UPI)

Speech to NAFL Conference

'WE STOOD FIRM'

Following is a speech by Aimee Cruz presented at this year's NAFL conference—the editor.

Friends, a year has passed since many of us here were together in this same hall, at this same time. A year has passed since we spent two days studying the roots, discussing the different aspects, and debating solutions to a problem which bound us in common concern. A year has passed since the National Alliance for Fair Licensure of Foreign Nurse Graduates was formed and a declaration was made to fight for fair licensure procedures for foreign nurse graduates. And as we look back, and as we stand here today, we can rightfully say: IT WAS A VERY GOOD YEAR!



Aimee Cruz summed up NAFL-FNG's first year as "a very good year."

Friends when we came together for the first time last May 30, 1977, no one among us was really certain of what our efforts could really accomplish. The problem which faced us was enormous and it entailed battles with big people, big agencies, and powerful private organizations. In the face of all this, no one among us were "big name" personalities with friends in the INS, or Washington, much less in the State Boards where we could easily "pull strings" to get what we wanted. No one among us had the big money to pay the expensive fees of professional lobbyists. All we had were a handful of people, willing to work, to contribute their time and effort, rich only in their confidence that theirs was a just cause, and strong in their determination to fight to the end.

Amidst many "doubting Thomases," we stood firm. Despite a few people who said to us: "What can you do? You can't change the laws," "don't challenge discrimination. accept and be thankful for whatever treatment you get," and the now famous "don't bite the hand that feeds you," WE STOOD FIRM. We stood firm amidst the many problems, twists and turns which beset us in our efforts to stop the INS from their practice of arbitrary deportation of H-1 nurses. We persisted in our efforts to let the INS hear the voice of the people by getting those thousands of petitions out and gathering 11,000 signatures. We stood firm through the many sacrifices we have all made when we volunteered our Friday nights and weekends to visit other nurses in hospitals and nursing homes in those remote and far-away places to inform them about our organization and to ask for their support. When we spent those late nights planning and mobilizing for the many community meetings, potluck dinners and fundraiser which we've held to inform our community about developments in our work, we stood firm.

And as we stand here today, we are proud that the "doubting Thomases" have been proven wrong. Much to their shock and disbelief, we succeeded in halting the deportation of H-1 nurses. And this is living testimony of the fact that ordinary people like you and me, can mount a strong movement to bring pressure on agencies in government, to effect the changes we need. We learned that we are capable of changing reality from bad to good, unjust to just, from unfair to fair, that it does not take "connections" or big money to change things, that what is important is the collective and organized participation and support of people, their unified determination to change things, and a solid confidence that we have the power to accomplish our goals. While collective efforts does not assure us that there will be no defeats, collective effort at least gives us a fighting chance to win our goals. And if we are faced with injustice, a fighting chance is what we need. This was the key lesson which we have gained

continued on page 7

Many thanks to those West Coast readers and friends who helped make this year's fundraising raffle a huge success.

Below are the winners of the raffle drawn on May 20 in Oakland's Dimond Park:

First Prize—Roundtrip to Hawaii for Two with Accommodations for One Week
ANTONIO FLORES—Oakland, CA

10 SECOND PRIZES—Bangon Album

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JUNG HEE KWON—Oakland, CA	J. OLIVER ESPEJO—Carson, CA
JENETTE—Cerritos, CA	BABY MACOGAY—Hayward, CA

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GREG DELLA—Seattle, WA	YODEILLIE RAFOL—Oakland, CA
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PHILIPPINE NEWS

Islamic Conference Reaffirms Support For MNLF

The 42 members of the Islamic Conference, meeting last month in Dakar, Senegal, deplored "acts of massacre" against the Moro people and the "massive use of heavy artillery and aviation" by the Philippine government. The Conference issued a resolution calling upon "all member states to extend their moral and material support to the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and for the institution of permanent autonomy on behalf of the Muslim community in the southern Philippines."

Once again the Islamic Conference confirmed the MNLF as "the legitimate representative of Muslims in the southern Philippines." In a show of support for MNLF Chairman Nur Misuari, whose leadership of the Front has recently been challenged by former Central Committee member Hashim Salamat, the Conference invited Misuari to address the group.

Although the Conference was not as harsh on the Marcos regime this year as at last year's meet, even the most moderate members, Indonesia and Malaysia, the Philippines' ASEAN partners, advocated new peace negotiations under IC auspices and according to the Tripoli Agreement. The Philippine government has not abided by the Tripoli Agreement, signed by government officials and MNLF representatives in December, 1977. It has not even allowed the text of the Agreement to be published in the country.

The Marcos regime now insists that any further talks must be held inside the country on a purely Filipino-to-Filipino basis. □

Military Abuse In Zamboanga

MANILA, May 18—Four people were killed, including a young boy and an old woman, and six were injured when two soldiers, after a drinking spree, fired on a crowd with automatic rifles in Zamboanga City a Defense Department spokesman said.

A military police investigation revealed the off-duty soldiers were drinking in a bar when trouble started between them and a group of civilians.

The soldiers dashed out of the place to their camp to get their rifles and returned in a commandeered vehicle.

They began firing at the civilian group, hitting several bystanders in nearby stores. The two soldiers were eventually arrested. REUTER □

Minimum Wage Hike Promised

In face of growing worker militancy over the past months, Marcos chose May 1—Labor Day to support a proposal for a long-overdue increase in minimum wage. The Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) is bargaining for an ₱18.00 minimum daily wage for industrial workers who presently receive ₱10.00 daily. The TUCP has also questioned the restrictions on the right to strike against vital industries.

In response, Marcos assured the labor sector that "an increase in the minimum wage is no problem." He said the increase is justifiable given the high cost of living. However, he left the decision of the specific amount of increase to the Tripartite Congress composed of representatives from labor, capital and government.

Although the imposition of martial law has illegalized the right to strike, especially against vital industries, Marcos denied that there was any ban on strikes. "If there has been [any ban], I am lifting it," he said. At the same time, he still maintains that a number of industries and establishments are prohibited from striking.

Filipino workers know all too well the reprisals made against those who have gone on strike, and are also familiar with the numerous promises of Marcos to effect a wage increase. Since the resurgence of labor unrest in 1975 the minimum wage has been increased by only ₱2.00.

In a related development, sales taxes on basic commodities have been slashed five to seven per cent by P.D. 1358, effective April 21 this year. The alleged purpose of the slash is to stabilize prices and make certain commodities accessible to the poor. Meanwhile, luxury items will have higher sales tax. But with inflation and low wages, the new tax program is hardly expected to make a dent in the standard of living of the poor and wage earners. □

Carter Nominates New R.P. Ambassador

U.S. President Jimmy Carter last May 11 nominated Richard Murphy, currently Ambassador to Syria to replace David Newsom as Ambassador to the Philippines. Newsom left his post in Manila to become Assistant Secretary of State for Asia and Pacific Affairs. Murphy, a career diplomat has served in the Middle East, South Africa, and Indonesia.

Congressional hearings on the nomination are scheduled for Tuesday, May 23. Washington observers report that no objections to the nomination are expected to come from Congress and that Murphy is expected to leave for Manila in two weeks.

Moro Fighters Targets:

AFP Unleashes Bacteriological Warfare

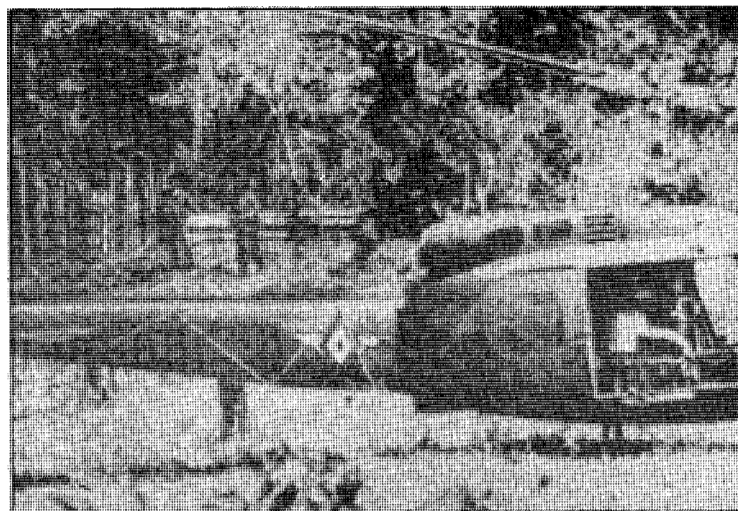
Strange "ice cubes" dropped from military helicopters which melt upon touching the ground and despoil vegetation instantly are suspected as the cause of death of at least six civilians on Basilan Island.

According to the March issue of *Maharlika*, organ of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), field commanders of the Bangsa Moro Army suspect that the "ice cubes," chemical defoliants, have contaminated sources of drinking water in the jungle where civilians have taken refuge from Philippine Army retaliation against the residents of Patikul, Basilan.

Patikul was the site of the death of Gen. Teodulfo Bautista and 34 of his men who went there to lure BMA commander Usman Sali into surrender. Since Bautista's death Patikul residents have suffered massive retaliatory attacks. The first left 400 civilians dead. Since that time, tens of thousands from the area have become homeless refugees.

NAPALM ALSO USED

This is not the first time the Philippine government has used chemical warfare against the Moros. Reports of dropping napalm are common. In addition, the government has



Army troopers search MNLF jungle hideout. Police action on SOUTHERN TIP OF Mindanao has involved strategic relocation schemes and now, bacteriological warfare.

malevolently allowed nature to take its course in areas of Mindanao and Sulu, which are among the worst malaria regions in the country.

Whereas massive insecticide spraying in other parts of the country has reduced the malaria problem to manageable proportions, the government has deliberately refrained from malaria-control operations in Moro areas.

ATROCITIES CONTINUE

Maharlika also carries reports of continuing atrocities against the civilian populations of Mindanao and Sulu. Reports from General Santos

City, South Cotabato, reveal a series of rapes and massacres of civilians, some at random, others under the guise of military interrogation.

"Salvaging," first exposed by the Task Force on Detainees in Luzon and the Visayas, has become a stock technique in this area as numerous people picked up for interrogation have later been found floating in a nearby creek.

Other reports reveal arbitrary shootings and burnings of peasants' homes in this bitter war which rages on in spite of Philippine government efforts to destroy the MNLF. □

Gov't, Military Purge ...

continued from front page

BUNGLING AIDES

The purge is also believed to be an expression of Marcos' wrath towards trusted aides who have bungled in concealing election irregularities. While cheating was key to the KBL victory, the brazen manner in which this was handled, received prominent international coverage. This caused the entire election exercise to backfire, and serve as a major embarrassment for Marcos.

Teachers assigned as precinct officials admitted they were under "orders from above" to guarantee a landslide victory for the KBL.

Undersecretary Carmelo Barbero was among the leading proponents of the "get votes through any means possible" line and was notoriously tactless in the enforcement of this policy. Barbero, according to *Asia Week*, was responsible for the infamous questionnaire forced upon public employees to fill out.

Intimidating questions such as where the respondent intended to vote, occupation and rank, and how many household members could vote, were asked.

INFIGHTING

Furthermore, the handling of the elections sparked in-



Gen. Romeo C. Espino, AFP Chief of Staff (R) expressed dismay at regime. Carmelo Barbero, Undersecretary of Defense (L) tried to intimidate the Army rank and file to vote KBL.



fighting within the inner circles of the regime. After the election, Marcos convened an emergency meeting of the National Security Council in which Gen. Espino and Gen. Ablan, reportedly expressed their disgust at the rampant use of repression and fraud. In addition, COMELEC Commissioner Casimiro Madarang recently resigned from his post because of what he described as "massive manufacturing and substitution and tampering with ballots."

