

Letter of apology issued; May 30 hearing cancelled INS Retreats From Cruz Harassment

NEW YORK CITY—Succumbing to the loud nationwide protest voiced by the Filipino community and the American public, the Immigration and Naturalization Services (INS) agreed to withdraw the controversial meeting to interrogate Ms. Aimee Cruz. Cruz is the coordinator of the National Alliance for Fair Licensure for Foreign Nurse Graduates (NAFL-FNG).

In a telephone conversation with Mr. Bill Wippler, director of the Human Rights Office of the National Council of Churches, INS Commissioner Lionel Castillo agreed to instruct the New York Office of the INS to withdraw the meeting which was scheduled for May 30.

The cancellation of the meeting was one of the key demands expressed in hundreds of letters and telegrams which streamed into the office of Mr. Castillo condemning the harassment of Ms. Cruz.

The meeting was rejected by the NAFL-FNG as "part of the harassment process . . . a meeting obtained under duress, under the threat of arrest and at the cost of violating Ms. Cruz' civil liberties."

On May 30, 1979 Ms. Cruz received

(continued on page 7)



Aimee Cruz (far left) during a 1977 negotiation meeting with INS Commissioner Lionel Castillo (far right) on the H-1 nurses issue. Public outrage over the Gestapo-like tactics of the INS pressured the agency to issue a letter of apology to Ms. Cruz and cancel the May 30 meeting. (AK Photo)

CRACKDOWN ON CLERGY



Sr. Marianni on her recent visit. (AK)



Father Raymundo Abadicio—a recent kidnap victim of the regime.

SR. MARIANNI REDBAITED

Following a successful tour of the U.S. where she appealed for greater support for political prisoners, Sr. Marianni Dimaranan, chairperson of the Task Force on Detainees, was "greeted" at home by red-scare propaganda tactics and assorted slander.

No less than Assistant Press Secretary Amante Bigornia and "top-notch Marxist scholar" Simeon del Rosario, were delegated the task of refuting and discrediting the advocate nun.

Referring to an Associated Press interview of Sr. Marianni, Bigornia dismissed as false and "outlandish" Sr. Marianni's claims that there are thousands of political prisoners in 80 detention centers living under sub-human conditions while many others

(continued on page 5)

MARCOS TRIES RELIGIOUS

Just how much does a Marcos-granted "amnesty" mean to a person charged with a political offense? Fifteen nuns, seminarians and college students who went on trial before a military tribunal May 9 answer that question with a succinct, "Nothing."

The 15, along with 12 others being tried in absentia, were arrested on Sept. 23, 1977 during a rally marking the fifth anniversary of martial law. It was broken up violently by truncheon-wielding Manila police.

The 27 currently on trial, however, were all granted a presidential "amnesty" one year ago. Marcos' magnanimous gesture was front page news in the country's controlled press. The sudden decision to put them on trial

(continued on page 5)

Philippine News Escalates Anti-KDP Attack

Philippine News San Francisco Edition
SINCE 1961
THE VOICES OF THE PHILIPPINES IN NORTH AMERICA
LARGEST PHILIPPINE NEWSPAPER IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA AND VICINITY

18th Year No. 39

Week of June 2-8, 1979

20 Pages 50¢ Newsstand Price

Editorial

Calling a spade a spade

WE HAVE nothing against communists living in the United States. Like other political parties or leftist groups, the communists have also a right to exist within the framework of the law and to try to win adherents to compete in a free market of ideas.

Our only point is that like everybody else, the communists have to learn to fight in the open, especially in the United States where they are free to organize and propagate their ideas under rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

Let us call a spade a spade.

The Katipunan ng mga Demokratikang

Philippine News should not hide behind nomenclatures as national democracy, revolutionary politics, or whatever acronyms or other phrases it chooses to call the brand of dictatorship it is pushing.

The KDP also known as Union of Democratic Filipinos claims that it has always been and is the only authentic national democracy in the Philippines since it fell from the sky and will be a united front of a new New Society.

Most important of all, it is a truly representative form of government where the voters actually govern.

In this period, choice of officials who are directly accountable to the people by being subjected to that vote will be installed by a Politburo or by a Group of KDP leaders.

It is not McArthur to call KDP to task on this vital issue. If by any chance there is at all even the slightest possibility that KDP is, indeed, for a democratic system, by all means, it deserves public support.

And if it is for a dictatorship of the left, as it is today.

KDP leader heads US Marxist-Leninist clubs

From page 1
The Guardian disclosed the Club system in 1977. Following a year-long experiment to verify whether it was possible at this stage to set up a limited political organization around the party's political line, it became apparent that the club system was not an all-out effort to win adherents over party building made it impossible.

The paper was

Communist 'party-building' goals

KDP leader heads US Marxist-Leninist clubs

Melinda Paras' official ideological orientation established

Redbaiting won't stop the people's movement!

see page 2

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Redbaiting Won't Stop the People's Movement

This is the second installment of KDP's response to a broadside, anti-communist attack launched against us by Alex Esclamado of the *Philippine News*. The third and last installment will follow in the next issue of *Ang Katipunan*.

The *Philippine News* which has long been known as little more than a platform upon which Esclamado passes his opinions off under the thin guise of "objective reporting," has reached a new low in sensationalism, yellow journalism with his May 19-25 issue. Two articles, entitled "Rift Exposes Red Tint of FFP, KDP" and "The Filipino Communist Organizations in America," use a recent controversy in the FFP as an opportunity to slander and attack all the work of the KDP and its leading members in a hysterical manner reminiscent of the "red scare" period of the 1950's. The first article is the work of the *NEWS*' "staff," the second is bylined by Rosario Pineda, a pseudonym for someone who is apparently not prepared to use his own name in attacking the KDP so viciously.

Since then, Esclamado has apparently chosen to continue his wild red-baiting campaign against the KDP without let up. In the latest issue, June 2-8, he once again editorializes against the "communist menace" in a classic piece of McCarthyite journalism which one could easily mistake as having been written at the height of the Korean War. (We encourage our readers to read these attacks in the original, unabridged versions in order to more fully appreciate our response.)

Foaming at the mouth like a mad dog, Esclamado apparently cannot be dissuaded from this crazy course he has taken. With each passing issue of the *Philippine News*, his pretensions as a "progressive" evaporates further as he strikes out wildly at anything and everything that KDP is involved in.

In the main this most recent attack is a rehash of the main points of the earlier one, except a bit more fanatical in tone as though preparing to launch a "holy crusade" against the left.

As we said in our last issue, Esclamado is an even bigger fool than we had previously expected. Our only advice to Esclamado is that he have a substantial enough right-wing movement before going too far out on a limb with his cry for war against the KDP. If he can manage to gather his troops and launch his crusade then let the battle begin. But be forewarned, such hysterical anti-communist crusades are a thing of the past and are more difficult these days to launch and sustain. In either case, we "infidels" from the left did not provoke this battle with Esclamado but neither shall we run away from it. We have successfully stood our ground before more powerful enemies than Alex Esclamado (*i.e.*, Marcos, FBI, etc.). From our point of view, the sad history of the McCarthy period has taught us that the only way for the left to deal with such a rabid anti-communist campaign is to take it "head on." We will defend our revolutionary political views and insist on our democratic rights to hold and advance them.

In his editorial attack, Esclamado proclaimed "The KDP affair will prove to be an important education . . ." We fully agree, which is why we have dedicated so much time and space to our response.

By Wilma Cadorna, Aimee Cruz, Rene Cruz,
Silme Domingo, Jaime Geaga, Bruce Occena,
Inday Refi, and Cathi Tactaquin

AN IRRATIONAL FEAR OF SOCIALISM AND REVOLUTION HAUNTS ALEX AND ROSARIO

When one wades through all the unsubstantiated slander, the main thrust of the *Philippine News* attack is that the KDP supports revolution, socialism, and studies Marxism. However, the KDP has never been secretive nor are we ashamed of our political beliefs.

Our strongest objection to Esclamado and Pineda is not that they disagree with us politically, but rather their unprincipled attempt to depict our politics as somehow illegitimate or irrational. From our point of view, revolution is the most rational conclusion stemming from an analysis of the class contradictions under capitalism and imperialism. If Esclamado would set his irrational hysteria aside, we would be more than glad to engage in a principled and reasoned debate over our political and ideological differences with him. But unfortunately, as the saying goes, you cannot reason with a dog gone mad.

From our point of view, the cornerstone which distinguishes capitalist society is the unrestricted right of the capitalist class to extract profits from the exploitation of the working classes. A careful analysis will show that the countless injustices, miseries and irrationalities facing the masses can be ultimately



This crude cartoon is featured on the editorial page of the *Philippine News*, June 2-8, 1979 edition, along with Esclamado's even more primitive attack on KDP entitled, "Calling a Spade a Spade." In this way, Esclamado claims to be giving Filipinos the basis to choose "who their real friends and real enemies are before it is too late." What a pity for Esclamado that the time is already long past when the Filipino community can be driven into hysteria by such out-dated McCarthyite tactics, which serve only to expose the naked self-interest of their author.

At the center of every red-baiting campaign can be found diehard reactionaries like Esclamado who are threatened by the growth of the left and motivated by narrow self-interest.

Lastly, we want to stress the point that such hysterical red-baiting is not merely an attack upon the KDP, but also upon the broader progressive movement which has grown up over the past few years within the Filipino community. Esclamado has launched an attack on everything from the Anti-Martial Law Coalition to the Far West Convention and the Philippine National Day Celebrations! Why? Simply because 1) the KDP plays a central and leading role in these activities and 2) the KDP is a revolutionary organization (which we have never denied or hidden). What should be taken note of is that the *Philippine News* has no concrete criticisms of the actual work of the KDP activists within these broad progressive activities, nor can it find any basis to directly attack such organizations and activities. Therefore, the "standard tactic" of such anti-communist diehards is to viciously attack the participation of the left "in principle." Thereby attempt-

ing to weaken the progressive peoples movement and spread confusion and disunity.

But the political motivation of such reactionaries like Alex Esclamado can be exposed with just one question: Is Esclamado prepared, capable and willing to seriously take up the day-to-day organizing responsibilities presently shouldered by KDP activists all over the country? Since we have little confidence in his ability to be straightforward and honest, we will take the liberty to answer for him . . . NO, ABSOLUTELY NOT! If the progressive movement within the Filipino community were to collapse in the wake of this irresponsible anti-communist attack, Alex Esclamado would have nothing concrete to offer in its place.

Consequently, we see such "red-baiting" campaigns as directed not merely against the left, at the KDP, but also directed toward weakening the whole progressive movement within the Filipino community. Therefore, the spirit of our response to the *Philippine News* is not merely to defend ourselves, but also to defend the broader progressive movement—Editor's Note.

traced back to the fundamental class contradiction of the capitalist control of the basic means of production and their insatiable drive for increased profits. We are convinced that there are few honest and thoughtful people who would deny this fact.

. . . in the years to come, every progressive and patriotic Filipino abroad will also have to re-evaluate their "former" notions about revolution, armed struggle, socialism and Marxism because the destiny of the Philippine nation has already become inextricably bound up with these ideas.

This analysis more fully explains the root causes of the deplorable living conditions facing the majority of Filipino workers and peasants. It is a far better explanation than some of the nonsense about Filipinos being lazy because of the hot climate! Here in the U.S. this analysis also explains the basis for the government and corporate irresponsibility around the recent nuclear crisis at Three Mile Island. The overriding concern for the capitalist investment and the fear of corporate bankruptcy was given priority over the lives and safety of millions of working people.

Clearly, the likes of Pineda and Esclamado are free

to disagree with us, but the KDP has no reason to feel particularly defensive about the substance of our political analysis.

But being critical of capitalism and imperialism does not automatically lead one to revolution. The key question here is what should be done about it? We firmly believe that one's politics are defined not merely by what you understand intellectually, but also by what you are prepared to do about it. In our assessment the vast majority of people have not yet had the opportunity nor the conditions to give sufficient thought to the question of revolution. We reject the reactionary claim that the "silence" of the majority means that they are actively opposed to revolution. To us their silence is more an indication that they have not yet seriously considered this as a possible solution to their present problems and difficulties.

There are those who have thought out the question of revolution and socialism more carefully and decided that it would be nice, but it is "impractical." This represents the broad strata of active, progressive, reform-minded people.

Then of course there are those who have decided revolution is merely an "impossible dream"—these are the cynics.

