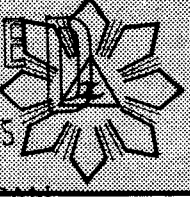


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On June 22, demonstrators from Filipino, S. Korean and Chilean anti dictatorship movements marched in Washington, D.C., to demand an end to U.S. military aid to those regimes.

'Freedom Mass' Denounces Martial Law

By Ma. Flor Sepulveda

While the martial law regime ostentatiously celebrated Independence Day at the Luneta Park, some 2,000 people gathered in front of the Manila Cathedral to pray for freedom, justice, truth and the establishment of a "noble" society. In an ecumenical people's worship (*Pagsamba ng Bayan*) last June 12, representatives of workers, peasants, students and youth, political prisoners, squatters, the Kalingas, Bontocs and other national minorities, Protestant and Catholic religious, denounced the absence of freedom in Philippine society. They all pledged to commonly struggle for a genuinely independent and democratic society, free of foreign and local exploitation.

The service highlighted the growing united front against the dictatorship and utilized ingenious forms of protest which the people have created in their struggle against the fascist regime. The regime attempted to halt the service by harassing and intimidating those planning to participate. Around 23 community leaders and organizers from Tondo and Navotas were rounded up, detained in Camp Crame and released only after the service. This, however, did not deter another 800 Tondo residents from attending. Many undercover agents with cameras as well as uniformed policemen were also planted among the people.

During the service, which lasted for 2 hours, representatives from various sectors of the people read statements declaring their commitment to struggle for the interests of their countrymen.

URBAN POOR: The statements for the urban poor was delivered by the *Ugnayan ng mga Samahan ng mga Mamamayan ng Tondo Foreshoreland* (Tondo Coalition) and the Residents of Bay Boulevard, Navotas Rizal—two

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End Aid Campaign Hits Congress

By Cathi Tactaquin

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The nationally-coordinated campaign to end U.S. military aid to the Marcos regime climaxed June 22-23 with a demonstration and lobby-in here, which joined together Filipino, South Korean and Chilean anti-dictatorship movements in calling for an end to U.S. military aid to those repressive regimes.

The National Coordinating Committee of the Anti Martial Law Movement, which led the extensive six-month campaign to end U.S. aid,

clearly established its presence at Congressional deliberations before Rep. Donald Fraser's Subcommittee on International Organizations, the target of the Congressional aspects of the campaign.

During the demonstration, representatives from the three anti dictatorship movements marched around the White House and rallied in nearby Lafayette Park. There they issued a joint statement denouncing U.S. military aid, pointing out that "such support is not in the interests of Third World and American people."

To "insure the message wasn't lost to Congress," a lobby was staged the next day. A delegation from the three movements visited the offices of four senators and nine congresspersons, to issue a united demand that the U.S. cut off aid to these repressive regimes.

The campaign included a successful petition
(continued on back page)

Marcos Receives Aid Fr. 'Security Reasons'

WASHINGTON D.C.—A senior State Department official has recently testified that the U.S. will continue its support of the Marcos regime for "security" reasons. At the same time, he officially acknowledged the "ongoing repression and violation of civil rights" under martial law.

This revealing statement was made on June 24 before Rep. Donald Fraser's Subcommittee on International Organizations by Philip Habib, Asst. Secretary for East Asia and Pacific Affairs. It essentially negated the State Dept.'s former "no comment" position and claim that the Philippines was of little concern to the U.S. His statements affirm the continued U.S. role there in spite of the recent U.S. defeats in Southeast Asia.

Previous testimonies before the committee—by Fr. Bruno Hicks, Primitivo Mijares, ex-Sen. Raul Manglapus, Heherson Alvarez and others—condemned martial law and charged that the U.S. is mainly responsible for supporting the repressive Marcos regime. The State Dept. witness did not refute these allegations, nor the contention that U.S. military aid to the Marcos dictatorship has actually increased 55% through "hidden" or congressionally unauthorized aid. The State Dept.'s official statistics claim a substantial decrease.