Ironically, the much-touted elections which Marcos hoped, among other things, would unify his political base, has created the opposite effect, sowing instead greater dissension among his supporters.

"The KBL would have won

anyway. The cheating was unnecessary," commented a Marcos supporter echoing the disillusionment of the majority. Whether a purge could reverse this trend remains to be seen. Past purges, while temporarily staving off major splits, have had the effect of further alienating the loyalties of Marcos' followers.

Meanwhile, Marcos' paranoid moves, such as the drastic revamping of the military and more recently, the barring of cabinet members from travel abroad, seems to suggest a bleaker outlook for the regime. Whether imagined or real, Marcos' panicked moves implies that the grounds for conspiracies and coups are more fertile now than ever before. □

FILIPINO COMMUNITY

2nd NAFL-FNG Conference

'ONWARD TO MORE VICTORIES



Collage of photos depicting the NAFL-FNG at work in 1977.

[NAFL]

NAFL PRESS RELEASE

NEW YORK — "It was worth taking off from work and coming all the way to New York," expressed Cherry Bautista, a Filipino nurse from Tennessee. Indeed it was, for the more than 70 Filipino nurses who participated in the Second National Conference of the National Alliance for Fair Licensure for Foreign Nurse Graduates (NAFL-FNG). The conference, held at the New York University Law School and the U.N. Church Center, May 6-7, was another victorious leap towards the resolution of the FNG issue.

Under the banners proclaiming the themes "Onward to More Victories!" and "In Unity There is Strength," the conference was formally opened by Ms. Normita Amorado, R.N. Delegations from New York, Chicago, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, D.C., Texas, Tennessee, and San Francisco were warmly welcomed. Despite their inability to attend, NAFL members from Colorado, Florida, Las Vegas and Michigan cabled in their best wishes for a successful conference.

Ms. Aimee Cruz, outgoing National Coordinator of the NAFL-FNG and member of the Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino (KDP), delivered the keynote address. (See Ms. Cruz's speech on page 2.) Summarizing the NAFL's first year of struggle, Ms.

Cruz confidently said, "it was a very good year." She cited the enormous and numerous problems and battles with "big agencies and powerful private organizations . . . while all we had were a handful of people, willing to work, contribute their time and effort, rich only in their confidence that theirs was a just cause." Despite such giant odds, however, the Alliance successfully stopped deportation of H-1 nurses who failed the licensure examinations. Ms. Cruz declared that this accomplishment was itself "a living testimony . . . that ordinary people, through collective action and organization, can mount a strong movement to bring pressure on government agencies to effect the changes we need."

Guest speaker at the Conference was Ms. Judy Chomsky (National Chairperson, Labor Executive of the National Lawyers Guild). Ms. Chomsky expanded on the constitutional rights of foreign workers who are mostly uninformed of their civil liberties in the U.S.

Ms. Chomsky's talk dealt with how the law relates to foreign workers and how it should be reviewed in relation to civil rights. In explaining the limitations of the law, Ms. Chomsky made an analogy between law and medicine. "In medicine, medical technology provides skills, remedies, preventive cure for a variety of sicknesses. However, it still cannot cure every illness. The same is true for law. Legal technology

can't resolve all problems. She then pointed to the role which people's movements play in effecting changes. Using the NAFL's petition campaign as an example, she said, "this is where you can see how organized efforts can play its part in changing the law. In fact, it can utilize the law (legal means) as one of their tools in resolving their problems."

WORKSHOP DISCUSSIONS

Last year's conference targeted the most immediate problem facing FNGs—deportation of those who failed the state board licensure examination. That having been successfully resolved, the Alliance is now concentrating its efforts on the licensure problem itself. Results of the NAFL-FNG study on major contributing factors behind the high failure rate among FNGs revealed: 1) the State Board Test Pool Examination (SBTPE) are culturally biased; 2) FNG examinees have inadequate period for social-cultural adjustment in U.S. hospital setting; and 3) low-cost review programs are either unavailable or inaccessible to FNGs.

To provide the delegates with an all-sided understanding of the seriousness of this problem, workshops dealing with the failure causes were conducted in the afternoon of May 6.

Leading the workshop discussion on "The Validity of the SBTPE" was Ms. Nelia Isana, R.N. and member of the NAFL-FNG National Staff. Ms. Isana posited: "A test, in order to be valid, must measure what it intends to measure." She called the usage of linguistic devices such as "half positive, half negative, ambiguous sentence construction" unjustified. These complex sentence structure questions evaluate an examinee's language proficiency rather than his or her nursing competency. She also cited items which reflected cultural bias like questions which could be answered differently depending on one's socio-cultural experiences.

A plan of action was mapped out which involves meeting with the American Nursing Association (ANA) Council of State Boards to take up the NAFL's criticisms of the State Board Examination and to demand that all sources of cultural bias in the examination be eliminated.

The workshop on "The Need for Review Programs for FNGs" generated vigorous discussions among the delegates. Ms. Christine Hing who served as facilitator, said that "review programs are either inaccessible or ineffective for FNGs. There are very few review courses available for FNGs. Those which are available are very expensive."

Raising a suggestion on the resolution of this problem, Ms. Hing said that review programs "should be accessible (geographically and cost-wise) . . . responsive to FNGs' linguistic difficulties, their needs for socio-cultural orientation into American health care setting . . ."

At the end of the discussion, the delegates drew up a plan of action, targetting HEW in demanding the set-up of federally or state funded FNG review programs.

The last workshop on "Know Your Rights Movement Among FNGs" was presided by Philadelphia NAFL Coordinator, Amy Besa. Because FNGs are unaware of their "legal, constitutional, civil and occupational rights," they become easy targets of INS harassment, employment oppression and other discrimination practices. Thus, this workshop attempted to "equip delegates with basic knowledge and understanding of their rights," Ms. Besa added.

DINNER AND CULTURAL NIGHT

The delegates had a chance to meet one another outside of the workshops, be entertained and relax after the first day of the conference. On the evening of Saturday, May 6, the delegates were treated to a dance and cultural show.

Dinner was donated by various Filipino community groups and individuals. The cultural presentation, hosted by Mrs. Primitiva Lejarde, R.N., was especially entertaining. Songs were offered by the N.Y. Anti-Martial Law Alliance, the KDP, and Philippine folk dances by Normita Amorado and Grace Raquino, both nurses from New Jersey. Cheers were given when Texas and Tennessee delegations gave an impromptu dance number. Laughter and fun filled the hall, as each delegation from each city was called upon

Stronger Bargaining Position Sought**Marcos Nibbles The Hand That Feeds Him**

Marcos decorates official of Caltex (left) the largest U.S. investor in the Philippines. Multinational corporate activity has worsened plight of the masses. Appalling signs of poverty like shanty town (above) are everywhere.

By VICTORIA LUNA

Ferdinand Marcos wanted to take a small nibble of the hand that feeds him. With a great flourish, he announced last April 21 that certain foreign dominated industries will no longer be allowed to import capital equipment tax and duty-free. One week later, reports began circulating that the government might exempt certain industries from the law and Internal Revenue Commissioner Efren Plana sheepishly declared, "We may have committed some lapses," in promulgating the new law.

These developments follow a by-now familiar pattern which began to emerge just under a year and a half ago:

PATTERN OF BACKPEDALLING

The pattern goes like this: Marcos issues a mildly anti-foreign economic measure. After expressions of outrage from the largely American foreign business community, he begins to backpedal, issuing qualifications, postponements, and exceptions to the rule until the measure is meaningless. A few examples:

- In early 1977, the government issued guidelines aimed at restricting foreign access to domestic credit. The decree established arbitrary ratios of borrowed cash to equity which foreign firms were to meet before being allowed to borrow pesos. After howls of protest from the foreign business community, the measure was postponed twice. When it finally went into effect, the list of exceptions was longer than the list of firms to which the measure applied.

- Last January, the regime issued a patent law which placed ceilings on royalties at five per cent and shortened the time local businessmen have to wait before gaining access to new technologies. Marcos almost immediately called a meeting to soothe the perturbed foreign businessmen. Shortly afterwards, Board of Investments Chairman Angel Syjuco revealed that current royalties rarely exceeded five per cent anyway.

INCREASED POSSIBILITIES FOR CORRUPTION

The tax initiative is merely the latest in this series of hollow gestures which is quickly reconsidered "on a case to case basis" in the face of multinational corporate resistance.

Each of the policies reviewed "on a case to case basis" of course greatly increases the ease with which government officials at all levels can ask for financial incentives to reconsider a corporation's petition. But greed alone is not enough to explain this elaborate series of economic maneuvers.

Marcos' gestures can only be understood in the context of both U.S. attempts at recovery from the current worldwide economic slump and the continuing U.S.-R.P. bases negotiations.

U.S. GOALS

The U.S. industrial establishment, determined to recoup its losses of the last few years at the expense of its trading partners, wants a new trade treaty with the Philippines to replace the expired Laurel-Langley Agreement and wants it on U.S. terms. The Carter administration wants a return to the parity it lost in 1974. While no one would advocate a return to parity on so many words, a new code word, "national treatment," has been substituted, which amounts to exactly the same thing.

Ferdinand Marcos is willing to grant the U.S. what it wants. Through decrees, he has already reversed the trend toward economic nationalism which threatened U.S. interests prior to the declaration of martial law.

But the Carter Administration wants more. It wants the trade agreement to be formalized by an institution, not by an individual and has forced "normalization" on Marcos.

Ferdinand Marcos in turn wants something from the U.S.: large sums of rent money in exchange for the use of Philippine territory for U.S. bases.

PRESSURE POINTS

Both sides have used a number of economic pressure points to achieve their goals. To no one's surprise, the U.S. has found a much wider variety and has used them more effectively. They include:

- U.S. aid. The Carter Administration made no effort to raise economic and military aid to the Philippines this year after Congress cut last year's proposed figure of \$40 million to \$36 million.

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF), a multinational financing institution dominated by the United States. In November, 1976, the IMF placed a ceiling on Philippine borrowings from multinational lending institutions.

- The World Bank, sister institution to the IMF. In December, 1977, the World Bank recommended that Philippine foreign borrowings be limited to one-half the figure requested by Philippine financial policy-makers.

- The Asian Development Bank, another multinational lending institution. The U.S. delegation has, in the last six months, repeatedly abstained from voting on Philippine loan requests.

- Direct investments. New U.S. investment in the Philippines declined dramatically from month to month throughout 1977 and early 1978.

Marcos' quickly watered-down initiatives are his feeble responses countering these much more substantial pressure brought to bear upon him by the U.S.

PLAYING UPON ACTUAL CRISIS

Marcos' moves exploit the actual economic hardships of the Filipino people in an effort at bolstering his bargaining position vis-a-vis the U.S.

The U.S., more determined now than ever to

New Tax Laws Decreed**Marcos Hits Multinationals**

President Ferdinand E. Marcos stunned the Philippines' financial community last April 21 when he issued a series of Presidential Decrees aimed at increasing the government's revenues from taxation. The most dramatic of these, P.D. 1352, unilaterally withdraws all tax-exempt privileges granted to various industries under existing laws.

Within less than a week, the Philippine government published a list of exemptions to the new law including all firms operating in the Bataan Export Processing Zone. One week later, Internal Revenue Commissioner Efren Plana told reporters: "We may have committed some lapses," and hinted that the government may agree to restore tax-free importation privileges of certain groups on a case to case basis.

Prior to P.D. 1352, all industries in what the government considered "pioneer" areas were completely exempt from taxes and duties on capital equipment imports. Firms considered desirable but "non-pioneer" were allowed to negotiate their taxation to determine what portion of their imports would be duty-free and what portion would be subject to duties—which were then deferred for 10 years with a three-year grace period on payments.