Then there are the various stripes of reactionary elements who have thought it out and decided it is not only unnecessary but actually a revolution will be a bad thing and they must actively oppose it. We assess there

are actually relatively few people who are reactionaries of this type.

Lastly, there are people like us in the KDP who have arrived at the conclusion that revolution is necessary, it is possible, and it is inevitable. We view the revolutionary process to be a complex and protracted one in which the masses of people must, step by step, be won over to the support of the revolution. Obviously, this process is proceeding today more rapidly in the Philippines than here in the U.S. In our homeland, the conditions for life are worse, but the conditions for revolution are more favorable. But in general, we believe that anywhere where capitalist exploitation rules the society there will be struggle and the impulse and movement towards revolution.

But what about Marxism and socialism? Of course, one can argue that not all revolutionaries are Marxist-Leninists—this is true enough. However, in our opinion, those who take up revolution seriously (not the café dillettantes like Pineda) also must take it up scientifically. And this will bring them to Marxism because it is the philosophy that has transformed spontaneous revolt into a science of revolution, a science at the service of the working class. Even non-Marxists must admit that more than any other philosophy, Marxism has transformed the social movements of the 20th century.

Those, like Esclamado, who rant and rave about Marxism really display their own ignorance and lack of education.

As for socialism, in our opinion it is clearly a superior social system compared to capitalism. By expropriating the capitalist class, socialism begins the process of eliminating exploitation and transforming private capitalist wealth and property into social property for the common benefit of all the working classes. We do not view socialism as a "paradise." As a social system it will have and does have its own new set of complex problems and struggles. But the starting and end point of these struggles is how to improve and accelerate the development of socialist society and thereby improve the conditions and lives of the working people. The problems under socialism cannot be compared to the injustice and hardship which the masses face under capitalist rule. Under socialism, only a handful of reactionaries would even be bold enough to advance the unpopular idea of returning to the days of capitalists and landlords. And it is true, such elements are usually dealt with harshly. But again, how one interprets this depends on one's class viewpoint and sympathies.

This then in brief are the major contours of our political program. The KDP's opinion is that the majority of people have the basis to be open-minded toward such an analysis because it matches their experiences in life. It matches their desire to understand the workings of present day society and their place within it. Reactionaries like Esclamado are free to disagree with us, but they can not deprive us of the right to hold these views and advance them.

One of the main ways that anti-communist diehards try to discredit our political views is to imply that the KDP "imposes" revolution upon people or "tricks" them into it. This charge is not only false, but we find it absolutely ridiculous. The idea that you could coerce people to take up revolution is absurd. Revolution is far too difficult a process, requiring a lifetime commitment and numerous day-to-day sacrifices. It can only be taken up in a completely voluntary fashion. In addition, our notion of revolution is that it is a scientific and conscious process. The idea that you could "trick" someone to take up revolution is also laughable.

The KDP has put forward all of the aforementioned revolutionary ideas at many different times and in many different forms over the past five years. We find it hard to believe that anyone in the Filipino community (in cities where KDP has chapters) who is politically active and informed would be at all surprised or shocked at the "news" that the KDP actively supports the National Democratic revolution, the NPA and the CPP. Alex Esclamado for one has known this for years. Ironically it is Esclamado and not the KDP who has tried to keep our work and politics a "secret" from the Filipino community. For quite some time, the *Philippine News* has intentionally distorted the news in order to deny or downplay the active and leading role of the KDP in many progressive activities and struggles in the Filipino community. In light of such unprofessional journalistic behavior, the recent sensationalized "expose" of the KDP and its work is clearly nothing but a cheap attempt to stir up "hysteria." But Esclamado's anti-communist motives aside, we want to address his attempt to depict our support for the revolutionary armed struggle and the NPA as some type of "illegitimate" and outlandish political position.

The majority of Filipinos abroad have not yet developed a clear cut political position concerning the situation in the Philippines. However, those who have can be generally grouped into three main categories.

First there are the *pro-Marcos fascists*. A despicable handful who usually benefit to some degree either politically and/or economically, from the crimes committed by the Marcos dictatorship on the Filipino people. We suggest to Pineda and Esclamado to direct

more of their venom toward these forces who are truly deserving of our contempt.

The second grouping are the *anti-Marcos reactionaries*. These are the circles surrounding Manglapus here in America and Aquino/Salonga in the Philippines. They want Marcos out, but they don't want a revolution. The class inequalities of Philippine society are OK so long as they could be at the receiving end of the "benefits." They couch their selfish class interests in terms of "democracy," "moderation," "Christian socialism," "social democracy," etc. But it all boils down to one thing—currying support from the U.S. State Department in hopes of gaining American backing for some type of coup d'etat which would then bring their own grouping to power in place of Marcos. We consider them reactionaries in the sense that they are more distrustful of the masses of Filipino workers and peasants than they are of the U.S. imperialists. Their political program has no intention of removing foreign domination nor altering, in any fundamental sense, the existing class structure of Philippine society. Both Esclamado and Pineda fall politically within this second grouping.

The third grouping (which includes the KDP) are those who stand for a revolutionary solution to the problem of the Marcos dictatorship. This political alternative is commonly termed the National Democratic revolution. It is based on the analysis that the Marcos dictatorship is merely the "tip of the iceberg"; the manifestation of a deeper and more basic problem. Unlike the Manglapus-types, we do not "idealize" the pre-martial law past. The harsh reality is life was never a "paradise" for the majority of Filipinos even before the consolidation of the Marcos dictatorship.

To us, the struggle for "human rights" cannot be separated from the question of revolution. This is because human rights, in its broadest terms, includes the right to life, the right to a secure job, the right to medical care, education and leisure. Basic things which are in fact denied to millions of Filipino families under the presently existing class structure.

Why? Basically because the country's major sources of wealth and means of production were then, and still are now, in the hands of imperialist banks and corporations (mainly U.S. and Japanese), Filipino landlords and capitalist politicians. This small ruling class has continued to bleed the country white generation after generation. We are politically convinced that this vicious cycle can only be broken by a thoroughgoing social revolution "from the bottom up." There can be no escaping the hard fact that the U.S. imperialists and their local Filipino lackeys must be the target of this revolution. Unless their political and economic stranglehold on the country is broken, we are convinced that there can be no substantial progress in the direction of genuine Philippine sovereignty and economic development.

How would such a revolution possibly be accomplished? Manglapus-types often speak of "peaceful methods"; to us this is nonsense. The revolution will have to be principally accomplished through armed struggle, involving in various ways, broad sectors of the Filipino masses over a relatively long period of time. This strategy is commonly termed "protracted people's war." Of course, the KDP understands that there are many people who see the need for revolution, but still have difficulty accepting the necessity of armed struggle and violence to accomplish it. But leave it to the rabid anti-communists like Esclamado and Pineda to play upon this fear in order to create the distortion that we leftist somehow "like" or "prefer" violence!

Difficult problems require difficult solutions. We too would "prefer" a peaceful solution. However, we support the armed struggle because a thoughtful analysis will show that it is the only method which could actually accomplish a social revolution in the Philippines. Yet, let us face the facts squarely. The U.S. imperialists alone have over \$6 billion tied up in lucrative Philippine investments. Certainly they should not be expected to stand by with folded arms in the face of revolutionary movement! As far as the Filipino ruling elite, it has also proven time and again that it is capable of the most incredible cruelty in defense of its ill-gotten wealth and privilege. In short, in our opinion, only a fool could seriously believe that the Philippine ruling classes would surrender their power without a vicious fight. They can be expected to defend their present sources of exploitation and wealth to the bitter end. This then is the analysis which leads

us to the difficult conclusion that, if we truly want a revolution, armed struggle is the only recourse.

Concerning the notion of "violence," again we believe that the Manglapus-types appeal to the people's fears as opposed to their intellect. To us violence takes many forms and always has a class stand to it. We are opposed to reactionary violence, not revolutionary violence in defense of the people's interests. For example, our day-to-day lives are surrounded by class violence which reactionaries choose not to see nor admit to. In the Philippines this is particularly graphic. Children of a poor peasant in Samar have their physical and intellectual growth impaired due to malnutrition, while the landlord muses over where to take his family on their next vacation or how many polo ponies to buy for his children. To us, this is class violence far greater than the expropriation of land at the hands of rebellious peasants. The young wife of a dockhand in Tondo dies needlessly due to minor complications of childbirth due to lack of access to decent medical facilities, while the U.S. and Japanese siphon millions of dollars from the country daily. To us, this is violence far greater than the expropriation and nationalization of imperialist holdings. The list is endless, but our political response to the hysteria about revolutionary "violence" should be clear to all our readers.

We realize that the National Democratic revolution does not make any false promises about "quick victories" and "simple solutions" as do the anti-Marcos reactionaries surrounding Aquino and Manglapus. However, we are convinced that the long-term strength of the National Democratic alternative is that it is based on a sober and realistic analysis of the actual class contradictions within Philippine society. Gradually, it will gain more and more adherence. In fact, already millions of Filipino workers, peasants and student intellectuals are taking up the national democratic revolutionary cause as their own. It has already become a major political current in Philippine society since it emerged in the 1960's.

To participate in the National Democratic revolution, one need not be a communist. However, it would be impossible to be a National Democrat and a rabid anti-communist of the Manglapus and Esclamado variety. The reason is simple. The fact of the matter is that the basic political analysis and program for the Philippine revolution was first advanced, and has since been refined, by the Communist Party of the Philippines (as contained in the book *Philippine Society and Revolution* which is available for sale, see ad on page 4). In addition, the actual armed struggle nationwide is being carried out by the communist-led NPA. Lastly, it is generally recognized that it is the members of the CPP who have distinguished themselves in the forefront of every field of the resistance movement, taking the heaviest load and making the greatest sacrifices. Consequently, many active forces who, for philosophical and religious reasons, can not become communists have learned to respect and recognize the leading role of the CPP and NPA in the Philippine resistance. Pineda's attempt to depict all the non-communist National Democrats as "dupes" is a serious distortion of how active and thorough the discussions about Marxism and socialism have been within the revolutionary movement. In addition, it must be stated that the preoccupation as to "how to work with communists" is noticeable mainly among the more middle-class forces. For many workers, peasants and students, the question in fact is more "how to become a communist!" Of course, the likes of Pineda can squirm and break out in nervous hives over the idea of this, but mark our words—it is true. In fact, we are convinced that in the years to come, every progressive and patriotic Filipino abroad will also have to reevaluate their "former" notions about revolution, armed struggle, socialism and Marxism.

Because the destiny of the Philippine nation has

(continued on page 11)

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PHILIPPINE NEWS

BUOD NG MGA BALITA
BUOD NG MGA BALITASTRIKING POLITICAL
DETAINEES WIN
PARTIAL VICTORY

One-hundred-eighty-four political prisoners finally gained results for their prolonged hunger strike in Cotabato provincial and city jails just before the Mindanao elections. The Ministry of National Defense hastily dispatched two nuns from its Office of Detainees Affairs (ODA) bringing instructions to release eight detainees—one demand of the strike. The release order for the eight was signed as far back as mid-1978, but was never implemented. The nuns also said that three representatives from the Judge-Advocate General Services will deal with remaining detainees.

The main demands of the hunger strike are the speedy disposition of detainees' cases, the facilitation of their release and the improvement of prison conditions.

As the strike progressed, reports say the detainees have become bed-ridden and emaciated. One even slumped into a coma. Food rations prior to the strike were so bad that many detainees suffered from mouth and skin diseases and respiratory problems. In spite of their health situation, medical attention for the prisoners was minimal. The findings of an International Red Cross Committee delegate concluded that Cotabato has "the worst detention center in the Philippines."

Most detainees were arrested without Arrest and Seizure Orders (ASSO) and were held indefinitely without investigation or trial.

Marcos supposedly sent notification requiring ASSO orders before an arrest can be made and such arrest must be approved by him. Whether it is an active order or just a cover-up policy that remains on his lips is of little consequence to Cotabato military commanders, who either ignored the orders or never received them. □

OPPOSITION REFUSES TO
MEET ANDREW YOUNG

According to reports, Andrew Young, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, was refused audience by certain opposition personalities during his visit to Manila a few weeks ago. The purpose of his visit was primarily to address the fifth session of the UNCTAD conference.