Referring to the Philippines and South Korea, Habib, the State Dept.'s principal witness, said, "We neither associate ourselves with nor justify internal repressive actions and will continue to make clear our concern and that of the American people over the protection and preservation of human rights." (N.Y. Times, June 25, 1975)

Then, contradicting this position, he affirmed that martial law in the Philippines has led to "the suspension of certain democratic processes and human rights," and that the

(continued on page 2)

N.Y. Conference Assails Immigrant Discrimination

The following was excerpted from a press release sent to us from the organizers of the recently held NY Immigration Conference.—Editor

Special to the Ang Katipunan

NEW YORK—Some 60 Filipinos attended a whole-day conference on "Filipino Immigration Problems: Roots and Solutions" held at the Gouverneur Hospital Auditorium, New York City, last Sunday, June 29, 1975. The Conference was the first major effort in forging a working unity in the Filipino community against common problems, particularly those stemming from racial and national discrimination. The theme on unity and the urgent need to serve the whole community were the general aims outlined at the Conference.

The one-day conference focused on immigration problems facing Filipino Foreign Medical Graduates, members of other health care professions; and Filipino "illegal aliens." The FMGs and other health care professionals are now subject to immediate repatriation by January, 1976. On the case of Filipino "illegal

aliens" the need to organize the Filipino community to fight the anti-alien hysteria being whipped up by the Immigration and Naturalization Service was recognized.

The conference began with a welcome remark by Aimee Cruz (KDP) who stressed the importance of unity "as our only defense, our only weapon." She reiterated that "regardless of differing political opinions, we Filipinos can work together if we place the interest of this Conference and the interest of the Filipino community first."

Senator Israel Ruiz, guest speaker, placed emphasis on the need to organize. "Unless the Filipinos involve themselves in social organization and be a strong force to contend with, the lawmakers won't be pressured to give you your rights," he said.

Ira Gollobin, General Counsel of the American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born, cited the two traditions of the U.S. on immigrants, "one that welcomes the stranger and another that, in times of crisis, uses

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SECOND K.D.P. NATIONAL CONGRESS



**'Isulong ang Pakikibaka!
Forward in the Struggle!**

The Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino will hold its National Congress on July 25, 26, 27 in Berkeley, California, two years after its founding in 1973. As the entire KDP takes on its final preparations in these last few days, we can more firmly grasp the historical significance of KDP's formation as the consolidation of revolutionary forces within the Filipino community.

The KDP is drawn from many of the most committed and politically conscious Filipino community activists working in the movement against the Philippine martial law dictatorship and in the fight for the rights of Filipinos in the U.S. Reflecting the character of our own community, it includes Filipinos who have only recently arrived from the homeland, and the second and third generations of the first Filipino settlers to America.

During the past two years of practice, the KDP has led the formation of the anti-fascist united front within the Filipino community to isolate and expose the Marcos dictatorship in the Philippines. Through its call for joint activities among all the anti martial law forces, the KDP has helped to initiate several such actions, leading up to the historic National Conference of the Anti Martial Law Movement in December, 1974. The unanimous resolutions resulting from this conference has led to successful campaigns to oppose U.S. aid to the Marcos dictatorship, expose the conditions of political prisoners, and conduct June 12 nation-wide protests on so-called "Freedom Day."

In addition to building up the strength of the anti martial law movement, the KDP has conducted numerous forums, cultural presentations, and produced many written materials on the Philippine struggle today. Through such activities, the KDP has been able to inform large portions of the Filipino community, as well as the broader American public, of the people's revolutionary movement to overthrow the U.S.-Marcos Dictatorship and establish a genuine independent and democratic Philippines.

In the growing struggle of the Filipino minority against racial and national discrimination, KDP activists have made major contributions in advancing the struggle for

democratic rights. These struggles for decent low-income housing, education which meets the real needs of our youth, an end to discrimination in employment and in job promotion, have been steadily escalating over the past several years. The KDP hopes to be an active part of building such struggles in the future and in building the broadest unity possible in our community in the fight for the basic rights of Filipinos in this country. The KDP also recognizes the critical importance of building a powerful movement for change, and thus of linking our struggles up with those of other oppressed minorities and working people.

For the Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino, these last two years have been a period of growth and preliminary consolidation. We have faced problems of how to organize ourselves, how to bring people into the work and the decision-making, how to cleanse our ranks of dishonest and ambitious individuals only interested in themselves and their careers. In facing these problems in the process of building our organization, the KDP had made many mistakes and we are still growing and maturing. But our development into a strong, militant, and activist organization is a victory for our entire community. The revolutionary character and organizational strength of the KDP has developed to serve as a powerful fighting weapon of the Filipino community for the liberation of our homeland and for our democratic rights in the U.S.