The new arrangement will subject all "pioneer" industries to a five per cent tax and a five per cent duty payment on imported capital equipment. "Non-pioneer" industries will be subject to a combined tax and duty package of 20 per cent, with one-fourth of the total payment deferred.

PRIMARY TARGET—MULTINATIONALS

The new tax measures primarily affect the foreign multinational firms which dominate the Philippine economy, and in particular "pioneer" industries.

In a further blow aimed at foreign firms, the new decree slaps a 10 per cent duty on cars and household effects imported by employees of foreign firms operating in Manila. The Marcos government had previously used the lure of exemption from import duties on personal effects and one car per household for foreign employees in his campaign to persuade multinationals to use Manila as their base of operations in Asia.

A degree of confusion and disagreement among the different government agencies affected by the decree reveals that it was issued hastily with little or no cabinet-level consultation. Board of Investments Chairman Angel Limjoco has already expressed concern that the abrupt change in tax laws will undermine the country's "credibility" to new investors. He and Industry Secretary Vicente Paterno said that they will push to have the decree applied only to industries that registered for exemptions after April 21, this year. The law would thus affect only new investments.

Investment in new industries in the Philippines has dramatically declined in the last year and the trend seems to be continuing. If the advice of these two high-placed government officials is followed, any increase in revenues resulting from the new tax decree promises to be inconsequential. □

squeeze profits out of its economic satellites, has moved effectively to keep prices of raw materials low. In the Philippines, prices of the three leading traditional exports—sugar, copra and copper—have plummeted. The U.S. threatened recently to impose heavy tariffs on Philippine garments, the country's fastest rising non-traditional export.

The same economic interests have pushed the cost of imports from the U.S. up, causing an imbalance of payments which increases the dependence of the Philippine economy upon foreign loans.

These loans, however, are contingent upon the Philippine government's adherence to the IMF-World Bank development model. Huge doses of loan money have thus been injected into the Philippine economy for non-productive infrastructure projects. At the same time, the Philippine government, forced to raise counterpart funds, prints more and more money.

INFLATION, UNEMPLOYMENT RISE

The resulting inflation has reduced real income by 47 per cent in the last year. Urban workers today earn ₱10.00 per day, the minimum wage. A research institute early this year, however, estimated that the average worker supporting a family of four needs over ₱40.00 per day merely to cover necessities such as shelter, food and clothing.

With investment sluggish, the new industries which the growing infrastructure is supposed to

continued on page 9

'A REVOLUTIONARY LIFE IN THE NPA'



New People's Army fighters undergo combat training.

This account was written by an American journalist who visited a guerilla zone in Central Luzon last month—Editor.

What is a revolutionary life?

That question is posed every day in the Philippines in the most concrete form. On the one hand, everywhere is the evidence of U.S. intervention in the economy, political life, and even the culture of the Philippines.

There are the workers whose children have died from malnutrition, and the young women, forced by unemployment and love of their families to migrate up from the Visayas to Pampanga to serve as "hostesses" around Clark Field. There are the peasants forced into debt by the Masagana 99 program, and then jailed when they cannot repay the loans. There are the National Democratic Front workers, shot down in cold blood distributing literature exposing the latest electoral fraud.

On the other hand are the people, in their thousands and thousands, who come forward every day to take responsibility for their country.

A few weeks ago one of them was lying in front of me—Ka. Freddie, 22, unmarried, with a skin burnt dark by the sun that had shone on generations of his peasant ancestors.

Ka. Freddie was wounded, having escaped with his life from an encounter a few days before. His mission had been to kill a barrio informer, but the latter had not been alone, as had been expected, complicating Freddie's task.

Nevertheless, Ka. Freddie had not only completed his mission and successfully extricated himself, despite his wounds, but had also managed to make off with the informer's automatic weapon—a considerable gain for the movement in the area.

Ka. Freddie, from every indication visible to me, was an exemplary revolutionary soldier. There was nothing about him of the braggart, "tough guy," macho. He was quiet and modest, and radiated sincerity and dedication to the cause—although even here, as though deprecating his own seriousness, he made occasional jokes about himself, such as "the NPA is like a bat—sleep during the day and work at night."

How does such a young man—or young woman, we should also add, because Freddie's younger sister, among many others, also fights with the NPA—come to make the personal decision to take up a life fighting for the people?

"My family is lower middle class," Freddie explains. "My father is a farmer. My relatives are landlords and they took away my land and my cow."

"After that I began to read the true history of the Philippines, about the relationship between the farmers and landlords and between the capitalists and workers."

"Today I admit that the armed struggle is the only way to liberate the people."

There were other experiences in Ka. Freddie's life that convinced him to choose the road he has taken. A friend of his, a worker, was killed by the police. As Freddie explains it, his friend was eating dinner after work at a roadside stand when in some way he angered the P.C.'s and was cut down.

"Here I saw the relationship between the people and the government: they fired at him many times with a .38 calibre and a carbine and killed him."

Freddie also came up against U.S. intervention in the Philippines. The relative who stole his land tried to sell it to an American. The prospective American buyer, Freddie says, "looked down on my family like monkeys. They didn't know that I understood English. He said I was dirty and looked like a monkey."

As Freddie continues his story, he came to understand and accept the line of revolutionary

struggle in the Philippines: "I know that the Communist Party is true. Then I began to help the comrades, gave them breakfast, let them sleep at my house. I gave them rice to eat. And then I joined."

"Now I fight the enemy to the maximum. I study military tactics to help the comrades."

The strongest element in the movement's strength, however, emerged from Freddie's remarks about the solidarity between the people and fighters that makes the armed struggle, against a regime heavily armed by the U.S., even conceivable.

"We have good relations with the people. We help them with their problems, such as the landlords."

"In most barrios, 70-80 per cent of the people support the organization."

"How do we solve their problems? We organize the farmers to harvest. For example, if the rice yield is 100 cavans, the landlords wants 25—that's the law of the government—then we organize the farmers so that they say they got 80 cavans and they pay 20 in rent."

"In some conditions we might kill a landlord and give land to the farmers by means of our power. Then the farmers obey our laws—but it is a people's law, and not personal: we do not dictate to the farmers."

Indeed, both from Freddie's account and his attitudes, it was clear that the behavior of the cadres was a major source of strength for the movement. Thus, a good deal of what Freddie had to say focused on the personal code of conduct cadres must adopt. "Sexual opportunism," for example, is strongly condemned and may be severely punished. Ka. Freddie himself was single, but felt free to marry sometime, under certain conditions: "the wife should also be revolutionary, or at least help the struggle."

The subordination of personal relations and private interest seemed a necessary and beneficial aspect of revolution, and Ka. Freddie was filled with stories of cadres who had given everything to further the movement.

"Many women comrades died in battle—very young, 18 or 22. And in Isabela an eleven-year old boy fought and died on the battlefield."

"There were also two comrades who killed an informer. They were caught and the military asked them to help fight the NPA. But they did not want to, so the military killed one. But the other still would not join, so they killed him too."

"We have some informers inside the AFP, so we heard about it."

This is the situation Ka. Freddie faces everyday. He sums up his feelings about his life in this way:

"For myself, let's say it's 'serve the people.' In that case, the people will join the NPA or they will help."

"The people and the NPA then would be like the fish and water. The fish can swim in the water and the water becomes beautiful because of the fish—they eat the dirty matter in the water."

"We say to ourselves, 'how can we serve the people as well as we can?' We ask ourselves how to serve the people 24 hours a day—in every second, in every minute, let us serve the people as well as we can."

"I say to myself, 'If I am killed, I have served the people well. And the people who have seen me or each comrade who died know that we are good people, who helped them to be liberated and get national democracy.'"

Ka. Freddie said this as he lay on a bamboo-strip frame, unable to walk. But he does not regard himself as a hero, nor does he wish others to regard him as one. Rather, he shows that qualities of selflessness, dedication, and resolution can be developed by everyone. □

Dagok at Dalipot

Ni Tata Selo

Paurong-sulong ang Batas Militar

Alam ito ni Marcos. Ang tanong: Papayag ba si Marcos na isuko ang kanyang kapangyarihan? Natural, hindi. Kung gayon, paano niya haharapin ang matinding pagtutol ng bayan? Kung susuriin natin ang kanyang karanasan, dalawang bagay lamang ang kanyang ginagamit: panunupil at panlilinlang. Kung baga sa duyan, umuugoy-ugoy o umuugong-sulong lamang siya sa dalawang ito.

Mga halimbawa ng panunupil: pagbuwag sa mga welga't demonstrasyon, maramihang pagbilanggo, makahayop na pagtortiyur sa mga detinido, pang-aabuso sa mga kababaihan, at sa sukdula'y pagpatay at pagmasaker. Halimbawa ng panlilinlang: Bukod sa kanyang propaganda sa mga kontrolado niyang pahayagan, radyo, telebisyon, atbp., nagdraos siya ng mga panahunang reperendum at iba pang palabas upang palitawin na may kalayaan at demokrasya sa Pilipinas. Sa kanyang lengguwahe, "Martial Law, Philippine-Style."

Sa ilalim ng batas militar, bawal ang lahat ng uri ng pagtutol. Bawal ang welga, bawal ang demonstrasyon, bawal magbuo ng unyon—wala na tayong marinig kundi bawal. Ang sinumang lumabag ay maaaring mabilanggo, mapahirapan o mapatay.

Sa kabila nito, buong tatag at lantaran pa ring tumututol ang taong bayan. Sa lunsod, di na mabilang ang mga welga't demonstrasyon mula noong 1972. Sa kanayunan, patuloy ang armadong pakikibaka. Ano ang ibig sabihin nito?

Talagang ayaw na ng sambayanan—at kailanma'y ayaw nila—ang batas militar.

Maraming naniniwala na ang pinagmumulan diumano ng krimen at kaguluhan ay ang kawalaan ng hanapbuhay. Kaugnay nito, isang dayuhan ang nagtanong kay Imelda Marcos kung ano ang ginagawa ng gobyerno sa mga goons at istambay (na umano'y may kagagawan sa mga krimen at kaguluhan).

Narito ang isina-Tagalog na sagot ni Imelda: "Sa Bagong Lipunan, wala nang mga goons at istambay sapagkat binigyan na sila ng trabaho sa Metrocom, Pulisya at Armi."

Di pa nagtatagal, matapos siyang manawagan ng "pagluluwag," naglulunsad naman ngayon si Marcos ng "paglilinis" (purge) sa loob mismo ng kanyang gobyerno, ayon sa mga kontrolado niyang pahayagan. Ano naman ito?

Kung maaalaala ang mga balita tungkol sa demonstrasyon noong Abril, maraming opisyal ng gobyerno, pati na ang maraming sundalo sa Fort Bonifacio, ang sumali sa pag-iingay ng mga mamamayan bilang pagtutol sa diktadurang militar.

Ayon kay Marcos, patatalsikin daw niya ang mga opisyal ng gobyerno na hindi "ginagampanan" ang kanilang tungkulin. (Kaugnay nito, pinagbabawalan din niya ngayon na lumabas ng Pilipinas ang mga opisyal ng gobyerno.)

May kasabihan tayong mga Pilipino na ang isda'y nahuhuli sa sarili nitong bunganga. Ayaw aminin nang lantaran ni Marcos na ang kanyang diktadura'y mahigpit, mapang-api, mapanupil. Pinamamarali niya na may kalayaang sibil at karapatang demokratiko ang mga mamamayan sa ilalim ng kanyang rehimen. Gayunman, madalas din niyang sabihin na "luluwagan" niya ang batas militar, sa ingles, "to relax martial law." Hindi ba't ito'y isang paraan ng pag-amin sa pagkamapaniil ng kanyang diktadura. Kung walang mahigpit, ano pa ang kanyang luluwagan?