Reports say, the reasons held by the opposition for refusing to meet with Young has to do with the recent U.S. Bases Agreement, in effect, furthering aid to Marcos with \$500 billion for the next five years. □



meet with Young has to do with the recent U.S. Bases Agreement, in effect, furthering aid to Marcos with \$500 billion for the next five years. □

MARCOS "AMENDS"
LABOR CODE

In his keynote speech for the Labor Day Celebration, May 1, at the Philippine International Convention Center, Ferdinand Marcos ordered the amendment of the Labor Code to "make unfair practices, including union-busting—criminal offenses." He had Labor Minister Blas Ople draft the amendments into a decree within 24 hours after his speech.

Mounting complaints against unscrupulous employers and restlessness over skyrocketing prices from the labor sector prompted Marcos' order.

Marcos also summoned workers to watch the trend in prices and report activities of all those who manipulate these prices, underlining his oft-repeated insinuation that price trends are not generated by his policies.

The vital demand persistently raised by workers—that the right to strike, including the rights of workers in "vital industries" be restored—was conveniently avoided. Instead, when the issue was raised, Marcos hazily referred the matter for discussion to the next tripartite conference of government, labor and industry.

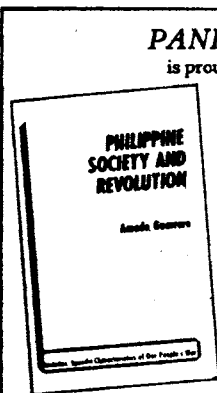
The new amendment applies only to the unions which are recognized by the regime. These unions are widely considered by Filipino workers to be yellow. Those unions which fight for workers' rights, however, are considered "illegal" and thus still subject to harassment and union-busting tactics. □

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S.F. Examiner Stories

Highlights Of R.P. Resistance:
'The Only Meaningful Change'

Rarely does the press or media carry full, first-hand coverage of the Philippine resistance. When the San Francisco Examiner devoted one whole page of the Friday, May 18th issue to three articles by Lawrence Johnson, an American freelance journalist, one focusing on the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), a second on the New People's Army (NPA), and a third on political prisoners, the readers got an unusual perception of its reality.

Unusual, because the sources of these articles were not the Philippine government. Instead, Johnson's sources represent a good cross-section of people actively involved in the resistance struggle—MNLF fighters, political detainees, NPA and National Democratic Front members.

Unusual too was the objective treatment Johnson gave the NDF and its component, the Communist Party of the Philippines.

"THE ONLY
MEANINGFUL CHANGE"

"The fact is, the Communists are the only ones offering meaningful change in this country—and the people know that," Johnson quotes a bishop from the Visayas. Although outlawed and hounded by the regime, the Communists are popular among the people, Mr. Johnson found out.

As he cited various organizing efforts of sectors from fishermen to students, he notes, "In all these activities, members of the Communist Party, the NDF and the NPA may be found.

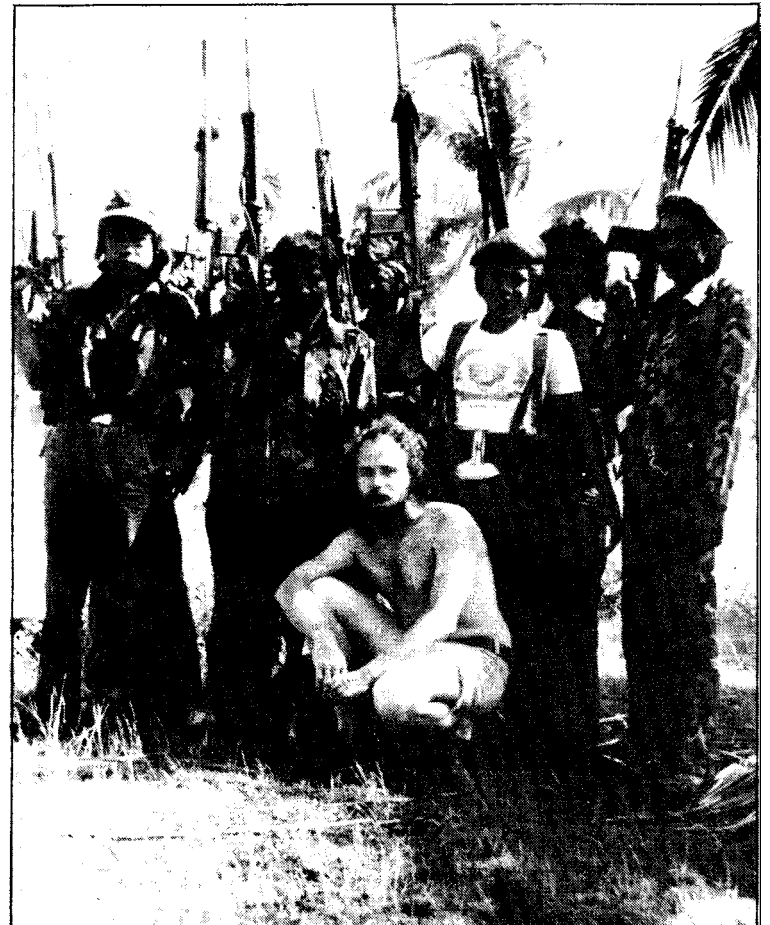
He adds that "Martial law which was instituted to save the government and people from 'subversive elements' like the NPA and the MNLF appears to have had the opposite effect. Leaders of both the NPA and the MNLF say their ranks have swelled since the declaration of martial law in 1972."

So successful has been this backfire on the martial law government, that an NPA commander summed it up to Johnson this way: "The time is right. The people want the revolution. We just need the weapons."

But Johnson raised the next logical question—"If the NPA is so popular, why is the Philippines entering its seventh year of guerrilla activity and martial law with the Marcos government still firmly in place?"

FOCUS ON U.S. SUPPORT

U.S. support!—is the answer he gets from anti-Marcos groups. He then reports the escalating amounts of economic and military aid in millions of dollars doled out to the Philippine dictatorship since



Lawrence Johnson with MNLF fighters in Mindanao. (L. Johnson)

1972. He points out that in 1980, \$95.7 million in military assistance will exceed an economic aid of \$62 million for the Philippines, if President Carter had his way.

When focusing on the Muslim struggle, particularly that of the MNLF, who leads it, Johnson uncovers the same frustration whereby the MNLF "blames much of its troubles on U.S. military and economic assistance that pours from Washington to Manila."

The MNLF has engaged 80 percent of the government's military, and the war is costing \$137,000 a day—a figure Marcos could not sustain without U.S. backing, he points out.

On the MNLF's tactics, Johnson reports: "The MNLF is hoping for more help from Islam—especially help that takes the form of pressure on the Manila government."

"SALVAGING"
ON THE RISE

In his article on political prisoners, Johnson reaffirms the shocking reports made by previous investigating missions such as the Amnesty International. But he further uproots facts on recent cases of torture and salvaging which continue today despite the embarrassing effects of the mentioned reports.

Specifically, he focuses on "salvaging" as an advanced form of maltreatment and excess, now widely used as an alternative to imprisonment. It involves "secretly detaining, torturing and then murdering suspects."

He quoted Sr. Marianni Dimaranan, head of Task Force Detainees, as saying that "although the number of arrests of political prisoners

has declined during the last two years, the number of salvaging victims has increased."

Johnson had the opportunity of secretly entering three detention camps in Mindanao where he gathered accounts of arrests and torture. Many claimed that they had been detained for as long as three years, but never tried for any crime. Most were never even charged with a crime.

CAPTURING THE ESSENCE
OF RESISTANCE

Undertaking his investigation with determination and an open mind has reaped for this freelance journalist a challenging adventure and the priceless candor of people otherwise restrained by repression. Through perseverance Mr. Johnson gained access to areas and members of the resistance movement often missed by other reporters. At one point, to his discomfort, he found himself in conference with 500 MNLF members who expected him to say a few words to the assembled crowd when he expected to be the listener.

Underlying the richness and vividness of the reporter's three stories is a determination to go beyond government reports and an interest in the thoughts and feelings of the Filipino people. He captures the essence of the people's resistance in a question to sugar cane workers as to whether they would support the NPA if it opened operations in their area. An elderly man conferred briefly with his co-workers, then turned to reply, "No. We won't support the NPA."

"We'll join them!" □

MARCOS TRIES RELIGIOUS . . .



Nuns and seminarians deluged by water cannons during the September 1977 demonstration: Although granted "amnesty" last year, today they face trial. (UPI)

(continued from front page)

thus makes a complete mockery of what many had already come to believe was merely another of the presidents' publicity stunts.

"KEEP OUT OF TEMPORAL MATTERS!"

The trial, a sharp reminder to religious to keep their noses out of temporal affairs, began a mere two days after the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) opened in Manila. Arraigned before Military Commission No. 25 presided over by Col. Ruben V. Fernando were seven Franciscan sisters, three Benedictines, a sister of Saint Paul de Chartres, two seminarians, and two female college students. They were accused of sedition.

Among the crimes attributed to the group were: gathering with others in a rally to shout "IBAGSAK ANG MARTIAL LAW"; distributing posters or leaflets "containing seditious or scurrilous libels against the government"; inflicting physical injuries on several of the Integrated National Police by throwing stones, pill-boxes and molotov cocktails; and destroying government property such as police traffic boxes, fire trucks, plants and trees.

DESTROYING FIRE TRUCKS?

Fr. James B. Reuter, S.J., who attended the arraignment writes, "Sister Elena, 70 years old and 78 pounds, moved restlessly in her chair. She said: 'I was carrying my rosary in one hand and my bible in the other hand. How could I destroy a fire truck?'"

"But the President of the military tribunal was very grave after the reading of the charges. He said to the defendants: 'If you are proven guilty, the penalty for the leaders is imprisonment, from 12 to 20 years. The penalty for the followers is imprisonment, from six to 12 years. How do you

plead?"

The nuns answered in chorus: 'Not guilty.'"

CRACKDOWN ON RELIGIOUS

The trial, coupled with the recent military kidnapping of Fr. Raymundo Abadicio (See AK, Vol. VI, No. 10) and the red-baiting campaign against Sr. Marianni Dimaranan of the Task Force on Detainees (See story, p. 1), indicates another regime crackdown on the church. Like previous such crackdowns, the move is likely to blow up in Marcos' face. Both domestically and internationally, the image of a regime which tries 11 nuns (Reuter points out that their weights average 90 pounds) for injuring fire trucks runs counter to all attempts to project the New Society as just and humanitarian.

Nor is it likely to intimidate progressive church folks into silence. As one of the indicted sisters asserts in her affidavit, "To be charged with sedition to witness for the powerless, and to ask for the restoration of human rights?" Is it sedition to participate in a peaceful assembly for truth, justice and peace?"

"I WILL REPORT THIS TO YOUR SUPERIOR!"

Marcos might at one time have hoped to rely upon the hierarchy itself to reign in the more adventurous members of the clergy but even this is no longer possible as the military discovered the night the sisters were arrested. At 2:00 a.m. on that long night, the commanding officer of the arresting squad discovered that seven of the sisters were Franciscans. Shocked, he growled to the seven nuns, "I will report this to your Superior!"

A moment of silence passed before one of the sisters raised her hand, requesting permission to speak. "Yes," the officer grunted.

"If you want," the sister said, gently, "you can report it to me now. I am the superior." □

AUTHORITIES HARASS

SR. MARIANNI . . .

(continued from front page)

face summary executions.

Bigornia asserted that the regime does not detain political offenders, just "subversives and rebels." As to the systematic liquidation of prisoners, Bigornia said, "Nothing can be farther from the truth," yet no explanation was offered as to the fate of over 75 persons last seen while under military custody in the past few years. Finally to the charge of subhuman conditions, Bigornia pointed to the furnished, carpeted and air conditioned quarters of imprisoned senator Benigno Aquino as "proof" that detainees have more than enough.

SR. MARIANNI AND THE MARXIST CONNECTION?

Perhaps more hilarious than Bigornia's feeble excuses are Simeon del Rosario's "startling revelations." Del Rosario, former director of House Committee on Un-Filipino Activities, followed up Bigornia's denunciations in a May 5, article in the *Daily Express* entitled, "Sr. Marianni Dimaranan and the Marxist Press." Hoping to "red-taint" Dimaranan, Del Rosario trumped up an anti-communist diatribe going to

the ridiculous length of "explaining" why the Associated Press lent credence to the sister's allegations.