While we can say that the KDP has made many contributions to the struggles of the Filipino people's struggle, these advances have only shown us more clearly the many difficult tasks and struggles which we face ahead. The Second National Congress of the KDP will provide the forum for the entire membership of our organization to share in the summation of our first two years of experience, and lay the direction of the KDP for the future. We believe that our Second National Congress will mark a truly significant development for the struggles of the Filipino people and for struggle of the entire working class within the U.S.

Military Aid to Marcos Increased Despite 'Official' Figures

By Cathi Tactaquin

The Military Assistance Documentation Staff of the National Coordinating Committee of the Anti Martial Law Movement has called "clearly erroneous" two "disturbing reports" of cutbacks in U.S. military aid allocations to the Marcos dictatorship. In its press release to the ANG KATIPUNAN, the Documentation Staff sharply criticized these "inexcusable distortion of statistics" which disregarded the military-related aspects of U.S. economic aid in drawing its analysis.

Two published reports by the Associated Press and Movement for a Free Philippines were cited in particular. The AP release claimed that the U.S. had begun reducing its Philippines military grant program (part of the annual military aid package) two years ago and will end in 1978. The MFP report said that military aid decreased almost \$6-M from 1974 to 1975. Both used figures from the State Dept. who made the original cutback claim.

HIDDEN MILITARY AID

According to the Documentation Staff, over \$30-M has actually been allocated to the Marcos regime in military and military-related aid, already more than the \$26.4-M originally proposed by the Ford administration in June, 1974. The press release stated that "these (MFP) figures do not take into consideration the \$32.5-M for military aid greatly exceeds

the \$21-M figure quoted by the MFP study, and also exceeds the \$27.9-M total allocation for 1974. (MFP quotes the 1974 figure as \$26.8-M).

Included in the staff's analysis are the funds for the "Food for Peace" and the International Narcotics Control programs, which received some \$10.9-M and \$356,000, respectively, for Fiscal Year 1975. Both are widely known to be channels for military-related funds, yet are classified as "economic assistance."

In the 'Food for Peace' program, goods are 'charitably' sold to local governments, who in turn sell the goods to the local elite at a high profit, then used for military purchases. The Int'l. Narcotics Control program provides police equipment and training, supposedly intended for 'narcotics control,' but which is more often turned into the surveillance and apprehension of political dissenters.

AID STEADILY INCREASED

Overall, the Documentation Staff analyzed that military assistance has consistently increased: "total military aid in the three fiscal years after martial law (1973, 1974, 1975) was about 65% greater than the total military aid in the three years before martial law (1970, 1971, 1972)—\$104-M compared to \$63.5-M."

The AP release appearing in the June 1 issue of the *Philippine Times* was similarly founded on the "glib language" of the state

Department, which said that the grants under the Military Assistance Program (MAP) will end in 1978. The MAP has, however, increased over the past few years, with \$14.6-M granted in 1972; \$15.7 in 1973, estimated \$16.8-M in 1974, and reaching \$20-M in 1975.

"Even in the unlikely event that the U.S. terminated MAP aid in 1978," the Documentation Staff reported, "this will have no practical impact inasmuch as military aid will take the form of Foreign Military Sales Credits, which are granted on minimal, almost negligible terms of interest." The release continued, "Many of the most repressive of the U.S. client regimes have in fact preferred the FMS program to the MAP inasmuch as it allows them the wider choice of modern weaponry." Under the MAP, countries are often allocated "obsolete" weapons no longer needed by the U.S. military. □

Marcos Aid . . .

(continued from front page)

U.S. would continue its "security policies." He added that U.S. military bases in the Philippines were "important for Philippine defense and for broader security interests of the United States."

Such statements place the U.S. in the embarrassing position of recognizing the Philippines as undemocratic, while promising aid to "protect democracy." During the hearings, when Habib claimed that "the State Department is always concerned about human rights," Rep. Fraser had replied, "I'm waiting for more concrete evidence." □



Chinatown stalls sold posters and literature from the People's Republic of China in the wake of RP-Sino ties. While such ties broke the climate of fear, to a limited extent, Marcos sought to halt this trend through reviving the "red scare."

Marcos Distorts China Visit

By Samuel P. Bayani

The recently established ties between China and the Philippines are being cleverly utilized by the Marcos regime as a credential to project a "progressive" image abroad. But even as the martial law regime is presumptuously claiming the credit for the normalization of relations between the two countries, it is distorting the same event to justify and promote its fascist policies at home.