Noong Abril ipinahayag ni Marcos na ang idaraos na eleksiyon ay isang malaking hakbang sa kanyang "pagluluwag," sa umano'y pagbalik sa "normalcy."

Akala niya'y maloloko niya ang sambayanan. Tulad nang alam na natin, nagkaroon ng sunud-sunod at malawakang demonstrasyon sa Maynila bago at sa mismong araw ng eleksiyon. Ang hiling ng bayan: "Alisin ang batas militar; magtayo ng demokrasya!"

Hindi nakalusot ang panlilinlang ni Marcos. Sa halip na magluwag, ibinilanggo niya tuloy ang mahigit sa 1,000 oposisyon.

Kamakailan, dumalaw si Marcos sa National Mental Hospital, ayon sa kakilala naming empleyado doon.

Ilang araw bago nito, paulit-ulit na tinuruan ng direktor ng ospital ang mga pasyente na masigabong pumalakpak at sumigaw ng: "Mabuhay si pangulong Marcos!"

Pagdating ni Marcos, linibot day niya ang bawat gusali at kinawayan niya ang mga maysakit. Sa kumpas ng direktor ng ospital, lahat ay nagpalakpakan at nagsigawan ng "Mabuhay si Pangulong Marcos!" maliban sa dalawang pasyente na nanatiling tahimik sa isang tabi.

Pag-alis ni Marcos, pinagalitan daw ng direktor ang dalawang pasyente at tinanong kung bakit hindi sila pumalakpak at sumigaw. Sagot ng dalawa: "Tahimik lang po kami, kasi . . . palagay namin, magaling na kami!"

Erlinda Flores' Malpractice Suit

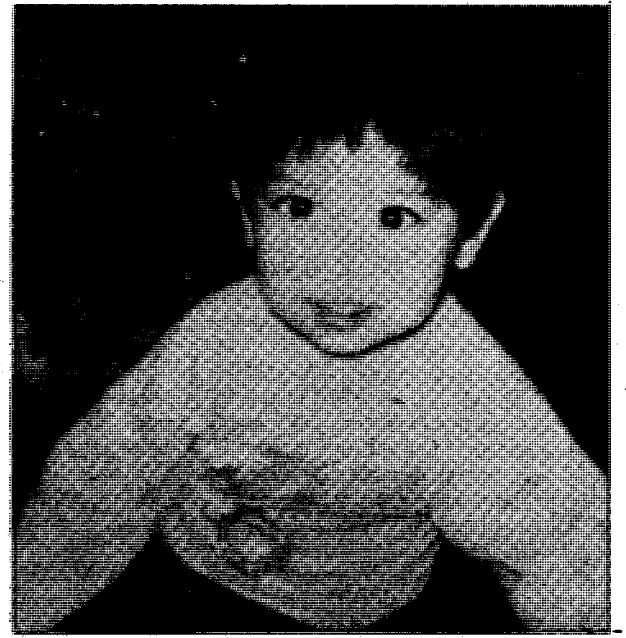
Filipina Wins Tentative Victory

ALAMEDA—Erlinda Flores' case against the U.S. Navy may end soon with a victory for her. Although the Navy has not explicitly stated its guilt, it has tentatively agreed to a court settlement that would give Erlinda's son, Ernesto, \$30,000 to cover his future educational expenses, provide Ernesto with lifetime SSI (Security Supplemental Income), and transfer Erlinda's husband to the Philippines as his base station.

Erlinda, wife of a Filipino U.S. Navy man, gave birth to her first son four and one-half years ago. At the Bremerton Navy Hospital, the obstetrician refused to perform a cesarean delivery despite knowledge that complications might arise due to Flores' small pelvis. Erlinda also protested natural delivery knowing her condition, but to no avail. In the delivery process, the obstetrician had to use forceps that caused injury to the baby. A bulging red right eye, scratches across his chin and brow were alarmingly visible. The injury, however, was attributed by the Navy Hospital to being a "congenital" condition.

As Ernesto was growing, Erlinda and her husband observed delays and difficulty in Ernesto's learning developmental skills. Particularly evident was the child's difficulty in speech. A consultation with a neurologist revealed that the child was dysphasic, a neurological disorder.

Thinking that this was a direct result of the way Bremerton Hospital treated her, Erlinda sued the Navy for malpractice, denial of her rights as a patient, and medical negligence. For several months, it was a frustrating legal battle against a powerful government institution which at first denied any medical responsibility for Ernesto's injuries and tried to blame his learning difficulties on the fact that



Ernesto Flores, victim of Navy Medical malpractice.

his parents were bilingual.

However, Erlinda persevered in her suit, seeking community support from Oakland's Asian Health Services and the KDP. The Navy, seeking to avoid a lengthy Court case, has tentatively agreed to an out of court settlement in which it acknowledges responsibility for injuries incurred at birth. □

'No Contract, No Work'

Seattle Cannery Workers At Contract Impasse



Silme Domingo, Union negotiator: "The company is trying to get the most out of the workers without giving anything in return."

Special to the ANG KATIPUNAN

Negotiations for a new contract between Local 37 ILWU and the Alaska Salmon industry have reached a critical impasse.

The main point of disagreement centers on the industry's demand that cannery workers under Local 37 will be required to process salmon and all forms of seafood such as shrimp, crab, bottomfish, etc. at one wage rate.

Under the former contract, which expired April 30, 1978 Local 37 was required to process "only salmon" under one contract while still holding a separate contract with a premium wage rate, covering shellfish. Under the

previous terms, workers would be contracted to work either salmon or shellfish.

The proposed action would force workers to process other fish during times when the salmon were not being processed causing a decrease in their off time.

In assessing the "combining" of operations, Chairman of the Negotiations Committee Silme Domingo pointed out that: "The company is trying to get the most labor out of our workers, without giving up anything, in terms of other issues such as higher wages, better fringe benefits, better living and working conditions, better grievance procedures, and seniority rights. Besides, this (combination operations) is the most serious issue. Without resolving it we cannot negotiate the other issues."

In this light, union officials have endorsed a position of "No contract—no dispatch."

Local 37 President Baraso has given the go-ahead to the newly re-established Publicity and Educational Committee to begin informing all West Coast cannery workers on the present status of negotiations and the possibility of a long and difficult struggle ahead. Committee Chairman John Hatten has indicated that informational leaflets will be issued immediately.

Observers in the Union point out that informing workers is a crucial task. One old-timer stated, "We have to let our brothers and sisters know of the situation, especially in California. If we don't sign a contract, we are all going to stay home!"

Cannery workers are annually scheduled to be dispatched in late-May and into June and July. However, with the present status of the negotiations, dispatching dates remain unverified.

Negotiations will resume on May 24, however, union negotiators are pessimistic that a favorable agreement will be reached at that time. If this proves to be the case, the situation will be formally presented to the rank and file and possibly a strike vote taken. However, union officers are presently standing firm on their position of not dispatching workers if a contract has not been ratified by the rank-and-file. □



— SEE FORM ON PAGE 2 —

Sustain the AK

Help sustain our efforts to continue bringing you the most up to date and important news coverage about developments in the Philippines and in the Filipino community here in the U.S.

Become a ANG KATIPUNAN sustainer by pledging a monthly contribution to our modest effort to fight the Marcos dictatorship and defend the democratic rights of Filipinos here in this country. Our bills are many and our resources few, and we depend on our readership to continue publication.

So, help us in our campaign to sustain the KATIPUNAN.

Sustain the campaign by pledging \$5.00 or more a month to the ANG KATIPUNAN!

5!

render an impromptu number.

The last day of the conference concentrated on passing resolutions for the NAFL's work ahead and the election of members of the National Staff. Ms. Aimee Cruz was re-elected as National Coordinator and Ms. Normita Amorado as the 1978-79 National Co-coordinator. □

If you or anyone you know is affected by the licensure problem or if you wish to get involved in the FNG issue call Ms. Amorado (201) 473-8570 or Ms. Cruz (212) 58-6369. □

We Stood Firm...

Continued from page 2

through this experience.

We are proud that our tireless efforts to build our organization, activate other nurses, expand our membership and widen the support which the NAFL enjoys from the thousands of nurses in the United States, have borne its first fruits as evidenced by the presence of delegates here today who come from states and cities which were not represented last year. A year after its formation the NAFL-FNG now stands as a reliable, prestigious and genuine alliance of nurses and community persons dedicated to the needs and interests of FNGs. The NAFL-FNG now stands as living proof that it is indeed possible to have an organization composed of and led by people who work for the genuine interest of the nurses and the community as a whole, not for money or fame. That is why, we think that last year was a very good year!

Friends, while we rejoice at our victory for the H-1 nurses, we must all realize that the fight for the interests of the FNGs is not over yet. In fact, the H-1 problem was only one — although the most immediate of the aspects of the problem of licensure. We know there are still other problems to solve. Last year, we analyzed that aside from the H-1 problem, there is still the question of whether the licensure exam is indeed a valid gauge of the FNG's minimum nursing competency. There is still the fact that the temporary licenses granted by state boards have very short duration, and which therefore do not allow FNGs enough time to adjust to a new country, a new culture, and a new professional setting. There is still the fact that there are few adequate review programs, suitable and accessible to FNGs to assist them hurdle the exams. We all must realize that if we do not solve all these other problems, the H-1 victory may come to nothing. For what happens if after the three years duration of the Deferred Voluntary Departure Status granted to FNGs expires, and the odds are still stacked against the FNGs in the licensure process? What if within these three years, the discriminatory aspects of the SBTPE have not been removed, and FNGs are still not getting assistance in adjustment and review — and therefore, FNGs still keep on failing at a very high rate? If we don't solve all the remaining problems in the licensure process, after the FNG's grace period of three years granted by the INS runs out, many FNG's will gain face deporation.

It is therefore the task of this national conference to study the remaining problems — to map out plans on how these problems can be resolved, and to make a firm commitment that these plans will be implemented by all of us.

Friends, let us join in making this conference a successful one. We hope that we can have, as we did last year, a serious, working conference — not a "talk big, say nice words" then "go home and do nothing" type of conference. In fact, this Conference is only a first step: the success or non-success of our plans will depend on what we all do after this conference when we go back to our cities. Shall we keep the resolutions that we will pass on paper, or shall we put them into action? That is the question. Everyone therefore, should brace themselves for two days of very hard work, devote ourselves to these two days with patience and determination.

The tasks before us are still enormous. We cannot rest in the glory of our initial victory for we have pledged to resolve the licensure problem in its entirety. More importantly, now is not the time to turn back, now that over hundreds of nurses all over this country are looking up to our leadership and have placed their hopes on our organization to resolve the licensure problem.

Friends, the tasks are big, the demands, as well as the stakes, are high, but we are confident that if we try, success in the future can be ours again. □

Filipino Cultural Workers Face Deportation

By GREG DELLA
AK Correspondent

SEATTLE—What started out to be a "dream of a lifetime" has now ended up to be a nightmare for four Filipino cultural performers and artists.

On May 15, Jaime Orogo, Herminia Sison and her daughter Portia Jonson, and Jun Sillona were placed under notice of deportation by the Immigration and Naturalization Services. The same day, Orogo and Sison were arrested and detained by INS officials.

According to the four, they had come to the U.S. as part of a production and acting crew for a dramatic presentation. Under the auspices of the producers, a Manila broker, Mr. Catalan, and , a Seattle-based businesswoman Eleanor Abierra, the four along with other actors and technicians, were contracted to stage the drama LAHI.