According to del Rosario, Dimaranan and the Associated Press "have found common cause in the promotion of Marxist subversive intentions in this country." Sr. Marianni is accused of being a member of **Mga Kaibigan ng ZOTO**, a "communist front" organization with chapters in Europe and the U.S. The "Western Press" which del Rosario claims is synonymous with the "Marxist Press" is therefore interested in propagating a "fellow Marxist's views."

The twisted reasoning of Del Rosario is apparently being given wide coverage in the Marcos media in an attempt to revive the red-scare particularly in the religious sector. It remains to be seen however, if Del Rosario's "authoritative revelations" will be given much weight by the public. Only a few months ago, Del Rosario drew loud laughs when, testifying in a subversion trial, he contradicted an earlier witness' statement that "Newton discovered the law of motion." According to the expert Del Rosario, "Marx discovered the law of motion first." □

FIRING LINE

Marcos Red-Baiting

The People's Fighter

Red-baiting seems to be the in thing among reactionaries these days.

Sister Marianni Dimaranan of the Task Force on Detainees returned to the Philippines from her highly successful tour of the United States and Europe to be greeted by screaming headlines: "Sister Marianni and the Marxist Press!" In the effort to paint the fighting sister as a "communist" and "subversive," the Marcos press was willing to slap its red paint brush across that sober and much-respected member of the U.S. news establishment, the Associated Press. Proving the red tint of this loyal supporter of the U.S. capitalist system was supposed to establish Sr. Marianni's guilt by association for she allowed herself to be interviewed by these pinkos.

Now where have we heard that tactic before? Could it perchance be the very same technique used by that fearless "foe" of Ferdinand Marcos, Alex Esclamado, to discredit the KDP and other organizations? The fact that he has done Ferdinand Marcos a great favor by providing ammunition for his well-oiled red-baiting machinery doesn't seem to bother this "foe" one bit.

Well, at least now we know where Alex learned his tactics. But if he had studied his model Ferdinand a bit more closely, he might have learned one more thing: it doesn't work.

Will red-baiting Sister Marianni discredit her among the Filipino people? Of course not. Sister Marianni has already proven herself through her tireless dedication to the political prisoners and her organizing efforts on their behalf. Marcos can paint her politics any color he wishes; the Filipino people know she is on their side. In fact, as the Filipino people come more and more to see the so-called "pinkoes" fighting for their rights, Marcos may have to forget all about red-baiting. The targets of yesterday's red-baiting campaign will become tomorrow's heroes.



Marcos, Esclamado: Birds of a feather redbait together?

Our congratulations to Fr. Julio Labayen and the other clergy who squeezed past the Marcos-installed booze barrier at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) last month (See AK, Vol. VI, No. 10). Labayen managed to meet with foreign correspondents covering the UNCTAD meet in order to register his protest over the way in which the Marcos military brutally suppressed an attempt to hold a people's counter-conference.

Labayen and his party knew when they took on this mission that they would have to sneak through a tight security cordon, but it is doubtful that they knew about the booze barrier. The Philippine government sized up the international journalistic community very well in its attempt to shelter the visiting newsmen from anything that might place the regime in a bad light. It set up a free bar at the hotel where the majority were staying to keep them juiced up and occupied.

At the same time, Imelda, the governor of Metro-Manila, went all out to impress, as she always does. Nothing could equal the grandeur of the preparations for the 1976 IMF-World Bank Conference for which the PICC and thirteen hotels were built in record time. Still, she did her best.

A mere seven days before the conference was to begin, she decided to build a Philippine International Trade Exhibition, a structure which cost a minimum of P20 million. Seven thousand people worked day and night to see Mrs. M's whim completed in time for Mrs. Nancy Kissinger (Henry's wife) to cut the ceremonial ribbon a week later.

Of course the delegates had to be transported in style so 203 Mercedes Benz cars were imported at a cost of \$15,000 to \$17,000 each. On top of this, the Philippine government agreed to shoulder the expenses of the UN Secretariat, a cost of about \$1.8 million. It also generously paid for the one-month rental of the PICC at a cost of \$500,000.

All this, along with the innumerable new coats of paint amounts to nothing compared to the 1976 extravaganza. Still, as Shellah Ocampo pointed out, "The trimmings added in lightning fashion for UNCTAD are no less luxurious and the expense proportionately no less lavish when viewed against the new wave of economic hardships which the government and Filipino people are now having to ride." Amen. □

ON THE ANTI-MARTIAL LAW FRONT

Day Of Protest Planned

Opposition To R.P. Nuclear Reactor Mounts



Washington-based demonstrators launch "Nuclear-Free Philippines" campaign. (AK Photo)

Reprinted from PHILIPPINE LIBERATION COURIER

Opposition to the proposed export of a Westinghouse nuclear reactor to the Philippines has become a rallying point for environmentalists, human rights groups, the anti-nuclear movement and the martial law opposition in the United States.

"The struggle is reaching the wire," asserts Nicky Perlas, East Coast coordinator of the Campaign for a Nuclear-Free Philippines, an umbrella group formed in April 1978. "Westinghouse is pressing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to grant it an export license by June."

INTERNATIONAL MASS ACTION

Westinghouse has good reason to feel harried. Perlas and two Washington-based environmentalist groups, the Center for Development Policy and the Natural Resources Defense Council, have filed a petition to intervene in the reactor export in Federal Court. Even more worrisome to Westinghouse is the threat of an international mass action on June 5, a day that the U.S. anti-nuclear movement has designated as an "International Day of Protest against Reactor Exports." A previous Day of Protest, Nov. 30, 1978, according to nuclear

industry journal *Nucleonics Week*, contributed to the "controversy" which has delayed the licensing of the reactor.

The object of controversy is a 620-Megawatt light water reactor to be built in Morong, Bataan. The site lies on the slope of a dormant volcano, Mt. Natib, said to be of the same type as the infamous Krakatoa, whose unexpected eruption took 36,000 lives in 1882. The plant is also set beside a major earthquake fault that runs through the Bataan peninsula to the South China Sea. On top of problems related to geographical site, the Union of Concerned Scientists reports that the reactor model contains approximately 200 mechanical flaws.

REACTOR DUMPING

The very real threat to safety and environment is, however, only one aspect of the problem. The export of the Westinghouse reactor does not so much respond to Philippine needs as to the corporate drive to dump reactors abroad. In response to public disenchantment with nuclear technology, domestic reactor orders fell from 41 in 1968 to none in 1978, leading to the very real threat of economic disaster for the industry.

With high capital costs and public opposition stalemating nuclear energy

in Europe and Japan, the Third World has become a fierce area of competition among the "nuclear mafia": Westinghouse, General Electric, the French Framatome, and the German KWU.

It is not surprising that in the Third World, 23 of the 32 reactors now operating or on order are found in countries dominated by repressive rightwing governments. These regimes need not worry about popular input into energy policy and the elites running these countries are easily susceptible to millions of dollars in bribes. Marcos and his crony, Hermilio Disini, for instance, are said to have raked off as much as \$35 million in commission fees from Westinghouse.

Nuclear energy means several things of great value to the technocrat-military elites running countries like Brazil, Taiwan, South Korea, and the Philippines. First, they believed they can divert nuclear fuel meant for "peaceful" purposes to bomb-making. Second, nuclear energy is a highly centralized form of energy technology, the control of which would give an authoritarian regime an unparalleled power over the lives of people. Third, for these Western-oriented elites, nuclear technology

represents the apex of Western technology, one which would spell the difference between development and underdevelopment.

NUCLEAR ENERGY AND ELECTRIFICATION

A recently released study, *500 Mile Island: The Westinghouse Reactor Export to the Philippines*, by Peter Hayes, Walden Bello and Lyuba Zarsky, shows that nuclear energy, which is supposed to provide 25 percent of Luzon's electricity by 1990, is a key component of deceptive-sounding strategy of "total electrification."

Only 2.3 percent of the electricity generated by the Philippine labor force. To counter criticism, USAID and Marcos have launched a program of "rural electrification" which seeks 'to bring electricity to the village level.' But this strategy, according to the study, is a dead end, since without massive income redistribution, peasants cannot afford an electric culture.

The social beneficiaries of "rural electrification" are the rural, town-based middle class of absentee landlords, merchants and professionals that Marcos, according to the report, is trying to cultivate as a base of social support. "Rural electrification" hopes

continued on back page

Japanese Group Scores Martial Law



Anti-Kawasaki group performs "People's Trial" in Japan last September. (AK)

Opposition to the Marcos dictatorship continues to grow worldwide. The Japan Stop Pollution Export Committee (J-SPEC) at its 14th demonstration against Kawasaki Steel Co. last April 1 demanded an end to the Japanese government's support for the martial law regime in the Philippines.

A drama satirizing the Marcos-Tanaka negotiations highlighted the protest which gathered a sizeable crowd. Placards and chants called for an end to the Japanese economic invasion of the Philippines and demanded Kawasaki's immediate withdrawal.

The event was part of J-SPEC's effort to expose the collusion between Japanese imperialism and the Marcos dictatorship. Kawasaki Steel's \$1.5 billion sintering plant in Misamis Oriental, Mindanao, was originally banned from operation in Japan because of the deadly level of pollution it generated. At least 500 workers in Chiba, Japan, site of the original sintering plant suffered serious illness and injury.

It was the militant Japanese anti-pollution movement which finally forced Kawasaki to shut down its Chiba plant. Management then began to look for an appropriate Third World site where it might continue its devastating operation unhampered. With martial law conditions

in the Philippines, it was relatively easy to find a new home in 1976, despite the protest launched by the Filipino people.

PUTTING MARCOS ON TRIAL

Other progressive organizations such as Pacific Asia Resources Center, AMPO, and Black Tent, a cultural group also participated in recent protests against Kawasaki's overseas operations.

Last October 6 and 7, 1978, these same groups sponsored an Asian People's Cultural Evening, which featured an original drama exposing the criminal actions of Kawasaki. It was patterned after the "People's Trial Against Martial Law" staged throughout the U.S. in 1977 on the fifth anniversary of the declaration of martial law. Songs from the Philippine liberation struggle were translated into Japanese and sung for the event.

At both the cultural evening and an earlier protest on Sept. 23, a message of solidarity from the North American-based International Association of Filipino Patriots (IAFP) was read. The message expressed the Filipino people's appreciation for the Japanese people's support in the struggle against martial law and Japanese economic penetration of the Philippines. It also called for continued solidarity between the two peoples against U.S. and Japanese imperialism. □

Stockholm Anti-Martial Law Group Spoils R.P. Embassy Inauguration

When Filipino diplomat Rolando Libas and his staff entered the Philippine embassy in Stockholm April 6, there was excitement in the air. The embassy was being inaugurated that day. But a different kind of excitement greeted them. To their surprise, seven members of the Swedish-Filipino Association (Svensk-Filippinska Föreningen) had entered the embassy before them. The seven unfurled anti-martial law placards and banners and demanded that Libas telex to Manila their demand that martial law be lifted.

True to form, Mr. Libas and his staff resorted to the undiplomatic tactic of pushing and shoving the seven out of the embassy. The seven resisted and told the embassy staff that they were not the legitimate representatives of the people, that they represented only the Marcos dictatorship. The seven finally left after the police arrived. Joined by waiting supporters, they continued to picket the embassy outside.

The following day, April 7, the Association continued their anti-Marcos demonstration, this time in the heart of downtown Stockholm. They were joined by the Thai Anti-Dictatorship Group in Sweden and other sympathizers.

Both demonstrations were covered by Stockholm newspapers. Apart from reporting the demonstrations, one newspaper noted that perhaps one index of the character of the embassy may be that its site used to be a pornographic bookstore and movie-house.

Stung by the adverse publicity, embassy staff soon after started asking around for the identities of the Filipinos among the demonstrators, hoping to intimidate them. Association members said that these threats are not going to deter them from other activities denouncing the Marcos dictatorship in the future. Formed only in February 1979, the Association is a welcome addition to the growing ranks of Philippine liberation support groups throughout the world. □

FILIPINO COMMUNITY NEWS

The INS: A Nightmare For The Foreign Born

By the KDP NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

After being barraged by hundreds of angry telegrams and numerous phone calls from people all over the country, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) was forced to stop picking on Aimee Cruz and even issued an apology.

In apologizing to Cruz, however, the INS claims that harassment was far from being their intention, that their agents were merely confused and made "mistakes." Furthermore, it claims that its agents are "trained to be courteous" but that their "standard questioning procedures" and standard behavior admittedly put people off or put them on the defensive.