Immediately after his arrival from China, Marcos quickly abandoned his "pro-Peking" rhetoric, the progressive verbiage he especially mouthed during his China visit, and reverted to his old fascist tune. In a speech made at the Independence Day celebration at Rizal Park, Manila, a day after his arrival, Marcos announced that his China trip will not alter the regime's hard-line policy against what it terms the "subversives."

He said: "We shall not be soft, compromising nor permissive in our fight against internal insurgency and subversion." He further disclosed that he traveled to China "precisely to get a personal guarantee from the Chinese leaders that with the normalization of relations there would not be any attempt to strengthen the local communist party and abet the conspiracy against the government." Expressing that he obtained the reassurance he sought, Marcos quotes Mao's words: "We shall not plot against each other and there will be no at-

tempt to overthrow the government of the other"—to imply Mao's support for his martial law regime. Several of his subsequent speeches refer to this imagined support to clinch his argument that all the dissidents to his regime (whom he labels all communists) should immediately surrender. In a recent speech before war veterans at Fort Bonifacio, Marcos said he was confident the establishment of ties with China will demoralize and "disarm the maoists."

CHINA'S POSITION DISTORTED

What Marcos omits in his speeches is that Mao's statement was made in line with China's general principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. The Chinese rightfully see the present insurgency confronting the Marcos dictatorship as an internal affair to be settled mainly by the Filipino people. Premier Teng Hsiao Ping's response to Marcos' statement that he would ask the Philippine communists to give themselves up was: "That is an internal matter within your sovereign power and we will not interfere." This principle of non-interference makes Marcos' efforts to misrepresent the Chinese position appear outright ludicrous.

His calls for surrender have, predictably, produced no results and his hopes of "disarming the maoists" have proven to be mere wishful thinking. Last June 26, in a speech before graduates of the army's general intelli-

gence course, Defense Sec. Ponce Enrile reported a step-up in the activities of the NPA.

In a further attempt to falsify the China visit, the dictatorship is also citing lessons from the Chinese people to rationalize its repressive policies at home. The Marcos press carries daily articles praising the Chinese people for their discipline and self-sacrifice. But in the same breath, these articles equate it with Marcos' internal policy of "more sacrifices ahead" and "national discipline." The regime has consistently hidden behind these slogans to obscure the increasing fascization and curtailment of civil liberties in the country.

HEDGING ON NATURALIZATION

Recent developments also reveal that the Marcos dictatorship is hedging on the implementation of the RP-China communique. This can be gleaned in the regime's ambivalent attitude towards the Filipino-Chinese community. Although the regime conceded verbally that it will open the legal doors to the Filipino-Chinese (through naturalization), there has been little headway made to implement this. With typical deception, the regime claims that 70%-80% of the 500,000 Chinese population have filed applications for citizenship "as a manifestation of their loyalty" to the Marcos regime. The Far Eastern Economic Review, however, reports that as of June 1975, only 25% or 12,500 applications had been received.

This discrepancy can be traced to the fact that although the regime says it has eased the naturalization laws, the present laws are still bound by red tape and legal restrictions. Citizenship is still limited to adults, with one of the preconditions that the applicant must have a "substantial" income.

These barriers have led Peter Bawhurst of the Far Eastern Eco. Review (May 16) to comment: "If the government's intention was quick naturalization, then the rules already promulgated would seem to make that most unlikely."

Similarly, despite the regime's statement in the communique recognizing the one-China policy, it has chosen not to completely sever its ties with Taiwan. Although diplomatic ties between Taiwan and the Philippines ceased with the formalization of relations with China, Philippine trade with Taiwan will, however, continue. The Taiwan embassy in Manila and the consulate offices in Cebu and Davao will be converted into Trade Centers.

This move is not surprising. Undoubtedly, Marcos has been pressured by the small stratum of influential and die-hard Kuomintang within the Philippine ruling class who exercise monopoly over certain aspects of the Philippine economy, like retail trade. With the diversification of the country's trade markets to China, the hegemony of this pro-Taiwan faction will soon be challenged. •

Manila 'Freedom Mass' . . .

(continued from front page)

militant organizations that have been vigorously struggling for years to obtain legal rights over their lands. Having been the target of the dictatorship's ejection/relocation schemes to make way for urban "development," they decried the fact that they were considered squatters in their own country.

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS: The opening statement of the industrial workers captured their life, struggles and aspirations.