Mrs. Sison, an award-winning playwright and author of LAHI was under contract as the director. Orogo, a professor of drama at the University of the East, was to be the stage manager. Jonson and Sillona were lead actress and photographer, respectively.

The entire stage production team was issued an H-1 visa under stipulations of valid individual contracts. They were under the impression that, before arrival in this city, much of the local casting and other technical and logistical aspects of the production would be finished. Much to their dismay, nothing had been accomplished upon their arrival in December 1977.

Due to mismanagement and ineptness of the producers, the production preparations ran into one problem after another. The financial problem was the most serious and caused the production team's weekly allowances to drop. Sison, Orogo Jonson and Sillona's allowances dropped from \$62.50 to \$10.00 per week, and at one point they were not getting paid at all. Abierra, nonetheless, coerced them into signing waivers relinquishing percentages from the gate receipts.

Furthermore, Abierra was reported to have forced the four into waiving medical liability that the producers would incur. This was a result of the fact that Sison had already been hospitalized once, suffering from frayed nerves after an angry confrontation with Abierra.

Realizing that the big "extravaganza" was doomed to failure, Mrs. Abierra "scapegoated" the four artists. On April 24, without the knowledge of the artists, Abierra notified the INS that she was cancelling her sponsorship. Soon after, the INS sent deportation notices that Abierra intercepted and kept until May 15. At 1 a.m. on May 15, Abierra awoke all four and showed them the notice.

On the same day, too, Abierra called the INS and claimed that Orogo, Sison, Jonson and Sillona were ready to flee. She insisted that they all be arrested. Shortly after, some INS officials arrived and arrested Orogo and Sison. Sison, however, was released pending further INS action, and Orogo was also released on own recognizance.

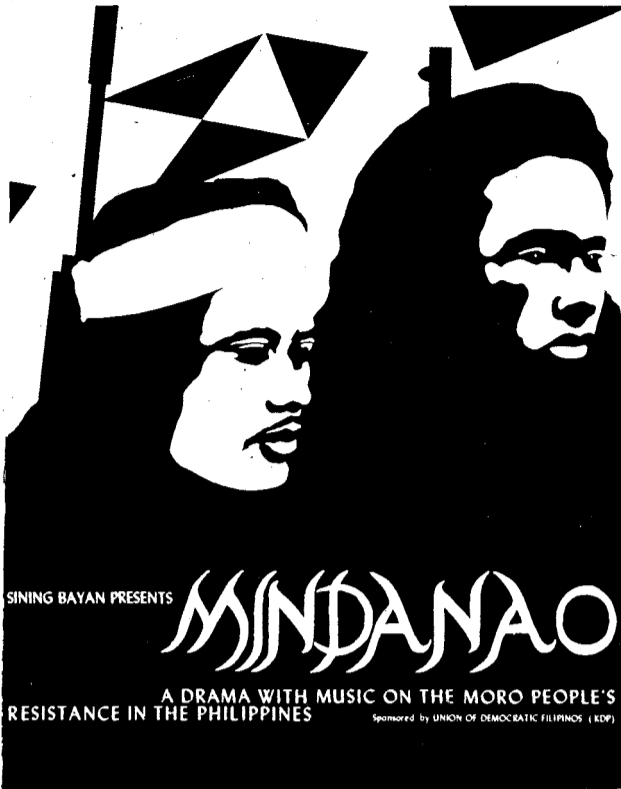
For all four what has happened has been a harrowing experience. They had come to share with Filipinos their skill and the opportunity to participate in an important cultural presentation. Instead, they have been exploited and treated unjustly by their employers, like many immigrant Filipinos who come on various work visas.

The four cultural artists, whose careers have been blemished by what has happened, want their names cleared, receive what they rightfully deserve as was contracted and be allowed to continue the cultural work for the Filipino community.

As Sison said: "We came here and fell in love with the Filipino community and we want to stay to share with our people the beauty and artistry of our culture, before it was obscured and mutilated by Western civilization." □

PLAY DEPICTS MORO PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE

'Mindanao' Drama To Tour West Coast



Group of the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP), the musical play aims to shed light on the war currently raging in Mindanao. As a result of the massive landgrabbing and various forms of economic exploitation in the south conducted by U.S. multinational corporations in collusion with the Marcos dictatorship, the Moro people began a resistance movement prior to the declaration of martial law. To date, the genocidal war conducted by the Marcos regime has created one million refugees, killed 10,000 civilians and cost the lives of 5,000 military troops, mostly young recruits. Despite the large scale fighting, the martial law regime censors news on the war in the south, resulting in a severe lack of information regarding the plight of the Moro people. The play *Mindanao* will be timely in providing the U.S.-based Filipino community a historical and contemporary background on the conflict.

SYNOPSIS

The play takes place in 1972, a few months prior to the declaration of martial law.

The drama concerns the attempted eviction of a Moro community from their ancestral lands in Barrio Linantagan to give way to a new site for Del Monte corporation. The local Muslim mayor, Balilis, himself a landlord, had already sold Barrio San Andres, a Christian community adjacent to Linantagan. When he orders bulldozers to the site to prepare for the eviction, it arouses the anger of both communities.

A Muslim activist and a young lawyer-politician, both agitate the people to seek justice. But where the two young men cannot agree is which alternative is best: reform or revolution?

However, while this struggle unfolds, machinations by the brother of the mayor, a corrupt Manila congressman, attempts to create an outward appearance of a "religious war" breaking out in the south. A few Muslims and Christians are intentionally killed, mosques and churches burned and the Congressman calls his cronies in Manila... the "news" spreads—RELIGIOUS WAR BREAKS OUT IN MINDANAO! The people, both Christians and Moros alike, are not fooled by this scheme and prepare themselves by organizing and uniting to fight their common enemies.

EDUCATIONAL AND ENTERTAINING

The play recognizes the distinct oppression suffered by the Moro people as a national minority. Differences in culture and religion have been used to perpetuate stereotypes, subjecting the largest Filipino minority group to national chauvinism. While these differences exist, the play focuses on the fact that Moros and Christians alike suffer from economic oppression and exploitation perpetuated by U.S. corporations, feudal landlords, and corrupt politicians. This common source of oppression provides basis for them to unite against their common enemies.

Besides being educational, the play *Mindanao* is also highly entertaining. Music was composed especially for the play, utilizing ethnic instruments like the kulintang, the gabang and the gansa, a big gong used in Muslim music ensembles.

Sining Bayan, the group performing the play, is composed of members of the Filipino community in the Bay Area who have participated regularly in past activities of the KDP. While the play is a drama, it is lively. The musical drama promises to be entertaining for the whole family.

Preparations for *Mindanao*, a musical drama depicting the Moro people's resistance in southern Philippines, are in its final stage as the 19-member cast readies for its West Coast tour. The play will be shown in Filipino communities in Seattle, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Oakland during the month of June.

Produced and directed by the National Cultural

Spirits Not Dampened R.P. CONSULATE DOUSES PICKETS WITH WATER

SEATTLE—On May 18 anti-martial law picketers were literally given a very wet welcome as they picketed before the Philippine Consulate. A half hour into the picket, the demonstrators were doused by several buckets of water poured from the fourth floor of the Central Building on which the Philippine Consulate is located. Passersby stopped to discuss the water attack with protestors.

According to the Anti-Martial Law Alliance (AMLA) this shower greeting was a further indication of the Consulate's refusal to seriously consider the AMLA's concern for the post-election repression. The Philippine Consulate was closed when picket representatives went to present their demands for the release of the political prisoners and the dropping of the charges against those arrested in the Consulate offices last month.

The picket was organized as part of a week of activities in preparation for the May 25th trial of the four protestors. The Seattle-AMLA also sponsored a community potluck/forum May 19th, and is encouraging letters to the City Attorney Paul Bernstein and Consul General Landicho asking them to drop the charges against the four. The AMLA is calling for supporters to fill the courtroom on May 25th in a show of solidarity. □

NEW RELEASE

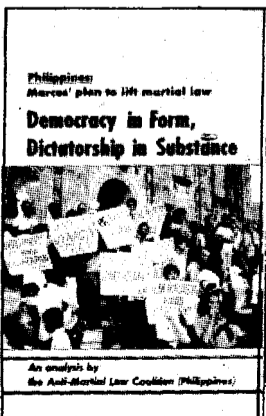
Marcos' plan to lift martial law

Democracy in Form Dictatorship in Substance

WILL MARCOS REALLY LIFT MARTIAL LAW?

An in depth analysis by the Anti-Martial Law Coalition

Contact your local Anti-Martial Law Alliance for a free copy



MINDANAO SCHEDULE

SEATTLE: June 3, 1978, 8:00 p.m., Langston Hughes Cultural Arts Center, 17th and Yesler, Seattle, Wash. For tickets and information: (206) 324-6422 or 329-9224.

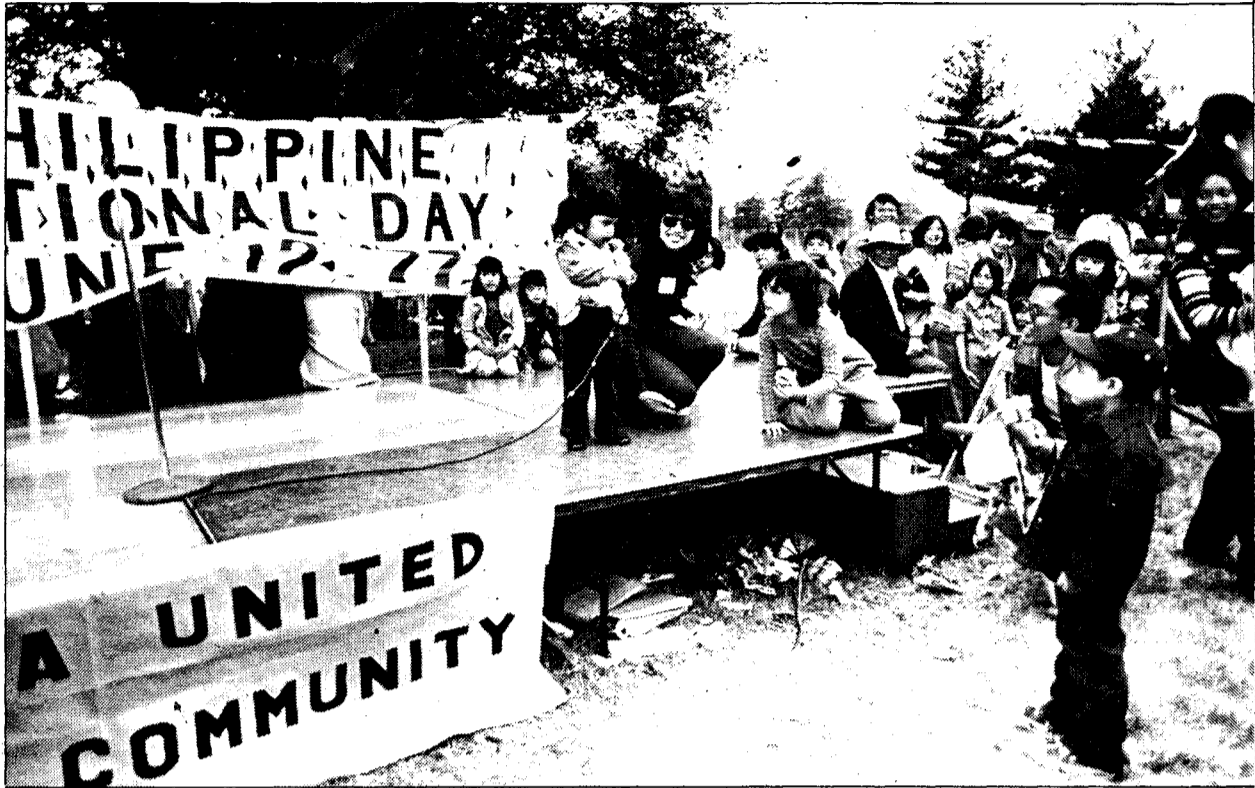
LOS ANGELES: June 17, 1978, 7:30 p.m. Fritchman Auditorium, 2936 W. 8th St. (near Vermont), Los Angeles, CA. For information: (213) 613-1520.