The provocative and threatening manner the INS agents have chosen in "consulting" Ms. Cruz, regarding the problems of H-1 nurses makes it difficult to accept the INS' claim that harassment was not their motive. In addition, anyone who has had the sad experience of being "courteously" interrogated by INS agents can say that the experience is not recommended for anyone who has a history of heart troubles. In fact, a brief look at the INS' role in U.S. society will show that harassment and "courteous intimidation of aliens are part of its standard operational procedures. It will show that the only "mistake" that the INS made in Aimee Cruz' case is that it chose the wrong person to pick on.

THE INS AND THE U.S. ECONOMY

The INS central task as an institution of the government is to regulate the country's borders. This of itself is not objectionable as every government deserves the right to control immigration into its territories. However, in the context of the U.S. capitalist economy, the regulation of the borders takes on a greater significance because immigration is intimately tied to the workings of the economy itself. In this context, the



Many of the FNGs whom Aimee Cruz helped organize were also the same people who gave her overwhelming support against the INS harassment. (NAFL-FNG)

task of regulating the borders is in reality, a task of regulating the flow of foreign labor in and out of the U.S. in accordance to fluctuations in the economy. Put more bluntly, in accordance to the needs of the private owners of industry.

If the drive for private profits requires more labor be recruited to improve or expand areas of business more cheaply, the INS encourages the flow of foreign labor into the country. It opens up preferences and even looks the other way should its task conflict with its own strict guidelines. For example, several years ago the INS allowed foreign medical graduates on the exchange visitors program to apply for permanent residence even though the regulations restricted them from doing so. The INS has also encouraged the flow of third preference professionals knowing full well that strict and discriminatory licensure procedures will make it difficult for immigrant dentists, accountants and pharmacists to practice their profession. This is in contradic-

tion to regulations which require these professionals to stay in their profession, or else their status will be jeopardized. But the INS looked the other way, because private business needed expert workers in these fields who can be paid because they are unlicensed.

However, in times of economic difficulty, the owners of private industry reduce production in order to preserve their rate of profits. These production cut-backs necessitate wide-scale layoffs of workers, driving masses of them to the ranks of the unemployed or even lower-paying jobs. This process also increases competition for jobs, thus enabling private industry to peg the wages of the employed to the lowest possible levels. During these times, immigrant labor becomes very "dispensable" and the INS suddenly becomes very diligent in enforcing its regulations against the immigrant workers. The INS campaigns against undocumented aliens suddenly becomes more systematic. The INS also suddenly becomes hard-nosed about applying even the obscure regulation to the letter.

Thus, exchange program doctors suddenly faced deportation. Now, third preference professionals not practicing their profession are increasingly finding themselves in trouble with the INS. Also, in times of economic difficulty, the rulers of the country are hard-pressed to give the people easy explanations for why times are hard. Rather than point to the greed of big business capitalists, the government uses the foreign-born as scapegoats, thereby even intensifying the already deplorable problems posed by racism and national chauvinism.

The INS task of controlling the mass of foreign labor in accordance with the needs of capitalists therefore, dictates its attitude of contempt towards the foreign-born. To facilitate its task of keeping immigrant workers a controllable mass, INS agents are trained to deal with foreign workers as if these were intruders who have committed undiscovered crimes, or as if these were work animals who are patted when needed but are driven off if deemed no longer useful. INS agents are trained with "standard procedures" aimed at eliciting information that can be used to incriminate the hapless foreign worker. Their tactics are meant to intimidate and to make immigrants feel they have no democratic rights, very vulnerable and

therefore easier to manipulate. True, there are probably some "nice guys" in the INS. But on the whole, the courtesy that agents are trained to practice is essentially the same type of courtesy a warden exhibits to his prisoners.

THE INS AND THE FILIPINO COMMUNITY

These are hard times and more economic difficulties are on the way. Already, experts are predicting a recession even more severe than the last one. The INS, therefore, is more conspicuously active. The squeeze on the foreign-born workers is on.

In the face of this however, the Filipino community has shown commendable signs that it is not about to take the INS' arbitrary maneuvers lying down. Community-based efforts led by the Emergency Defense Committee for Foreign Medical Graduates succeeded in preventing the arbitrary deportation of many Filipino and Asian doctors. The NAFL-FNG succeeded in stopping the deportation of nurses on H-1 visas. Now, activists are studying how an effective defense can be put on behalf third preference immigrants who may find themselves hounded by the INS. In short, the Filipino community is showing signs that it will put up a stiff fight to prevent the INS from effectively complicating the lives of the Filipino minority.

No wonder, therefore, that people like Aimee Cruz, who has been central in leading these community struggles will attract the unwelcome attention of the INS and its agents. No wonder that they tried to apply on her their training in "courtesy" with an even more special zeal. But the community's effective response in this recent harassment shows that it can defend even from forces as powerful as the INS.

A reading of the grim economic trends reveals that more "courtesy" is to be expected from the INS. The Filipino community must continue its growing willingness to face unjust practices with determined struggle. It should not be intimidated by the arbitrary rules and regulations that the INS may now want to implement or formulate in pursuit of its attacks on the foreign-born. Experience has shown that only an organized peoples movement can give the community a fighting chance in countering many forms of injustice. This was true of the foreign medical graduates, Narciso-Perez, the H-1 nurses, and this was true of the recent attempt on Aimee Cruz. The KDP is calling on the Filipino community to be on the alert and to prepare for an even more active defense of our democratic rights. □

INS Withdraws Meeting...

(continued from front page)

a letter signed by Mr. Ralph Thomas, special assistant to the INS commissioner, expressing "regret of the circumstances that arose on May 2." While terming the incident "unfortunate," Thomas reiterated the agents' claim that, "they only asked standard questions."

Blasting this claim, Ms. Cruz stated, "If Mr. Thomas believes this, then he is virtually admitting to the often repeated charge that it is indeed standard practice for the INS to pounce upon people while in a vulnerable state at an early morning hour in an attempt to subject them in the absence of legal counsel; that it is standard for the INS to threaten people with arrest when they refuse to succumb to intimidation; that it is standard practice for the INS to hurl threats and insults in the privacy of people's homes. How easily does the truth come out."

It was on May 2, 1979 that two agents of the INS barged into the home of Ms. Cruz at 7:10 a.m. and sought to question her about her role

in the NAFL-FNG. Upon her refusal to answer questions Ms. Cruz was threatened with arrest by the two agents.

The statement from Ms. Cruz also expressed appreciation for the outpour of support which was extended by organizations and individuals across the United States to the NAFL-FNG. Strongly worded letters and telegrams were sent by congresspersons, church-people, civil libertarian groups and most notably from individual nurses from as far as Hawaii, Nevada and Florida.

Said Ms. Cruz: "It was only through the steady stream of letters that the INS was forced to back down from its own acts of harassments. This overwhelming support has helped us maintain our unwavering commitment to the cause we have been fighting for and has further strengthened our confidence in the people whom we serve."

The NAFL-FNG is still contemplating the filing of a legal suit against the two agents for their actions in this case. □

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The Filipino Community Of Chicago

By VEN CAPILI and
ESTHER SIMPSON
Filipino National Day Committee

Living in certain apartments in Chicago is enough reason not to feel homesick. The smell of garlic and *tuyo* (dried fish) serves as an assurance that one is not alone. Indeed, about a dozen low-cost high-rise apartments in Chicago have large concentrations of Filipinos. They cluster around major hospitals in the City such as Cook County, Michael Reese, Weiss and Cuneo.

In some companies Filipinos form the bulk of the work force. This is particularly so in the medical industry in Chicago. Some hospitals cannot even function without their Filipino workers. For example, 90 percent of the work force in Roosevelt Hospital are Filipinos. Sargent and Lundy, an engineering firm, employs some 800 Filipinos. Combined Insurance and Jensen & Jensen Optical Company have large contingents of Filipino workers; the same is true with all other major hospitals and nursing homes. In recent years the nursing homes have drawn in large numbers of Filipino nurses who either lost their H-1 visa status or were fired by hospitals for failing the State's licensure examination.

In terms of population there are about 60,000 Filipinos in the Chicago area and since 1970 the population has increased at the rate of 2,100 per year. Although there are about 100 Filipino organizations in the Chicago area, majority of the Filipinos do not belong to any organization.

The Filipino community of Chicago is comprised of all three waves of Filipino immigrants. The first wave came in the 1920's and worked in the railroads, Post Office, auto industry, hotels, restaurants, etc. Some of them are veterans of the militant labor movement of the 1930's. Many saw the blatant discrimination of that era and lived to relate how they had to arm themselves against racial attacks in their neighborhoods.

SECOND WAVE: IN THE U.S. MILITARY

The Second Wave came after the Second World War. Initially recruited to the U.S. armed forces, this wave settled in this country along with their families and relatives whom they eventually petitioned for immigration. Coming as it did at a time when the U.S. was the undisputed world power and growing up in an era when the U.S. was deliberately, though one-

sidedly, presented through the educational system and other cultural institutions as the model for democracy, justice and equality, this group of Filipino immigrants was among the most colonized in terms of outlook and was imbued with a strong sense of patriotism towards the U.S. They initiated the social traditions that we still find today such as the cotillions and other ostentatious activities.

The Third Wave consists of the more recent immigrants who came in the wake of the Immigration Act of

and altered the direction of the Filipino community.

WOES OF FILIPINOS

To a casual observer in Chicago, Filipinos appear to have made it in America. This impression is reinforced by simply scanning the pages of Filipino newspapers. It is a rare weekend not to find some Filipino organization holding a banquet, coronation ball, debutante's ball or fashion show in one of the plushiest hotels in town. Hyatt Regency, Hilton,

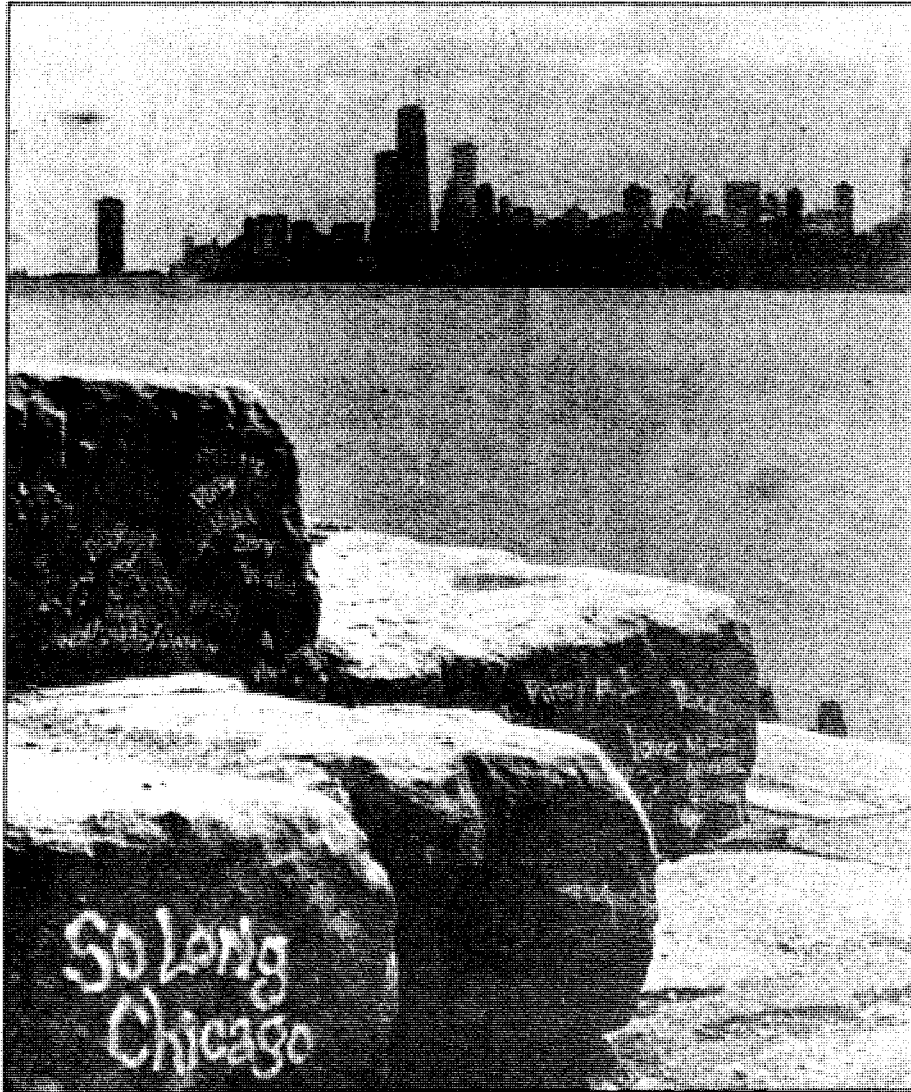
with frustrations and sometimes even shocking and tragic.