"We industrial workers offer ourselves because we believe our strength and skills produce so many things necessary for the whole society. We also offer our children because they are the next generation of workers. We offer one *tingting* (broom twig) to symbolize the weakness of the still unorganized workers and in contrast we offer a whole *tingting* broom to symbolize the strength of all workers united in working for common aims. We believe this broom, the broom of worker's unity, can sweep society clean and free of all monsters blocking the flowering of our full potential as human beings."

SACADAS AND TENANT FARMERS: In their message, the sugar workers said: "We offer our sickle, which we use to cut sugar cane. This sickle stands for our struggle and deter-

mination to improve our conditions and that of our families." Elaborating on their intolerable conditions, the statement further says: "We receive extremely low wages, . . . we toil, rain or shine, even when we are sick, because we have to eat. Moreover, during the off season, we have no income." These conditions were contrasted with the affluence of the *hacenderos* (sugar growers) who loll in the wealth created by the *sacadas*.

Another agricultural sector, the share tenants said: "We make this offering of *palay* (unmilled rice) . . . (which) is our contribution to society. We are proud of the fact that we rice farmers, feed our countrymen. This *palay* also symbolizes our productive labor from which we are day by day increasingly alienated." They exposed the bankruptcy of the "New Society's" land reform program, adding: "The Tenant Emancipation Act of 1972 will never be implemented in our favor. We will never be emancipated unless we emancipate ourselves."

STUDENTS AND YOUTH: The youth and student statement reiterated their historical mission of shaping for the future, a just and free society. "Ours is a task that cannot be performed merely in the classroom and library, as if the onslaughts against the democratic rights

of citizens and the nationalist aspirations of the people can be countered by merely being researched and discussed."

POLITICAL PRISONERS AND FORMER

DETAINEES: Incarceration did not hinder political prisoners from conveying their solidarity and special messages to those who attended the service. "From the darkness of state prisons and from behind barbed-wired fences throughout the land, we convey to you all our warmest greetings. Your courage and determination bring us joy even during these most trying and difficult hours." They linked the struggle of the Filipino people for their national and democratic rights, with the struggle of other countries seeking similar goals. Adding that the realization of these goals could only be attained by arduous efforts and long struggle . . . "We must pay the price knowing it is worth it."

UNITY STATEMENT: The ecumenical service ended with a unity statement denouncing the systematic violations and suppression of human rights and reiterating the common aims of those present.

"Today we declare our oneness in our determination to see through victory this liberating historical project: the creation of a just, fraternal, egalitarian, noble society and of a truly new man . . ."

Mula sa atin...

LOPEZ DIES WITHOUT SEEING SON'S FREEDOM

Eugenio Lopez Sr., arch-enemy of the Marcos regime, passed away last July 6 at the age of 74. Lopez' sons, including Lopez Jr., a political prisoner of the regime, were not allowed to leave the Philippines, despite the request of the dying man. Lopez Sr., who was abroad when martial law was declared in 1972, had been living in exile in San Francisco, where he became active in recent months in the anti martial law movement. His recent charges that Marcos was using his son as hostage to coerce the Lopez family to give up their financial empire, caused much embarrassment to the martial law regime.

P21-B BUDGET APPROVED: DEFENSE GETS BIGGEST BULK

An unprecedented national budget of P21-B (about \$3-B) has been approved for fiscal year 1975-76, surpassing ten times over last year's P2.7-B budget.

The Dept. of Defense will get the biggest bulk of it with a staggering sum of P2.8-B, compared to last year's P310-M. Marcos, enmired in a war with the Bangsa Moro Army in Mindanao, and the New People's Army in Luzon and Visayas, has steadily increased the defense expenditure. The armed forces is 256,000 strong this year, a big jump from last year's 100,000 and 60,000 in 1972.

In contrast, the Dept. of Agrarian Reform received only P200-M, further crippling it from enforcing the much-vaunted Land Reform Program of the New Society. The DAR's capacity to effect land transfers to landless tenants hinges on its financial ability to buy the land from the landlord.

In justifying these lopsided priorities for the country's budget, Marcos said his regime is stressing "projects aimed at building national integrity."

MARCOS PREPARES FOR RP-USSR TIES

Within a month of normalizing ties with the People's Republic of China, the Marcos government has begun preparations for the establishment of RP-USSR ties. The proposed diplomatic ties are scheduled to take place soon.

The regime's move to accommodate the Kremlin is part and parcel of its shifting foreign policy, dictated by the changing balance of power in Asia. The necessary diversification of the country's market is also of prime concern to the Marcos regime, faced with a worsening balance of payments.