SAN FRANCISCO: June 24, 1978, 7:30 p.m. Everett Junior High School, 450 Church St. (between 17th and 18th Sts.), San Francisco. For information: (415) 586-4316.

OAKLAND: June 25, 1978, 7:30 p.m. Oakland Auditorium Gold Room, 10-10th St., Oakland, For information: (415) 482-3467 or 652-7613. □

June 12 Celebrations

Philippine Nat'l Day 78 Calls For Unity



A three-year-old gives her rendition of Bahay Kubo at the Philippine National Day '77 in New York. (AK Photo)

June 12 marks an important event in Philippine history. On this day in 1898, the Filipinos won independence from colonialist Spain, signaling the birth of the Philippine nation.

Spain ruled the Philippines for three centuries. But these years of colonialism were never a peaceful era and sporadic revolts against Spanish colonialism broke out frequently in both Luzon and the Visayas. It was only the Muslims in Mindanao who successfully resisted numerous vicious attempts by the Spaniards to conquer them.

June 12 itself embodies the Filipinos' continued desire for freedom; which becomes a living reality particularly for those in the homeland who are heroically persisting in their fight for genuine independence.

For Filipinos in the United States, however, June 12 has an added symbolism. On this day they celebrate their substantial contribution in the creation of the wealth of this nation, as part of the working people. The day also marks their struggle against discrimination as a minority in this country.

It was in this light that three years ago, the Filipino community started June 12 celebrations. Today June 12 has been transformed into a tradition, the Philippine National Day. Philippine National Day is what St. Patrick's Day is for the Irish or Cinco De Mayo is for the Mexicans.

This year's June 12 celebration calls for unity among Filipinos in the interest of the entire Filipino community. The theme is timely in the wake of various issues affecting Filipinos both as a minority and workers in the U.S. These include the Bakke decision, the nurses licensure problem, Jarvis-Gann in California, to cite a few. Not the least of these issues confronting the Filipino community is the present martial law regime in the Philippines.

Like last year's festivities, PND '78 promises to be fun, entertaining and educational. Booths of participating community organizations will be set up. There will be games catering to both the young

and the old. Cultural presentations featuring dances, songs and skits promise to be both entertaining and educational.

Below is the list of cities holding PND '78 festivities:

HAWAII: June 11 at Keehi Lagoon Park, 11-5:00 p.m.; contact persons are (Day) Lee Tamoria 524-8175 and (Evening) Cathi Tactaquin 841-6429

SACRAMENTO: June 10 at Miller Park; contact person is Maxie Villones (916) 451-6860

OAKLAND: June 11 at San Antonio Park; 11:00-4:00; contact person is Aurora Manning (415) 465-9876 or 451-5620

SAN FRANCISCO: June 17 at Dolores Park; 10:00-6:00; contact person is Luisa Blue (415) 333-4699

LOS ANGELES: June 17-18 at the L.A. City College, 855 N. Vermont Ave.; contact person is Greg Santillan (213) 283-3466

SAN DIEGO: June 10 at Crown Point, Mission Bay; 9:00 a.m.; contact person is Pelcy Sarno (714) 566-9569

SEATTLE: June 11 at the Filipino Community Center, 5740 Empire Way South. There will be an evening dance on June 10 at FCC, too. Contact person is Susan Rivera (206) 524-4906

NEW YORK: June 10 at Flushing Meadows Park, Queens; contact person is June Lejarde (212) 626-0556

PHILADELPHIA: June 10 at Sedgely Section of Lemon Hill, Fairmont Park; contact person is Baby Kiuchi (215) 387-1487.

CHICAGO: June 11 at Catherine Chevalier Section, Forest Preserve, East River Rd., overlooking Highway 94; contact person is Mr. Mutuc (312) 334-3658

Barrio Fiesta Planned Los Angeles To Celebrate June 12

By RAFAEL ORPILLA
AK Correspondent

LOS ANGELES—The controversy that threatened to jeopardize this year's Philippine National Day celebration in the Filipino community here seems to have died down.

The PND Planning Committee announced that the Barrio Fiesta activity will surely push through.

The controversy broke open when the Optimist Club adamantly refused to co-sponsor PND '78 with other Filipino community organizations. The Club's non-unity stance seemed surprising and strange, considering that it was one of the original sponsors of the annual celebration.

The controversy led to the city's Department of Parks and Recreation denying the use of MacArthur Park, the proposed site, for the affair. When the PND Planning Committee requested the use of another park, the department similarly refused permission,



Greg Santillan (left), L.A. PND '78 Coordinator

(AK Photo)

saying that "the interests of Filipino community organizations were not united."

With no park to use, the PND Planning Committee looked for an alternative site. With the cooperation of Samahang Pilipino, a Filipino student organization at the L.A. City College, the Committee will be allowed to celebrate June 12 at the college's campus.

This year's theme is "Pagkakaisa" or Unity. According to Greg Santillan, PND Committee Coordinator, the theme was chosen to reflect the Filipino community's need for unity and working together in the interest of the entire L.A. Filipinos.

Like last year's event, PND '78, which is supported by over 20 Filipino community organizations, promises to draw in 10,000 people. Booths displaying Filipino handicrafts will be set up and games for all ages will be held. A cultural program by participating community organizations will be presented at the campus' open air stage.

The PND committee also announced that preparations for the parade are still being worked out.

All Filipinos, groups and individuals are invited to participate, both in the logistical preparations as well as during the day itself. Interested parties may contact Greg Santillan, 111 North Cresta, San Gabriel CA 91775, (213) 283-3466. □

Debate...

(continued from page 12)

angry at this answer and some began calling out "just answer the question." Finally, Castro blurted out "Those persons were demonstrating illegally, that's why they were arrested."

After the symposium, one member of the alliance said: "Taruc argues that martial law and democracy are not incompatible; he claims that in his own words martial law is 'a peaceful revolution guided by love.' He is an advocate of what he calls 'Democratic Socialism.' Democratic means to Taruc that under Martial Law 'everyone has to cooperate peacefully to bring about democratization.'"

What Taruc failed to rebut is that the Filipino people have never cooperated with the regime since the declaration of martial law. The people are fed up with it and if Marcos' martial law rule is "guided by love, then it surely must be love for other reasons and not for the people." □

Marcos nibbles...

(continued from page 4)

support have failed to materialize. Conservative businessmen have been interested only in short-term, high-profit ventures. Nothing has been done to alleviate the growing unemployment which was estimated last year, when combined with underemployment, at almost 50 per cent.

The U.S. has been fairly successful in exporting its economic crisis to neo-colonies like the Philippines. U.S. capacity has aggravated the problems of inflation, unemployment, and underemployment. These problems have already generated social unrest and have the potential to bring about the downfall of the regime.

Marcos is eager to stave this off and save his own skin. He thus recognizes a need to check the current economic trend. Yet, as a puppet of U.S. imperialism, he is powerless to do so for it would force him to move against his own benefactor.

Marcos' pseudo-nationalist gestures are not attempts at dealing with the economic crisis of the

Filipino people. They are bargaining chips used to exact a more profitable arrangement in his negotiations with the United States.

With his series of watered-down reforms, Marcos is using the real crisis of the Filipino people—for reasons of pure self-interest to bolster his own position in a bitter bargaining session with his imperialist master. □

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DOMESTIC/INTERNATIONAL

WILLOW ISLAND CONSTRUCTION TRAGEDY

Speed-Up Kills 51 Workers

"There just wasn't a damn thing they could do except scream," exclaimed one outraged construction worker.

In less than a minute, 51 workers at a Willow Island construction site fell to their deaths when the scaffolding they were working on collapsed. Other workers nearby stood helpless as the laborers, carpenters, iron and steel workers plunged 170 feet from the rim of an uncompleted cooling tower, the victims' cries muffled by the roar of the collapsing concrete and steel.

The Willow Island tragedy, the worst construction accident in recent times, was especially hard for Lee Steele, who lost four sons and six other relatives in the disaster. A fifth son was killed in an ironworking accident several months ago. Expressing some of his anger, Steele told reporters that when West Virginia Governor Jay Rockefeller asked to attend the funeral, "I told him he wouldn't be welcome."

SPEED-UP LED TO DISASTER

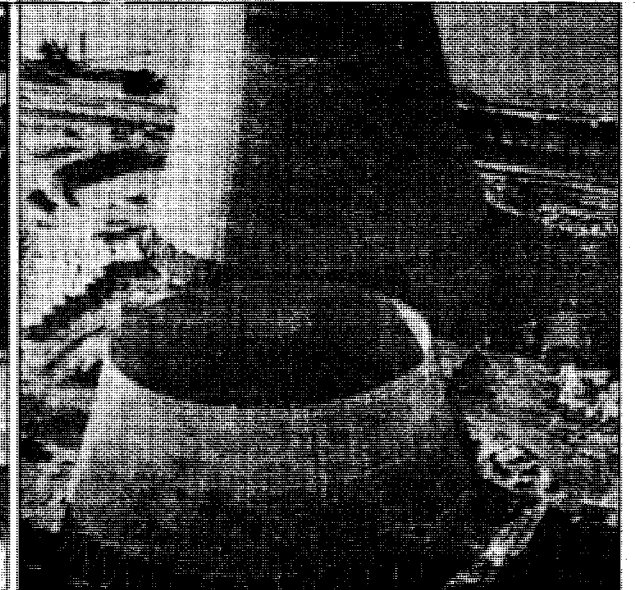
While there has yet to be an official explanation for the tragedy, the cause of the accident was evident to many of the Willow Island workers. The concrete upon which the scaffolding rested had not fully dried, yet the contractor insisted on pushing ahead with the tower's construction.

"Ever since the weather cleared last month, they've just been pushing as hard as they could to get that tower done," said one worker interviewed by the *Guardian* newspaper. "And they didn't care if they had to cut safety corners to get the job done."

The massive cooling tower, built by pouring successive layers of concrete on top of each other, was about one-third complete. Research-Cotrell, the contractor building the tower, gave the orders for the workers to mount the scaffolding. The recently-poured layer which the scaffolding was bolted into had spent the night in near-freezing temperatures, a situation which delays the harden-



Sheets covered the bodies of the Willow Island tragedy (left). The 51 workers were killed when the scaffolding on the cooling tower (right) they were working off collapsed.



ing process of the concrete.

"Any ordinary worker can tell you that the colder it is the longer concrete takes to harden," said the business agent of the 18 laborers killed in the accident. Despite this knowledge by Research-Cotrell, the go-ahead was given to work on the tower.

HISTORY OF SAFETY VIOLATIONS

Before the April 27 accident, two workers had also died at Willow Island. Complaints among the 2,100 workers on the site over safety violations had led to citations by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) district office in Charleston, W. Va.

Among the safety violations cited by OSHA were the lack of safety nets on the scaffolding, in addition to the lack of safety belts or safety lines. However, inadequate inspection, in addition to weak enforcement procedures, have hampered the implementation of safety procedures on the Willow Island site.

Fines for the previous safety violations amounted to less than \$1,000. Lack of safety inspectors, (only 14 for the whole of West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee) resulted in the second cooling tower, the one where the accident occurred, not having any OSHA inspections.