As an integral part of American society, Filipinos are not free from the daily hustle that working people go through. Inflation, threat of unemployment, alienation and boredom transcend race and nationality. The ever present conflict between the working people and the employers, between the exploited and the exploiters and between the oppressed and the oppressor, often explodes into strikes and other forms of confrontation. Filipinos have always been a part of all these. During the past year Urban Renewal which seeks to drive away poor and middle-income groups from certain neighborhoods to attract the more affluent residents of the suburbs are affecting large numbers of Filipinos. They take the form of rapid rent increases, conversion of apartment units to more expensive condominiums or plain arson to force out unwanted residents. The Uptown area where many Filipinos live has been hard hit by this scheme.

On top of their predicament as working people, Filipinos as a minority bear racial and national discrimination. Discrimination takes varied forms, some subtle, others more blatant. The frame-up of Filipina Narciso and Leonora Perez, two Filipino nurses falsely charged with poisoning patients at the Veterans Administration Hospitals in Ann Arbor, Michigan, was a blatant example. Their case was dropped when Filipinos nationwide resoundingly rose to their defense. A more subtle form of discrimination is the phenomenon of "downward mobility" where skilled professionals could only find jobs requiring much less skills.

At first it might come as a surprise to find a Filipino doctor working as an orderly or a Bank Examiner in the Philippines driving a cab here. However, among Filipino professionals, seldom does one find a job which matches his or her special training. Quite frequently, engineers work as draftsmen or technicians, accountants do secretarial jobs or teachers serve as janitors. In the stock rooms of many large firms are Filipinos who are among the lowest paid and with least secure jobs. To make both ends meet, in a society where a car is a basic necessity, many Filipinos hold two jobs or sell Avon or Cutco or real estate on the side. They have to work extra hard "to prove their worth" compared with their white counterpart for the same amount of income.

(To be continued)



Chicago skyline overlooking Lake Michigan: Chicago's fast-rising Filipino and other Asian population led the U.S. government to open up another port of entry for Asians here. (WON Photo)

1965 to fill the need for human resources at the peak of the Vietnam War. It now accounts for the vast majority of the Filipinos in Chicago. This group retains strong ties with the homeland but tends to be influenced also by the lifestyle of the Second Wave of Filipino immigrants. At the same time, the cultural revolution which has swept the Philippines since 1970 continues to have visible impact on this group. It is for this reason that the progressive wind coming from the Philippines has now reached Chicago

Ritz-Carlton, Marriott, Palmer House, Drake, and Condesa del Mar are familiar names in the social circles of the Filipino community. Even Rizal Day is marked with a banquet or queen coronation, a format quite alien to the lifestyle of the hero and far removed from the cause he stood for.

As one tears the pretentiousness apart, the contours of the Filipino community come into view. Life becomes less trivial, enriched by the concrete day-to-day experiences: experiences which are often marked

Hawaiï Filipino Community Conference Held

By CATHI TACTAQUIN
AK Correspondent

HONOLULU — The 1979 Filipino community Conference drew the enthusiastic participation of some 100 people last May 19, for a day-long discussion of major community concerns.

Several people commented that the turnout for the conference held at Honolulu Community College was more "grassroots" oriented than previous conferences. Participants had come from all over Honolulu and outlying plantation communities. They ranged from youth and senior citizens to members of various regional and civic groups.

The theme, "Agkaykaysa tayo!

Magkaisa tayo! Unite!" was used to help publicize the conference as a forum for "education and the exchange of experiences."

Dean Alegado, a member of the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP) and the conference Planning Committee, noted in his opening remarks to the conference that "common education is a first step" towards building the long-sought unity of Filipinos."

A slide show depicting the "untold heritage" of Filipinos in Hawaii was warmly received during the morning general session prior to the workshops. It set the tone for the day by pointing out the long and proud tradition of Filipinos' struggle for justice and equal rights, especially during intense labor battles of the 1920's and 30's. Filipinos are noted

for their role in helping to unionize the plantation industries in Hawaii.

Participants attended workshops on the elderly, housing, youth, education and employment. Of these areas, the most significant resolutions concerned several critical issues of the elderly, housing and youth.

The conference delegates showed great interest in the issue concerning aliens who receive SSI (Supplemental Security Income). Many elderly Filipinos, some long-time permanent residents, have been the target of a recent crackdown by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Many, leaving the U.S. for visits home, are facing exclusion charges because they are likely to be "public charges" when they settle back in the U.S. As charges are being unjustly

applied, the Conference resolved to further publicize it and look into what could be done about the issue. (See AK, Vol. VI, No. 10.)

The Conference further decided to support the struggle of elderly Filipinos, to fight eviction from their homes in both Chinatown and certain plantation areas.

The conference organizers which included the KDP, the Fil-Am Club at U.H. Manao and several other groups and individuals, are optimistic about the outcome of the conference and the resolutions. A follow-up meeting a few days after the conference was attended by over 25 people who committed themselves to various follow-up tasks, including a possible newsletter to continue education work in the community. □

DOMESTIC/INTERNATIONAL NEWS

'Beat Back The Weber Attack!'

THOUSANDS MARCH FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Over one thousand people chanted "We won't go back to Jim Crow!" through Oakland's streets and San Antonio Park on Saturday in a massive demonstration to defend affirmative action and overturn the Weber case.

The rally, organized by the Northern California Coalition to Overturn the Weber Case, was part of a National Day of Protest, with other anti-Weber actions taking place in Washington, Los Angeles, Chicago, Seattle, New Orleans, and Gary, Indiana.

Saturday's demonstration was the largest in a series of organized efforts by the Coalition to pressure the U.S. Supreme Court to rule in favor of affirmative action. "The Court is a political institution," said Alameda County Supervisor John George. "If the justices see people in motion, they will reflect on that motion. If there is great silence, the justices will reflect on that silence; it will make it easier for them to decide in favor of Weber. We have to highlight the real racist nature of this case."

The march extended several blocks and stopped some traffic, but not all drivers felt inconvenienced. One driver commented, "Black, white, we all have problems. But if we all unite together, we won't have any problems anymore."

Last week the Oakland City Council declared June 2 as the National Day of Protest to Overturn Weber, and contributed approximately \$1,200 in cash and services for the demonstration. Berkeley Mayor Gus Newport has also contributed several hundred dollars to the campaign.

WEBER CASE:
LABOR'S BAKKE DECISION

Weber vs. Kaiser Aluminum extends the logic of the Bakke decision and "reverse discrimination" to equal opportunity in employment. The Supreme Court is expected to rule on the case this month, whether affirmative action programs for minorities and women discriminate against white males and should be dismantled.

The challenged training program at Kaiser's Gramercy, LA plant was the result of a union contract, admitting whites and blacks on a one-to-one basis. Before affirmative action, no employee had the chance for in-plant



Hundreds march against the racist Weber case June 2 in Oakland, California.

(Neal Cassidy Photo)

advancement.

Contingents from a variety of community, women's labor, and civil rights organizations participated in the march and rally. "Oakland needs more of these programs, not less," said Teri Lee, a community activist. "Oakland is 65 percent minorities. As compared to whites, we still have the higher rate of unemployment, the lower-skill, low-pay jobs. We're still fighting to even start having equal access."

"The Weber case is the latest step of an all-out attack on affirmative action," said Lorenza Carlisle of the Coalition. "The rise of the 'reverse discrimination' myth is another signal of the stepping-up of racism in the United States today. We're not dealing with Jim Crow anymore, but we are dealing with a more subtle, sophisticated form of racism, like biased qualification tests and destruction of affirmative action programs."

"AN ATTACK ON WORKING PEOPLE"

Throughout the day, speakers

linked these newer forms of racism to a more basic social and economic problems. "Racism today comes in the form of overall attacks on working people," said Bill Tamayo, member of the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision. "Layoffs, cutbacks in social service spending, the death penalty, are examples of the attacks on Third World people as part of the working sector of society. But these attacks have a sharp racist edge, because Third World workers are the group hardest hit by these attacks." "The tactic of blaming minorities and women for a falling economy keeps people separated by race and sex; everyone's opportunity or job security is weakened when companies and the courts continue to find scapegoats among working people," said Barbara Pottgen, a union steward. "If Weber wins, all attempts to fight racism through collective bargaining will be in jeopardy."

Ruth Picon of the Third World Women's Alliance stressed Weber's impact on women. "Women have added to the riches of America, and

are brought into social production in numbers when the economy demands more labor. When the economy no longer needs all the available labor, women are told that a woman's place is in the home. Weber has the same effect. Minorities, women, poor, and working people—U.S. history has guaranteed that we be partners in the oppression we suffer. Let us also be partners in struggle."

The Coalition to Overturn the Weber Case is continuing its efforts to publicize the case and educate people on its national impact. It is also planning a vocal, mass response when the Court makes its decision.

"We hope this movement will force the Court to overturn the case," said JoNina Abron for the Coalition. "But even if Weber does win, we can't give up. The limited gains of the sixties, including affirmative action, were won from the blood and struggle of the civil rights movement—they weren't given to us. We can't sit back. Our own survival is at stake." □

Larger Questions Unresolved

Nuclear Industry Guilty In Silkwood Case

It was a courtroom battle where the nuclear industry was on trial, and the nuclear industry lost.

Charged with criminal negligence and liability in the radioactive contamination of Karen Silkwood, a former employee, the Kerr-McGee corporation was found guilty by an Oklahoma City jury in late May.

The size of the award was notable — \$10.5 million in damages. More notable, was the fact that the award was made posthumously. Karen Silkwood, who was contaminated while working for the largest U.S. miner and processor of uranium, died under mysterious circumstances almost five years ago.

The precedent-setting verdict now establishes a doctrine of "strict liability" for any off-site radiation by nuclear plants, making the industry liable for any radiation contamination suffered by nearby residents. While

nuclear industry officials were clearly upset by the ruling, especially since it opens the door to many more lawsuits, the Silkwood family and lawyers were ecstatic over the verdict.

"She was vindicated," said Karen Silkwood's father, while attorney Daniel Sheehan predicted that the ruling was "the beginning of the end of the nuclear industry."

The Silkwood verdict was a clear setback for the nuclear industry, an industry already anxious over the growing anti-nuclear sentiment of the country. Yet the negligence charge against Kerr-McGee was only part of a larger suit brought by the Silkwood family. In the long-run, this part of the suit, which charges illegal surveillance and a conspiracy between Kerr-McGee and the FBI to obstruct justice, will be politically more damaging and revealing than the recent court action. Because of a legal technicality, these

two counts were severed from the negligence case, and Silkwood attorneys may have to ultimately appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court to have the case heard.

SILKWOOD—EXPOSING
KERR-McGEE NEGLIGENCE

Karen Silkwood, active in the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union (OCAW), became contaminated with radioactive plutonium while gathering incriminating data against her employer, Kerr-McGee. In a late October phone call to OCAW representative Steve Wodka, Karen charged Kerr-McGee with making defective fast breeder reactor rods and falsifying records to cover-up.

"They are still passing high welds, no matter what the welds look like," she told Wodka. "I would like you to see just how far they ground it down." While working to expose company

negligence, someone was working against Karen Silkwood.

On Nov. 5, a short time after her talk with Wodka, Karen ate a bologna and cheese sandwich which was contaminated with radioactive plutonium. She later discovered the contamination after a routine urine test, and was visibly shaken over the incident. What was especially upsetting was that the radiation-laced lunchmeat and cheese came from her own refrigerator. Someone had entered Karen's apartment without her knowledge and contaminated her food.

Her work around Kerr-McGee negligence quickened, and on Nov. 14, she started out on Highway 74 towards Oklahoma City to meet with Wodka and a reporter from the New York Times newspaper. In her possession were papers documenting her allegations of negligence.

continued on page 10

Black Face, White Rule

MUZOREWA COUNTS ON U.S.-BRITAIN SUPPORT

It was a ceremony for the benefit of the West, one elaborately staged to win the favor of both the U.S. and Britain for the newly declared state of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia.