The USSR, on the other hand, is only too willing to formalize ties with the Marcos regime, motivated by super-power competition for control of the Asian region. With the U.S.' weakened state, following the Indochina debacle, the USSR is hoping to move into the U.S.' shoes.

Even without the diplomatic ties, the USSR has already taken advantage of the martial law regime's liberalized laws sanctioning foreign penetration of the country's economy. The USSR has joined the stampede of U.S. and Japanese foreign investors in exploiting the country's oil resources. An oil drilling operation is in the south and a Russian shipping firm has been established in Cebu for the past 6 months.

GOV'T AUDITS BEGIN— PURGES EXPECTED

The "anti-corruption" drive launched by the dictatorship among local officials since early June, has turned into a loyalty screening. Now dubbed a "performance evaluation," the audit will determine who among the local officials will remain in office. The criterion for this selection includes the ability of the official to: maintain peace and order in his jurisdiction; implement decrees, general orders, and letters of instructions; and cooperate with nationally-coordinated "New Society" projects. Earlier the regime announced that the drive would be limited to auditing officials' assets to "eliminate corrupt elements from the ranks of local government."

While the regime has publicized this move as an "integrity test," it is actually meant to intensify fascization at the lowest levels of government. The main intent of this drive is to weed out officials who have slacked in enforcing military rule in their respective jurisdictions. It is also aimed at consolidating the dictator's base of support through replacing these officials with his loyal minions.

This scheme was facilitated through the stage-managed January '75 referendum which empowered Marcos to appoint officials to traditionally elected positions.

Despite Martial Law:

Gelmart Workers Win Union



Mostly women are employed at Gelmart.

By Ma. Flor Sepulveda

The two year labor struggle of the 11,000 strong Gelmart garment workers has ended in a major victory. The rank-and-file supported GATCORD local (National Union of Garment, Textile, and Cordage Workers of the Philippines) won overwhelmingly in the certification elections last May 24. GATCORD's victory dealt a stinging blow to management's repeated efforts to block unionization. It is also significant because with the regime eager to impose its one-industry-one-union scheme, GATCORD is now the duly recognized union for the textile, garment, and cordage industries. Noteworthy is the fact that GATCORD soundly defeated 4 labor federations, two of which were strongly backed by the dictatorship. The Gelmart victory, however, has a broader significance for the labor movement in the Philippines backdropped against the repressive conditions of martial law.

FACTS AND FIGURES OF EXPLOITATION

Gelmart Industries, Inc., is the biggest runaway garment sweatshop in Asia and is the most labor-intensive industry in the Philippines. Lured by the various incentives offered by the martial law dictatorship, Gelmart relocated its world-wide operations to the Philippines, where it occupies a sprawling compound by Manila's outskirts and operates on a 7 day/24 hour basis.

Gelmart produces famous apparel brand-names like Maidenform, Bali, Sears, Montgomery Wards, Alexanders and others; clothes that are principally sold in the U.S. at an incredibly high profit-margin. A pair of Sears gloves, for example, sells at \$6.50 while costing Gelmart only 14 cents in Philippine labor. Not surprisingly, Gelmart ranks among the top 250 corporations in the Philippines.

The huge profit earnings of Gelmart is based upon the cheap wages paid a Gelmart worker. This amounts to P8.00 (\$1.20) per day, which is yearly increased by a measly 10 centavos. Workers are deprived of job security and tenure and can be arbitrarily dismissed or transferred from one job to another. The bad working conditions like poor ventilation, cramped work space, faulty wirings and short work breaks, are an added burden to the workers. Last April, the faulty wirings of the knitting unit ignited a fire that killed 11 workers and injured 53 others.

HISTORY OF STRUGGLE

Such intolerable conditions was the springboard for a massive union organizing effort led by Ruben Escreza, a Gelmart worker. Recognizing the pro-management stance of Gelmart's union, the United Employees Union of Gelmart Industries (UEUGI), Escreza and some co-workers organized the Democratic Labor Party on November, 1973.

The DLP, strongly supported by the rank-and-file, pressed for job security, higher wages, affiliation with a good union, and other worker's benefits. These popular demands led to challenging UEUGI's leadership and Escreza was soon elected union president.