There was also pressure by the contractors of possible reprisals against workers, if they reported safety violations to OSHA. Workers were also pressured by contractors not to wear safety equipment, such as safety lines and belts, since they "interfered" with production.

In the eyes of many Willow Island workers, responsibility for the tragedy rests squarely on Research-Cotrell. Like most construction jobs, the contractor is penalized for each day the project is delayed, and gets a bonus for each early day. Hurrying to get the job completed, Research-Cotrell sent 51 workers onto an unsafe scaffold and to their deaths.

"All they care about's production, production, production," one worker bitterly protested. □

S. 1437/H.R. 6869
Denounced

By JEANETTE LAZAM

SAN FRANCISCO—A march and rally, sponsored by the Bay Area Coalition Against S. 1437/H.R. 6869 was held last May 20 to inform the public of the repressive legislation and its dangers to the civil rights of poor and working people if it passes.

Over 150 people took part in the demonstration, which included a broad range of groups representing women, labor, gay, minority, labor and clergy. Also represented was the Eugene, Oregon committee to oppose S. 1437.

The march, took people from Union Square to the U.N. Plaza in downtown San Francisco, having its biggest reception along Market Street—the main thoroughfare in San Francisco's downtown area. Susan Green, one of the organizers of the event commented, "Our marchers were very loud and spirited, and we were able to attract a lot of attention from the folks that were in the area. People took our literature and many asked questions about the bill."

She went further to say that, "Based on the amount of questions we received, it gave us a clear indication that

Bay Area Protests Repressive Bill

the public, for very obvious reasons (meaning lack of media coverage) really didn't know about the existence of the bill, or what the impact would be if it passed."

In the opening remarks at the rally, Green gave the audience an update of where the bill presently stands within Congress. "According to reports from Washington, the bill is in the 'mark-up' stage in the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice. What this means is the bill is going through a revision and amendment process." She told the audience that this process would take at least one month before it was sent to the Full Judiciary Committee, which in turn, would pass it to the House for full vote.

Green stressed that this time period, when the House receives the bill, was the most critical time when people should actively write, call or send telegrams urging House Representatives to vote against the bill.

Right now, the organizing efforts are on a local, statewide and national level in preparation for the final voting. "We want to make sure," Green said, "that the bill won't pass, and the only way to do this is to organize mass protest and let the people in Washington know that we're not going to take this lying down."

REPRESSIVE ASPECTS OF BILL DENOUNCED

With thunderous applause from the crowd, Green introduced the first speaker, Doren Weinberg, a progressive Bay Area lawyer, and past president of the National Lawyers Guild. Weinberg offered glaring examples of what to expect if the bill is passed.

"First of all," he said, "we should remind ourselves that this bill would increase Federal jurisdiction in crime related cases that otherwise would be handled by the state or local bodies. This power would increase anywhere from 5-10 per cent, giving the government full play.

Weinberg then pointed out that "Federal jurisdiction also means the Federal law enforcement bodies would come into play, meaning that the expansion of power of the F.B.I. or any other law enforcement body that the government wishes to create."

Citing the lop-sided priorities of the government, Weinberg ended his speech by saying that, "the government places law and order as the top priority at a

time when millions of people are faced with such social problems as the rise in unemployment and the lack of decent health care and medical facilities, just to name a few. If people don't have jobs the government should provide the opportunities, not create legislation that has nothing to do with the reality that people are faced with. The rise of crime and violence only comes when the economic and social conditions that people face are deteriorating and this we see happening now. Crime and violence are on the upswing because the conditions of people all over are at near desperation."

Jay Waters, representing the Bay Area Coalition Against S. 1437/H.R. 6869 stressed that protests, strikes, boycotts or any form of demonstration or obstruction under S. 1437 would be outlawed. "Anyone," he said, "that demonstrates for childcare centers, for women's rights, against the Bakke Decision or for affirmative action, against repressive gay legislation will find themselves in jail and be labelled a criminal. All the varying cases of social injustice that people face in their daily lives will never be brought into the public eye if S. 1437 goes through.

The impact of such legislation like S. 1437," he continued, "will find us in a police state, where every move, action or word spoken can be taken as a criminal act against the government . . . [but] we won't allow this to happen!"

In wrapping up the program, people were encouraged to take literature to their workplaces or social meetings and disseminate the information. In addition, people were also encouraged to write James Man, chairman of the Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, and to Peter Rodino, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, where the bill is expected to go next.

Other portions of the program included solidarity statements from the Eugene, Oregon Committee Against S. 1437, Micheal Fields of the Carpenters Rank and File Focus, the National Committee Against Repressive Legislation (NCARL), Howard Wallis representing Local 3 of the Culinary Union and striking workers of Coors Beer, New Voice Newspaper and the Church of Scientology. Music during the march was provided by the Bay Area Progressive Musicians Association. □



'IT WAS WHOLESAL BUTCHERY'

SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS INVADE ANGOLA

By JEANNETTE LAZAM

Unexploded fragmentation bombs littered the grounds in the ruins of the Namibian refugee camp in Angola. They lie where French-made jets tossed them at dawn May 4, during South Africa's massive and vicious land and air assault into Angola.

The attack—155 miles inside Angolan territory—had a significant timing. It was Prime Minister John Vorster's answer to the U.N. Special General Assembly Session on Namibia that ended less than two days earlier, with a 119-0 vote for an immediate South African pullout from Namibia.

As the U.N. Security Council met in emergency session May 5-6, voting unanimous condemnation of the South African invasion and devastation, Angolan military transport planes worked throughout the weekend to carry those mutilated and wounded in the attack, mostly young women and children, to hospitals.

FATALITIES IN THE HUNDREDS

The South African air force had bombed two separate targets in Angola: Kassinga in Huila Province, deep inside Angola's borders; and southern Kunene Province, where the Namibian Liberation Movement, in particular the South West African People's Organization (SWAPO) have a number of refugee camps located. In both deadly raids, it has been estimated that over 600 people were killed, with untold numbers of wounded and dead still being counted.

According to *Guardian* news reporter, Sara Rodrigues, "There were approximately 3,068 people at the Kassinga Refugee Camp that morning. Most were recently arrived Namibians fleeing South African occupation of their homeland. Most were gathered at a morning meeting in the camps grassy open square when two waves of French made Mirage fighter planes swooped down. Many died at the camp meeting, and 122 were buried in a



Young SWAPO militants in training camp.

(SWAPO Photo)

mass grave a few yards from the site, behind the burned out camp clinic. A second mass grave site contained 460 dead."

The invasion in Kassinga lasted only a few hours, but within those hours South African air and ground forces threw in everything they had, including fighter bombers and hundreds of paratroopers that were dropped from U.S. made C-130 Hercules transport planes. They launched dozens of fragmentation bombs and planted anti-vehicle and anti-personnel land mines; they brought with them 60mm and 81mm mortars, rifle-launched grenades and round upon round of ammunition. According to Rodrigues, "It was wholesale butchery."

In Kunene Province, the Mirage fighter planes delivered their deadly fragmentation bombs, while a ground force of 40 Panhard armored cars and

South African infantry moved 15 miles into Angola. Fighting continued there until the afternoon of May 6, as the racist South African troops met strong resistance from SWAPO, from Angolan border guards and from the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola.

With this latest brazen act of aggression, many people are convinced that the South African attacks are not over. In fact many think it will only increase as the South African Regime finds itself being confronted with liberation movements that surround its borders, threatening the very existence of the racist regime. But in response to this, Political Commissar Matongo replied, "We shall fight on until Namibia is free. We are not going to watch South Africa install a puppet regime for its own use. We are determined than ever to fight on." □

AFRICA: ROOTS OF UNDERDEVELOPMENT

Africa today is a continent engulfed in the flames of resistance against imperialism. From the northern countries of Libya and Algeria, to the southern nations of Azania and Zimbabwe, African peoples are rising up to seize control of their lives and land in a momentous effort to become makers of their own histories.

This is an epic and arduous struggle taking place throughout the continent. Centuries of European domination and subjugation of Africa's people and resources has left a legacy of poverty, illiteracy and economic backwardness—in short a condition of underdevelopment—which makes itself felt even in the newly independent and emerging socialist African states.

To help understand this condition of underdevelopment and how it came to affect the African continent and people, the ANG KATIPUNAN is running a short series on Africa's history, a history intimately connected with the history of European capitalism. Hopefully, the series will help readers better understand the historical context of the current upheavals unfolding in Africa today, struggles that range from Zimbabwe's fight against white minority rule to the effort of Mozambique and other African states to build for socialism.

— The Editor

AFRICA BEFORE THE EUROPEAN SLAVE TRADE

Prior to European subjugation and plunder of the African continent, the people and societies which had naturally evolved were rich in cultural diversity and complexity. It was on Africa, the second largest of the continents, that some of the oldest civilization flourished—societies which built such wonders as the mighty Pyramids along Egypt's Nile river, to the awe inspiring Zimbabwe stone structures in southern Africa.

The noted English scientist Charles Darwin once observed that "Africa is the cradle of mankind." African art and culture inspired the early Greek civilizations, and it was from Africa that iron smelting developed, as well as numerous contributions to the manufacturing of fine works in clay, wood, iron, copper, gold, leather and textiles.

The ability of the various African people to attain high levels of skill in such areas of production was a direct result of the complex and diverse societies evolved in the various regions of the huge continent. Some societies, such as those of the Egyptian and Ethiopians in northern Africa, have been somewhat popularized. However, the other advanced African states, such as those of Ashanti, Dahomey, Benin, the Congo and many more, are less well known and it has mainly been left to African writers to popularize these histories due to a general ignorance and chauvinist perspective by Western scholars.

By the 1400's, some African societies had reached a relatively advanced level of economic and social development, a situation which the Black American scholar

W.E.B. DuBois noted: "There can be no doubt that the cultural level among the masses of Negroes in West Africa in the fifteenth century was higher than that of Northern Europe." It was only with the coming of the massive slave trade, and the development of racist and pseudo-scientific theories to justify the subjugation of Africa that the culturally rich and bountiful land came to be viewed as "the Dark Continent."

Despite some African societies attaining a cultural and economic level equal to or even surpassing that of different parts of Europe, the development of European capitalism qualitatively changed the nature of Europe's relations with the African peoples. In prior times Africa's contact with Europe was limited to small trade mainly around the Mediterranean sea and African people and societies were pursuing a relatively natural course of development. The advent of European capitalism however and its subsequent conquest and plunder of the African continent altered and distorted Africa's development. For while European enslavement and later economic, military and political penetration of Africa greatly benefitted the growth and development of Western capitalism, the African people were destined to suffer a massive drain on their human and material wealth; a brutal subjugation which perpetrated economic stagnation and underdevelopment.

EUROPEAN SLAVE TRADE: 1400's-1800's

Beginning in the 1400's and continuing well into the 1800's an extremely tragic and inhuman trade in black Africans occurred. The emerging capitalist countries of Europe, mainly Portugal, Spain, France and England, engaged in a barbarous slave trade which involved millions of Africans over a period of 400 years.

This monstrous crime by the "civilized" Western world was an immensely profitable undertaking for the European countries and helped provide the necessary labor needs in the newly established American colonies. Anywhere from 25 to 100 million Africans were enslaved during this period, causing untold suffering and misery. In the horrendous trade, millions of enslaved Africans died in the notorious "middle passage," the voyage from Africa to the Americas which lasted anywhere between six and twenty weeks. European slavers, who packed the enslaved into the holds of ships, "without an inch to move to right or left" according to one account, were more concerned with the potential sale of their precious cargo or else the collection of insurance premiums on Africans who had become diseased or injured and were thrown overboard.