The May 29 swearing-in of Bishop Abel T. Muzorewa as the country's first black prime minister was carried out with great pomp and show, replete with generals in full military dress against the background of the Dutch colonial-style mansion which had long served as housing for Britain's colonial governors.

Despite the elaborate ceremonies, however, the new Muzorewa regime is a far cry from its self-proclamations of "black majority rule." Indeed, just as whites in downtown Salisbury's Rhodesian Rotary Club were reported by wire services to be "seemingly oblivious to the fact that white rule has come to an end," so were black Zimbabweans oblivious of the events. And for good reason—the newly installed regime of Muzorewa represents a continuation of white rule, only now with a black face. The power and privilege of the country's 250,000 whites over 7 million blacks are maintained virtually intact.

WHITES MAINTAIN POWER

Ian Smith, the former prime minister of Rhodesia and main architect of the new government, was quickly appointed to Muzorewa's cabinet as a minister without portfolio. Like the situation in the country's 100-member Parliament, where whites are guaranteed 28 seats and are assured of veto power in any important decision, the cabinet also sets aside five positions for whites. Smith's National Front Party controls all these positions. In addition, whites will maintain control over the judiciary, military and civil administrations for at least five years, possibly as long as twenty.

The situation of the country's military is an example of how the new regime is only a cosmetic cover for continued white rule. While the army is overwhelmingly black in makeup, only 40 out of some 750 officers are black, the rest being white Rhodesians. Out of these 40, only 10 have reached the rank of captain. It has



Ian Smith congratulates Abel Muzorewa after May 29 swearing-in ceremony. Cartoonist Mike Peters said it all in a recent drawing. (AP and Dayton Daily News)

been estimated that for a black captain to rise to the position of commander of the army, given the military's bureaucratic rules and regulation, it would take at least 20 years.

In every government body, the overall character of the new regime maintains white power and privilege, a situation whereby even if Muzorewa's Parliament were able to pass substantial changes in the law, the various governing bodies inherited from the Smith regime could simply and effectively ignore the change. The essential character of the old regime has thus been maintained in the new era, despite the installation of Muzorewa as prime minister and the change in the country's name to Zimbabwe-Rhodesia.

U.S.-BRITAIN SUPPORT SOUGHT

Both the U.S. and Britain are now the focus of attention as the Muzo-

rewa regime has openly appealed for international recognition. In a speech shortly after the May 29 ceremonies, Smith charged the U.S. and Britain with "shirking their responsibility" in refusing to recognize the new state.

For both the Carter and the Thatcher governments, however, the problem is not their desire to throw the Muzorewa a lifeline, but the larger problem of international opposition to the illegal regime. Recently, U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Britain's Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington met in London to assess their dilemma and map out a common strategy to support Salisbury.

While Thatcher assumed power in Britain vowing support for the Smith settlement, Britain's Commonwealth countries denounced the April Rhodesian vote as a "gigantic fraud." The 35 member nations unanimously warned that moves to support Salis-

bury would seriously erode their relations with London. This recent warning was not lightly dismissed by the conservative Thatcher government which has since taken a more cautious stance towards the new regime.

However in the U.S., no such international economic pressure exists to stop recognition of the new regime. A recently passed "sense of the Senate" resolution urging Carter to lift the sanctions has added pressure on Washington to recognize the new regime, and the U.S. may act before Britain does to lift the sanctions.

Political opposition to such a move, however, is strong both internationally and within the U.S. UN condemnation of the April elections and unanimous African opposition to the Muzorewa-Smith maneuvers have heightened Washington's diplomatic problems. By and large, black Africa has given its recognition to the Patriotic Front, the insurgent movement which has been waging war with the Smith regime for many years and has no problem of asserting majority rule since its leaders, both military and political, are all native black Zimbabweans.

Within the U.S. there is also substantial opposition to lifting the sanctions from groups such as the U.S. Congressional Black Caucus, the National Conference of Black Lawyers, the Southern Conference and the National Bar Association, groups which have all denounced the Salisbury regime and called for a maintenance of the sanctions.

American supporters of the sanctions have planned nationwide demonstrations the week of June 16, the time when Pres. Carter is expected to give a major policy address on the U.S.-Salisbury relations. Condemning both the April elections and the new Muzorewa regime, the protests will demand maintaining the sanctions against Salisbury. Actions are planned in New York, Boston, San Francisco, Seattle, Los Angeles, and other cities. For information on the June 16 actions, contact the Southern Africa Organizing Committee at (415) 824-2864. □

NUCLEAR INDUSTRY

continued from page 9

Karen Silkwood never made the meeting. Her car, a 1973 Honda, plunged off the road, and Karen died in the resulting accident. Her papers mysteriously disappeared.

Police called the accident a typical case of a driver falling asleep at the wheel. OCAW officials disagreed, however, and hired an independent investigator to look into the accident. His findings showed that Karen's car had been struck from the rear, and that because of that impact and possible driver reaction, the Honda plunged into the culvert, killing Silkwood.

Efforts to broaden the investigation into Silkwood's death have been stymied by official silence and stonewalling by both Kerr-McGee spokesmen and the FBI. Silkwood's family finally resorted to the lawsuit in an effort to uncover the truth behind.

MASSIVE CONTAMINATION OF WORKERS

The negligence aspect of the suit uncovered volumes of evidence show-

ing that at least 200 Kerr-McGee employees were contaminated by plutonium spills and fires during a six-year period. Kerr-McGee's Cimarron facility where Karen Silkwood worked, was condemned by various expert witnesses. "A good example of how not to run the nuclear industry," said one witness of the Cimarron plant. After an eleven-week trial, during which Kerr-McGee lawyers tried to assert that Karen Silkwood contaminated herself, the jury found the company criminally negligent.

The role of the FBI in the Silkwood affair can come out only if the other charges are ever heard in court. Silkwood lawyers have charged that Kerr-McGee officials conspired to violate the civil rights of Karen and other employees. The FBI agent in charge of Silkwood's investigation, Lawrence Olson, was revealed to be an operative of the now infamous counter-intelligence operations of the bureau (COINTELPRO). Silkwood lawyers charge that he spent more time working with Kerr-McGee officials trying to show that Silkwood contaminated herself than on the accident which killed Karen.

Another shadowy FBI figure in the conspiracy charge is Jacque Srouju,



Karen Silkwood with her children. (Time)

cover to hide her links to the bureau. Once in pretrial hearings, she testified that she had 1,000 pages of FBI files on Silkwood; later she denied any knowledge of the files.

Many unanswered questions surround the Silkwood case, and speculation about the government and com-

pany collusion covers a wide spectrum of possible reasons. One is that the government was actively working to subvert the anti-nuclear movement, of which Karen Silkwood objectively was a part of. Another motive involves the possible covert smuggling of plutonium to foreign allies by the government to bypass Congressional or other controls (when the Cimarron plant was closed in 1976, an estimated 60 pounds of the deadly material were unaccounted for). Or perhaps the government simply wanted to defend Kerr-McGee for the good of the whole industry.

Unless this aspect of the case gets to the courts, many questions will be unanswered. And perhaps both the government and Kerr-McGee would rather lose the negligence case and avoid the politically more-explosive issues raised in the conspiracy and illegal surveillance case.

However, Silkwood's family and lawyers have vowed to press on with their charges. "It wouldn't be right to go back to the way we were and forget it happened," said Bill Silkwood before the trial started. "And it ain't gonna be right until we make Kerr-McGee and the FBI account for what they've done." □

Iran-U.S. Relations Plummet

At best tenuous and cool since the downfall of the Shah, U.S. relations with Iran plummeted further in the last few weeks resulting finally in Iran's refusal to accept the new U.S. ambassador, Walter L. Cutler. The U.S.'s first mistake was a Senate resolution condemning the executions of the Shah's murderers and torturers. The second mistake was that the resolution was sponsored by Sen. Jacob Javits, whose wife Marion was a highly paid lobbyist for the Iranian government in the heydays of the Shah.

Whether or not the U.S. was directly responsible for the next mistake, Washington was blamed for it anyway. When Hashemi Rafsanjani, alleged member of the secret Revolutionary Council was shot only hours after he came home from a militant anti-U.S. rally in Tehran, the anti-U.S. mood deepened to one of bitterness. One of Khomeini's top aides, the Ayatollah Ashiq Montaqari said the attempt on Rafsanjani's life was "90 percent the work of America."

Although the Farghan Fighters, the group claiming responsibility for the attempt on Rafsanjani's life and the earlier assassination of two other Khomeini aides, is supposed to be an Islamic fundamentalist offshoot of Khomeini's movement, knowledgeable observers in Iran say it is in fact a SAVAK-CIA-Israeli intelligence creation. The CIA, according to these



sources, may be using the Farghan to create a climate of political turmoil that could pave the way to a pro-U.S. military coup.

Recent problems with the U.S. have temporarily derailed Khomeini's campaign against the left in Iran. Rallies protesting earlier assassinations were turned into anti-communist affairs. This time, Khomeini's aides had to stretch the limits of political credibility to link the left with the attempted assassination of Rafsanjani. The left may have been involved, one of Khomeini's aides said, but "it's a left made by the U.S.A."

Although relations with the U.S. have temporarily taken center stage in

the turbulent Iranian political scene, the conflict between Khomeini's forces and the various groups on the left is likely to resume its importance in the coming months. Stunned by the overwhelming popular support for left-organized May Day rallies across the country, Khomeini's forces have taken the offensive. The most ominous of these moves was the formation of an "Army of the Guardians of the Islamic Revolution" as the armed force of Khomeini's Revolutionary Council.

The forces of the left are divided. But support for various left groups is growing fast. According to a report by the *Guardian* (May 16, 1979), the

issues dividing the left from Khomeini include:

1. Democratic rights. There is increasing dissatisfaction with the theocratic authoritarianism of Khomeini's revolutionary committee.

2. Unemployment. This is becoming one of the main social problems in Iran today with more than two million unemployed.

3. The rights of national minorities. "Khomeini has thus far upheld the traditional national chauvinist policies of previous Iranian regimes in relation to Iran's major minority nationalities."

4. Women's rights. Iranian women are increasingly up in arms over the feudal roles assigned to them by Khomeini's forces.

5. Workers rights. Workers are insisting on their right to form trade union free of the control of Khomeini's committees. Workers committees in factories are fighting for the restoration of workers councils set up in the aftermath of the fall of the Shah.

As the *Guardian* summed it up: "Taken as a whole these issues reflect the intensifying contradictions between the objective interests of the working class and other popular sectors on the one hand and the general bourgeois orientation of Khomeini. A principal political concern of the left is the possibility of Khomeini turning to a form of clerical fascism." □

Philippine News Attack...

continued from page 3

already become inextricably bound up with these ideas and they are daily becoming more and more of a material force in Philippine politics.

And so, to the "sensationalist" charge that we support the National Democratic revolution, the NPA and the CPP—we respond, yes it is true and we have done so for years. We would like to contrast our political consistency to the fickle behavior of Manglapus and Co. During the height of the recent spontaneous upsurge in Iran which successfully toppled the hated Shah, the anti-Marcos reactionaries were all of a sudden in a flutter about "revolution." Hoping to repeat the Iranian experience, they advanced the ridiculous call for acts of isolated terrorism in Manila, encouraging people to "light fires everywhere!" Out of the chaos they were hoping for their "triumphant return" to Manila *a la* Khomeini's return to Iran. The analogy turns into an embarrassing joke when one even compares the stature and political history of Khomeini to the ridiculous image of Manglapus or two bit politicians like Esclamado. Certainly the KDP could imagine these characters moving into Malacanang in the wake of a U.S.-backed palace coup d'etat. But gentlemen, please don't delude yourselves with images of "triumphant returns" on the shoulders of millions of Filipino supporters!

The moral of the story here is that even the likes of Pineda and Esclamado are capable of uttering a call for revolution when revolution is already "in the air." But at such times, their "revolutionary posturing" is not a sign of courage and heroism as much as a sign of opportunism. To paraphrase Lenin, even the most unstable and timid forces can be brought to support a revolution when it is already "on the agenda of the day." However what must be truly valued are those whose determined efforts and sacrifices prepared the way, years before the revolutionary upsurge.