Not surprisingly, the management tried to block the DLP through various forms of harassment including physical intimidation and arbitrary lay-offs. Trying to force Escreza to relinquish his post, former pro-management union president, Camilo Gubat, accused Escreza of electioneering and lodged a complaint with the National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC). Simultaneously, the management suspended Escreza, other DLP officials and 500 workers active in the union. Immediately, the DLP contested the allegation and mass lay-offs, resulting in a series of arbitration hearings. Lasting for a year, the time-consuming and costly proceedings heavily burdened the DLP.

But organized contribution drives and self-help programs were initiated to finance the hearings and help subsidize the laid-off workers. Though DLP officials were barred from entering the company premises, they set up foodstalls outside the factory gates and maintained their contacts with the workers.

As a martial law directive required all unions to affiliate with a national federation, the DLP chose to join with GATCORD. Hoping to break the stalemate which the lengthy arbitration hearings created, GATCORD called for new elections, and petitioned the Dept. of Labor to authorize this. Though their petition was pigeon-holed for several months, the Dept. of Labor finally approved it. Having struggled to develop close ties with the workers, GATCORD stood a good change of winning even as 2 pro-management labor federations entered the scene to sow confusions and split the ranks of the workers.

ELECTION DAY

As the election day, May 24, neared, the 4 other labor federations lavishly campaigned to buy the workers support. One federation, the Association of Labor Unions (ALU) spent enormous amounts on printed campaign bills, stickers and T-shirts.

Another, the Philippine Transport and General Workers Organization (PGTWO) served sumptuous meals consisting of rice, lechon, pancit, and soft drinks throughout the duration of the campaign.

GATCORD, on the other hand, relied on the material support of the workers and sympathizing religious communities for its campaign needs. In contrast to the propaganda gimmick employed by the other unions, GATCORD put forward just demands like: "Fight for just wages!" "Set reasonable quotas!" "Secure better working conditions!" In the end, GATCORD won by an landslide, garnering 3,970 votes or 62.9% of the total votes cast. The hard-fought and well-earned victory of GATCORD was well summarized by one worker who said, "Ang mga inaapi ay nagwawagi!" (The oppressed always wins!)

JUBILATION WITH VIGILANCE

Because of the illegalization of strikes and the union busting drives of the dictatorship, Filipino workers are extremely limited in organizing and effectively redressing their grievances. Labor-management disputes are usually settled by the bribe-motivated and government propped NLRC. Also, a handful of trade union bureaucrats loyal to the dictatorship, effectively function to sell-out labor interests. Potentially militant unions are weeded out by the Dept. of Labor who has the sole authority to permit or revoke labor unions from operating legally.

Despite these obstacles, workers throughout the country continue to wage struggles against oppression and exploitation and have won some concessions from their bosses. Whether reaping major or minor victories, Filipino workers hold no illusions that the fascist dictatorship will tolerate their steady advances. Through experience they have learned that the dictatorship could easily wrench their hard-fought gains. In this context, the GATCORD victory stands as a monument to the militancy of the Gelmart workers who persevered in an arduous and difficult struggle despite incredible odds.

EDITORIAL

Fascist Threat to Anti Martial Law Movement

The "Magdalo II June 22 Movement" was recently formed in Pittsburgh, Calif. in order to "support Pres. Marcos' administration" according to the *Filipino Reporter* (June 27-July 7). This newly formed organization has the peculiar trait of being launched solely for the purpose of attacking other groups within the Filipino community, especially those opposed to martial law in the Philippines. Its two founding resolutions state that it "condemns the move from...the MFP and KDP to urge the suspension or stoppage of aid to the Philippines" and rejects "the claim that KDP is the spokesman" of the Filipino people in the U.S. because of its espousal of an ideology "alien and destructive to Filipino traditions."

In responding to such malicious and slanderous attacks we would like to first comment on the historical reference to the "Magdalo," a most appropriate name for this new group. It refers back to the Magdalo faction, a splinter group from the original Katipunan of the 1896 revolution. The Magdalo group, led by the ilustrado Aguinaldo, sabotaged the national interests of the Filipino masses by ordering the assassination of Philippine national hero, Andres Bonifacio. They considered Bonifacio's origin "too lowly (Bonifacio was a worker who founded and led the Katipunan in the revolution against Spain). After the Magdalo faction seized control of the revolutionary movement they led it to defeat by making one blunder after another and capitulating to the Americans.

Fitting enough, the "Magdalo II June 22 Movement" seems to have taken up a similar role of sabotaging the mass movement for democratic rights in the Philippines today. Led by John Lanuza (who once paraded about as an anti-Marcos force) and Mike Tomeldon (a notorious Marcos-lackey and ex-Philippine Constabulary captain), this so-called "June 22 Movement" has drummed up the traditional red-baiting and anti-communist attacks against those fighting for democracy and civil liberties in the Philippines.