The immediate profits and benefits realized by Europe from the slave trade have never been calculated quantitatively, but the profits were immense. Slavers realized profits anywhere between 100 to 1,000 per cent,

and whole towns and port cities sprang up around the cruel trade. England's Liverpool became a major city for the slave trade, shipping 52,537 Africans to America in the sole year of 1798. Banks and insurance companies, such as Lloyd's of London and Barclays, have their beginnings in the profits realized from the slave trade.

The importance of slavery to the growth and development of European capitalism was underscored by Karl Marx when he wrote that "Direct slavery is just as much the pivot of bourgeois industry as machinery, credits, etc. Without slavery you have no cotton; without cotton you have not modern industry. It is slavery that has given the colonies their value; it is the colonies that have created world trade, and it is world trade that is the pre-condition of large-scale industry."

While Europe realized huge benefits from slavery, the negative impact on Africa from the slave trade was tremendous and continues to be a major factor in Africa's underdevelopment. The forcible removal of millions of Africans from a land plagued by underpopulation, has created a situation where a vast and potentially wealthy continent lacks the human resource so vital to economic development.

One indication of this impact on Africa's human resource was that between 1650 and 1900, Africa's population grew by only 20 per cent, from an estimated 100 million to 120 million. During the same period, Europe's population increased by 400 per cent, from 103 million to 423 million, as did Asia's population, from 257 million to 857 million. It should also be remembered that the European slavers selected only the most able-bodied and youthful men and women, which was another crippling factor in Africa's potential development.

In addition, African societies directly involved in the slave trade became distorted in their economic life. As enslaving other African people became a major economic activity, it increased the dependency of African peoples on a growing influx of European manufactured goods, stifling the growth of local economies.

While Africa was suffering the worst aspects of the European slave trade, the growth and development of Western capitalism was greatly accelerated.

As Karl Marx noted that during this period of European history, "the discovery of gold and silver in America, the extirpation, enslavement and entombment in mines of the aboriginal population, the turning of Africa into a commercial warren for the hunting of black skins signalized the rosy dawn of the era of capitalist production." □

PART II: COLONIALISM AND NEO-COLONIALISM IN AFRICA To be continued next issue.

Anti-Martial Law Front

Center on Political Prisoners Launches

'ADOPT' A POLITICAL PRISONER

A campaign urging communities and families to "adopt" Filipino political prisoners has been launched by the newly established National Resource Center on Political Prisoners in the Philippines (NRCPPP). The "Adopt a Prisoner Campaign" is working for the release of specific prisoners.

The Resource Center explained that the adoption drive is another way of bringing pressure to bear on the Marcos regime whose inhumane treatment of persons arrested for political reasons has been widely exposed and criticized. It also explained that through "adoption," personal ties between prisoners and their sympathizers abroad can be cemented. "This," the Center hopes, "can deepen the already strong support political prisoners are getting from people abroad."

The NRCPPP is staffed by Deborah Kaufman, chairperson of the Committee on Human Rights of the World Association of Law Students, and Walden Bello of the International Association of Filipino Patriots. The center was established early this year to monitor the conditions and treatment given to political prisoners by the Marcos regime. It will be the nerve center of all political prisoners activity being conducted outside the Philippines. An affiliate of the Anti-Martial Law Coalition, the center was formed as a result of an AMLC resolution passed during its 1977 National Conference in Chicago. The resolution called for the creation of a "watchdog" body that will alert the anti-martial law movement to the trends in the political prisoners front.

Through its monthly publication called TANOD, the NRCPPP summarizes developments in the political prisoners struggle such as new arrests, new cases of torture, and new trends like secret executions. It also reports information provided by the Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines (AMRSP) Task Force on Political Detainees and other sources in the country.

The NRCPPP will begin the "adoption" campaign by pressuring detention centers in the Philippines to provide the public with a complete list of political prisoners in their charge. Religious organizations working in support of detainees have raised complaints that the government gives only a partial list. There are undoubtedly many prisoners whose whereabouts are being kept secret. The Center hopes to get lists from detention camps from other parts of the country, aside from the well-known Bicutan Rehabilitation Center in Manila.

Profiles of individual prisoners will then be put together and the information sent to various anti-martial law organizations in the U.S. and Canada. Each group will be asked to concentrate on working for the release of particular prisoners it has adopted.

Other families or individuals will also be asked to "adopt" a prisoner. Sponsors will launch a letter-writing drive targetting President Marcos, Defense Secretary Enrile, Gen. Fidel Ramos, Gen. Carmelo Barbero and individual stockade commanders.

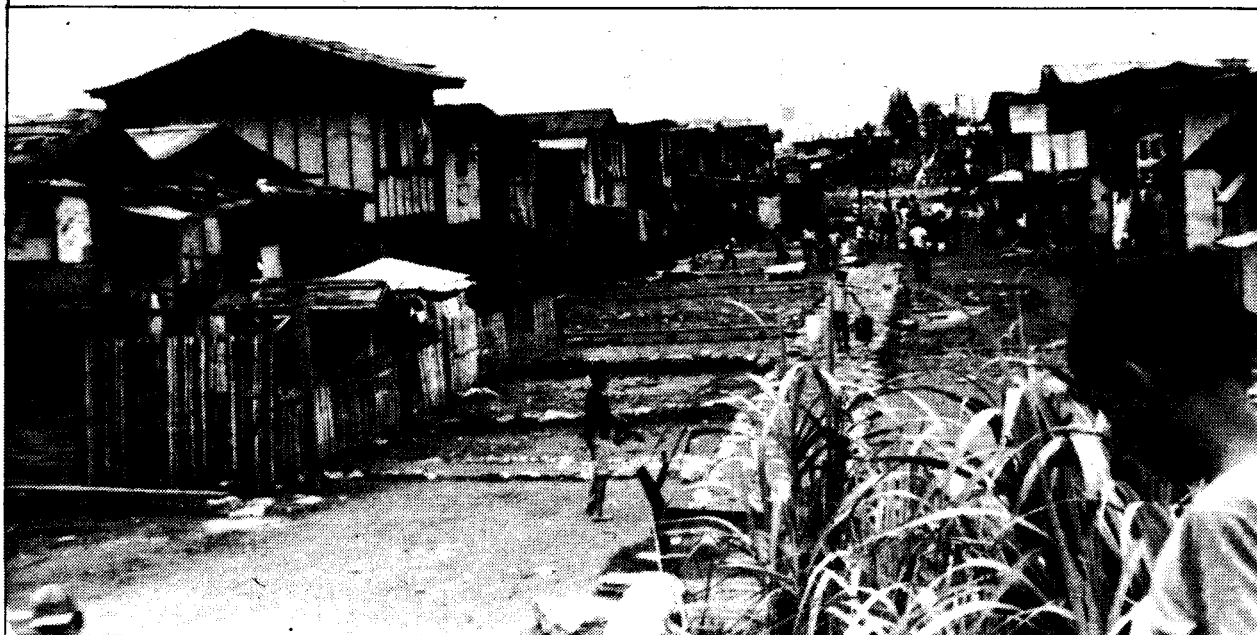
Financial support for the prisoners are also encouraged as majority of the detainees are the primary breadwinners of their families.

International groups like the Amnesty International, the International Commission of Jurists, International Labor Organization will be approached to request Pres. Marcos to release specific prisoners.

Aside from the "adoption" of a political detainee, the NRCPPP plans to carry out a "torturer" campaign which will demand the prosecution of known torturers. "Even if the prosecution will be difficult to demand from a regime which in the first place encourages torture," a staff member explained, "the target of this action is to at least provide us with a way of shifting back at these torturers. This campaign should make these criminals more fearful of the international public."

Those interested should contact NRCPPP, P. O. Box 27118, Oakland, CA 94602. □

Honolulu Event Raises Monies For Tondo Fire Victims



For the people of Tondo, these shanties were their homes. But the April 3 fire engulfed the barrio and left them homeless.

HONOLULU—Over 500 people displayed their concrete support for Manila's Tondo Fire victims last May 7 at St. Anthony's Church. At a fundraising dinner sponsored by the Friends of Tondo Committee, these supporters donated over \$1,500 to the FTC funds which now total well over \$4,000.

The event was a great social success as well. The program presented a slide show of the Tondo district and its residents.

Those who attended the event also listened to a tape recorded message of appeal from a Tondo resident fire victim. (The message was printed in the last AK issue—Editor.) The resident described the magnitude of the fire that destroyed the barrios of Wagas, Magbuhay, Tagumpay, Kagitingan, Luwalhati, Lakan-dula, Ibarra, Dalisay, San Ramon and the Bureau of Public Works. The fire victims, numbering thousands are desperate because they are not being helped by the local and national government authorities.

The message also mentioned the apparent tension

between the Tondo residents and the Philippine government over the use of Tondo land. A majority of the victims believe that no other body wanted them out of Tondo more than the Marcos government which plans to "develop" Tondo for foreign investors.

The fundraising dinner was sponsored by the Friends of Tondo Committee which was formed in Hawaii shortly after the news of the fire broke out. The Friends of Tondo consists of concerned Filipinos and friends who belong to various church clubs, clergy, community organizations and individuals. These people organized themselves to tap all efforts towards generating support for the fire victims.

The Friends of Tondo also announced that its target amount is \$30,000—an amount which can be achieved with the overwhelming assistance from all Filipinos throughout the U.S. Thus, Sister Elnora, a member of the group, issued a call to everyone to send monetary donations or clothes to Friends of Tondo, c/o Sister Elnora, 702 Puuhale St., Honolulu, HA 96819. □

USF Symposium On Martial Law and Democracy in RP Debate Exposes Philippine Consulate



Luis Taruc in 1954. At the symposium, he could not defend Marcos' martial law regime.

SAN FRANCISCO—What was billed as a major debate between anti-martial law forces and representatives of the Philippine government turned out to be another setback for the Marcos regime.

Consulate spokespersons failed to defend the "New Society" before some 150 persons this May 9th at a symposium held at the University of San Francisco under the theme *Martial Law and Democracy in the Philippines*. During the symposium, there were three main points which the Marcos spokespersons were totally unable to contend with.

One of the points had to do with the violation of human rights, particularly the torture of political prisoners. A representative from Amnesty International posed the question, citing their own documentation of human rights violation plus that of the

Association of Major Religious Superiors (AMRSP). Philippine Consulate Information Officer Angelo Castro replied, "We don't know anything about any torture and in fact we have no such thing as political prisoners in the Philippines." The audience found this blanket denial pretty absurd given the growing awareness in the world today about the violation of human rights in the Philippines.

The second point of contention was on the economy of the Philippines. Mr. Castro stated that the Philippines today is in a "state of economic growth and development" citing the growth of the Gross National Product (GNP) of the year 1973-1974 and comparing it to the present GNP 1978 (\$10 million in 73-74 to \$2 billion in 78). Confronting Castro was Ruby Howing of the Anti-Martial Law Coalition (AMLC). She stated "How can you say martial law has generated a growth in economy when in fact the average Filipino worker makes ₱10 a day and Philippine government surveys themselves document that today a person needs ₱46. a day to feed a family of six." Unable to deal with this question Castro conceded that it was true wages paid Filipino workers are low but concluded "but this happens in every country."

The third point which had the consulate spokesman stymied was formulated by another member of the AMLC, who asked: "How has martial law benefited the people when in fact the regime relies on the tools of deception [in the case of the recent sham elections held on April 7] and repression [referring to the jailing of the 700 Laban supporters after the elections]." Consulate representatives could not answer this question and even tried to evade the question at first. Luis Taruc, former HUK now Marcos lackey reacted, "This is an emotional question; a loaded one. It sounds like a communist question to me!" Members of the audience became

continued on page 9