The KDP is proud to say we are not composed of such "fair weather" revolutionaries. We would like to remind Esclamado that we have consistently supported the NPA even back in 1970 when most Filipinos abroad had not yet even heard of the revolutionary armed struggle. We had the determination to uphold the revolution before it had become so well known or popular. In the recent years, we have witnessed the steady growth of the revolutionary movement in the face of brutal fascist repression; overcoming incredible difficulties and dislocations. The KDP is more convinced of our political convictions than ever before. Certainly the anti-communist barking of an old toothless dog like Esclamado can not be expected to frighten us into abandoning our support for the national democratic revolution!

OH HOW THEIR HEARTS "BLEED" FOR HUMAN RIGHTS!

Rosario Pineda rants on, "This leads us to the question of why communists find it very convenient to 'crusade for human rights and fight for the freedom of political prisoners . . . For all their hypocritical poses on human rights, the KDP is actually peddling another dictatorship."

To us violence takes many forms and always has a class stand to it. We are opposed to reactionary violence, not revolutionary violence in defense of the people's interests.

By now our readers should be familiar enough with Pineda's "shorthand"—what he means to say is that the KDP is "peddling" revolution. (Of course he attempts to confuse and frighten people with the term "dictatorship of the proletariat," a notion which we will explain in some future article.)

But to the basic charge, again we make no denials. To us, the struggle for "human rights" cannot be separated from the question of revolution. This is because human rights, in its broadest terms, includes the right to life, the right to a secure job, the right to medical care, education and leisure. Basic things which are in fact denied to millions of Filipino families under the presently existing class structure.

However, for Pineda to charge that KDP's work around political prisoners and human rights issues are nothing but sham hypocrisy is a cheap attempt to use our political views to discredit our actual work. By self-righteously going on the offensive against the leftists, Pineda attempts to avoid the uncomfortable question—who are you Mr. Pineda and what have you actually done to lighten the plight of those who fill Marcos' prisons? Very little, if anything at all, we suspect! Mr. Pineda will not come from behind his pseudonym or else his work around political prisoners could then be measured against our own efforts.

For years now, the AMLC, with KDP activists in the forefront, have sustained the most ambitious political and material support for political prisoners and refugees of the Marcos dictatorship. In sharp contrast, the MFP circles of Pineda and Esclamado make nice

ERRATA — Last issue (AK Vol. V, No. 10) contained an article *The World According to Thatcher*. Our mistake for not crediting source — apologies to Steve Talbot and INTERNEWS — Ed.

"proclamations" now and then, but have done pitiful little for the thousands of political prisoners. Except, of course, what amounts to a narrow MFP campaign to free one man—Benigno Aquino. Now the KDP agrees with the MFP that Aquino should never have been arrested in the first place and should be freed immediately and unconditionally. But come now gentlemen, why leave the active concern for all the rest of the "less prestigious" prisoners to us! We dare say, this is not a very fair division of labor.

Of course, the real political motives of MFP were exposed clearly a year ago when Marcos threatened to execute Aquino along with two other well-known NPA "reds," Commander Dante and Corpus. It is a well known fact that the MFP circles were thrown into political confusion at the time. Why? Because this disgusting group of "democrats" surrounding Manglapus were at a loss as to how to defend the life of Aquino without also coming to the active aid of the "communists." Hypocrisy, indeed! Even Aquino himself was a bit embarrassed by such shameless maneuverings.

And who can deny that the fascist dictatorship reserves its harshest treatment for the revolutionaries. Aquino is treated with "kid gloves" compared to the "communist leaders" who are regularly beaten and kept in solitary confinement (*e.g.*, Jose Ma. Sison and others); or brought to "safehouses" to be tortured and "salvaged," possibly never to be heard of again (*e.g.*, most recently Sixto Carlos and hundreds of others), or shot down and mutilated in the midst of battle (*e.g.*, Lorrie Barros and thousands of NPA martyrs).

And who can deny that it is we in the KDP who are the counterparts abroad of those who are today being imprisoned, tortured and killed in the Philippines. If Marcos could extend his martial law here to the U.S., does anyone doubt that the KDP activists would be the first target for the prisons and torture rooms? Even if Manglapus and Esclamado were to be arrested, surely their treatment would be more "comfortable" and "lenient" than ours. As for Pineda, he is probably the type who would capitulate to the dictatorship in order to save his own neck! Gentlemen (and we use the term loosely), how dare you accuse the KDP of hypocrisy in our work and concern around political prisoners—our burning concern is far more genuine than the likes of you could even imagine!

(To be continued next issue: Foreign Conspiracy, Elitist Notion of Leadership, Anti-Communism — The Seeds of Fascism.)

MNLF Refuses To Participate

Mindanao Elections Flop

Reprinted from the
PHILIPPINE LIBERATION COURIER

What if you called an election and nobody paid attention? If you were Ferdinand Marcos, you would call it a victory.

The Marcos regime's Commission on Elections announced May 9, two days after the elections for regional assemblies in Mindanao, that the regime's **Kilusang Bagong Lipunan** (KBL, New Society Movement) had won 95 percent of the vote. What the Commission neglected to point out was that the KBL ran unopposed. Except that is, for two Zamboanga City halfwits who were sponsored by oppositionists as a way to expose the farcical character of the whole exercise.

Marcos called the elections for two "autonomous" regional assemblies in regions 9 and 12 covering provinces in Central and Western Mindanao and the Sulu area in an attempt to head off Islamic Conference support for the Moro National Liberation Front. The annual Islamic Conference meeting opened in Rabat, Morocco one day after the elections.

The elections were held, according to the regime, in fulfillment of the terms of the Tripoli Agreement signed in Tripoli, Libya in December 1976 by representatives of the government and



Voters in Mindanao: Marcos predictably reported 95 percent of the vote for his unchallenged slate. (Asiaweek Photo)

the MNLF. The agreement broke down in April 1977 when Marcos insisted on holding a referendum on the territorial scope and powers of the autonomous regions in violation of the agreement. By September 1977, fighting between the Bangsa Moro Army (BMA), the MNLF fighting arm, and the Marcos military again broke out, continuing to this day with varying levels of intensity.

Marcos himself certainly knew that there was little likelihood that the MNLF would participate in an election whose terms were set in the 1977 referendum which they denounced. He must have hoped, however, that he could persuade enough MNLF renegades and surrenderees to participate to put on a halfway decent political show. MNLF surrenderees such as Al Kalaun and Abdul Khayr

Alonto were encouraged to form an opposition slate. Marcos also made a big show of encouraging the MNLF leadership to join in.

Neither ploy worked. In their enthusiasm to please their master Marcos, MNLF renegades and other so-called oppositionist groups such as **Kunsiyensia ng Bayan** (KB, Conscience of the Nation) merged with the KBL to form one government slate. By the time Marcos told them that was not part of the script, the whole propaganda house-of-cards had fallen apart. Marcos' emissaries to the Middle East did not do any better. Nur Misuari, chairperson of the MNLF, refused outright. Renegade MNLF leader Hashim Salamat sent his people for "peace talks" but could not bring himself to participate in the "election." Meanwhile reports trickling out of Rabat indicate that the ploy failed to impress Islamic Conference members which voted continued support for the MNLF.

Despite these setbacks in his propaganda plan, Marcos had to go ahead. Resorting to the "big lie" — his standard propaganda line when cornered by reality, Marcos went ahead and proclaimed that the MNLF was participating in the election. Under the circumstances, the most appropriate response was that of Zamboanga Cesar Climaco who hatched the idea of having town fools run in the election. In a cable to Marcos, Climaco said "... Using farce instead of force we shall have no tears but plenty of laughter and, while the opposition has no chance, the electorate will at least have plenty of fun." □

Doroy-Kerima Feud

Adapted from BMP

Marcos minions in the controlled media are increasingly at odds with one another to the detriment of the image of the regime, prompting the dictator to intervene and put an end to their open word war. The most intense squabble is between columnist Teodoro Valencia and **Evening Post** publisher Kerima Polotan-Tuvera.

Informed sources say that the word war has become so embarrassing that Marcos himself summoned the two to Malacanang for a "pep talk." Weeks after the Malacanang encounter, however, the two were at it again.

Marcos' failure to patch up the quarrel between his two most rabid propagandists can be explained only through his decision to keep media ownership and control within the ranks of his closest allies and relatives. Quarrels inevitably arise as they jockey for profits.

BUSINESS OLIGOPOLY

The Philippine Council for Print Media (PCPM) headed by "Gen." Hanz Menzi, publisher of **Bulletin Today**, the most widely-circulated newspaper in the country, has be-



come, in fact, a business oligopoly. Created by presidential decree supposedly to serve as a regulating body for print media, it actually wields the power to issue permits for new publications or to order their cancellation for infractions of the official "guidelines."

The real purpose of the PCPM, from Marcos' viewpoint, is to serve as his official censor. However, it has gone further. It serves even more the publishers' intent to monopolize the publishing field and to hog for them-

selves the huge advertising revenues. Applications for new publications are usually denied for reasons not even contemplated in the Marcos decree.

The current Valencia-Polotan feud was started by a "White Paper," officially issued under the sponsorship of the PCPM. The "white paper" purported to expose the corruption of the press. But it dealt lightly with the publishers and accused the working journalists everything from extortion to habitually receiving bribes.

Valencia took this occasion to attack anew the PCPM, "in defense of" the working press. In short, Valencia said that the publishers are themselves guilty of far graver crimes, like raking in millions by using their government connections and abusing their media power.

Polotan, a newcomer among the publishers, then began attacking Valencia who has become a multimillionaire as a result of his careful use of his columns to serve his many business interests. Valencia countered by pointing out that she has used her government connections, through her husband, Presidential Assistant Juan C. Tuvera, to build a media empire. Polotan herself is close to Imelda, having written a perfumed biography of her.

The entertaining — and revealing — war of words still burns on . . . □

most likely site for nuclear planners is said to be islands in Micronesia, or the deep sea-bed in the North Pacific, off Hawaii. Not the least of the reasons for planners' preference is the fact the peoples of Micronesia, relatively few and dispersed, have little political weight to oppose the plans of a colonial power like the U.S.

CLOSING PANDORA'S BOX

All the contradictions of nuclear exports to the Third World are embodied in the Philippine reactor deal. Opponents believe that if they can stop the Philippine reactor, it will create an important precedent. It might prove to be the key which will close the Pandora's box of nuclear exports to the Third World.

The opposition to the reactor is significant in itself. For the first time, the anti-nuclear opposition has become truly international. Anti-nuclear groups in the U.S., Canada, Europe, and Japan have taken up the issue in response to the harassment by the Marcos dictatorship of the anti-nuclear movement among peasants and workers in Bataan — harassment which included the likely execution of one activist, Ernesto Nazareno. Recently, the American Indian Movement, which is leading the struggle against uranium mining in the U.S. Southwest, has declared its full support of the effort to stop the reactor, as has the broad coalition seeking to halt the mining on Aboriginal lands in Australia. □

Opposition to Reactor . . .

(continued from page 6)

to integrate these strata into the narrow national market for electric-driven and other luxury commodities supplied by multinational corporations.

NUCLEAR GARBAGE DUMP

Like the demand for fuel, the need to dump spent uranium fuel from reactors in Southeast Asia and Japan also threatens to create a disruptive ripple in the Pacific. Intensive discussions and plans are now afoot to create a "regional waste storage and re-processing zone," or less euphemistically, a nuclear garbage dump. The

60% Inflation for 1979

The deteriorating economic situation is showing no signs of let-up as revealed by economic indices for the first quarter of 1979.

- An inflation rate of 60 percent is projected for 1979. In April alone prices shot up by 4.9 percent, the highest jump in month-to-month increases since July 1974. The April inflation figure is 17 percent higher than price level the same month last year.

- The Balance of Payments deficit has soared to \$313.7 M against a year earlier of \$86.9 million.

- The Balance of Trade likewise showed a deficit of \$122.6 M as compared to \$88.6 million in April of last year.

These indicators clearly show that the economy is headed for the rocks despite the short-term palliatives which the regime is imposing.

Runaway prices of basic consumer goods are expected, with the 50 percent increase over the past two months of rice, sugar, canned milk, cement, bus fares, and a host of other items. To relieve inflationary pressures the government hopes to cut back imports which in turn will slow down economic growth since most of these are capital goods and vital raw materials.

As usual the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is being blamed for the present crisis. What the regime conveniently glosses over is that manufacturers of the affected items have long pressed for the lifting of price controls on their products. After the January OPEC hike, the government found a convenient excuse to grant the exorbitant price increases.

Meanwhile, President Marcos continues to blame "subversives" for noting that the price increases were far above that anticipated from OPEC price hikes. □