What such a fake "movement" as the "June 22" cannot hide is their outright support for the dictatorship; with such an unpopular position they will be unable to speak to any of the real needs and problems of our people. The real issues of martial law today are the very questions of 20,000 political prisoners; complete suspension of the freedoms of speech, press, right to strike; and others. The reactionary character of the "June 22 Movement" will stand exposed on these counts! It can only rely on its attempts to create an atmosphere of hysteria and wild allegations against the movement for civil liber-

ties as its sole basis for existence.

In a similar vein, we have also recently witnessed the attacks in the Congressional testimony of Congressman McDonald (R-Georgia) slandering the entire Philippine anti martial law movement. This included the KDP, MFP, FFP and NCRCLP. McDonald, a reactionary and racist, is a member of the fascist John Birch Society, which has long advocated policies of martial law (similar to that of the Marcos regime) be implemented here in the U.S. with its own special brand of racism distinct to America. Such fascist movements represent a serious and growing harm to the democratic interests of all working people as they are characterized by the most brutal repression against the people's movement.

What do the Lanuza's, Tomeldon's and McDonald's have in common? They are essentially reactionaries attempting to take the outward appearance of defenders of the people. But in fact, they represent a die-hard defense for the status quo with all its injustices and exploitation. Such fascist groups have traditionally used anti-communism as a "boogey" to scare and divide people and prevent their unity and ultimate success. This red-baiting takes the form of using such loaded phrases as "alien ideology" in order to frighten people into fearing certain ideas because they are supposedly "foreign or alien." What is biased and dishonest about such terms as "alien ideology" is that they are not meant in reference to the ideas of Rousseau (French), Confucius (Chinese), Freud (German), or George Washington (American). After all, could the ideas of these men be considered "alien and foreign" to the Philippines? So it becomes clear that what these people really mean by "alien ideology" are certain revolutionary ideas which they themselves do not agree with—ideas of people like Marx (German), Lenin (Russian), Mao Tse-Tung (Chinese), or Ho Chi Minh (Vietnamese). We maintain that ideas are not something that belong to one nation or another, but rather, belong to one class or another. For example, we think there is nothing wrong with the Filipino working class taking up the ideas of the German Marx if Marcos can be the loyal student of the German Hitler!

For these reasons, the KDP refuses to be intimidated by such reactionary anti-communist attacks. In these days, only fools will close their eyes and attempt to deny the participation and influence of the Communist Party of the Philippines in the political life of the country. We believe that all forces in the anti fascist resistance must be judged objectively by their political

program and practice in fighting for the true interests of the vast majority of the Filipino people. We have seen that the Communist Party of the Philippines, is in fact playing a leading role: in organizing the underground resistance to the Marcos dictatorship, in leading the armed struggle in the Philippine countryside and in building liberated base areas for the eventual overthrow of the U.S.-Marcos dictatorship. These are facts which history will bear out and no amount of slander from the "Magdalo II June 22 Movement" can change them. •

'Unite Together Against All Attacks'

In light of these recent fascist attacks against the entire anti martial law movement, the KDP would like to offer some advice to our friends in the Movement for a Free Philippines. As we can see in both cases of the "June 22 Movement" and the attacks by Congressman McDonald, the KDP and the MFP have been jointly attacked. The KDP believes that in the face of such attacks all those fighting for the restoration of civil liberties in the Philippines must unite more closely still.

However, in the midst of these attacks, we have found that the MFP tends not to come to the active defense of the whole anti martial law movement, but instead attempts to play both sides against the middle. In fact, MFP even contributes to such anti-communist hysteria by putting forward confusing warnings about "communist takeovers" and opposing the consolidation of a broad coalition to unite all the anti dictatorship forces. This is an extremely dangerous game to play, because the history of fascist movements has shown time and again that first the fascists will attack the most left wing forces and attempt to smash them; if this action is successful, then they will focus their attacks on all other more moderate forces.

The KDP believes that in the midst of such attacks, we must stand in defense of the entire anti martial law movement, despite any political differences that may exist among ourselves. A fascist attack against one is an attack against us all. We hope the MFP will begin to see and act likewise, since such attacks will certainly increase in severity if not checked at an early stage. In this respect, we must further emphasize that the need for unity is pressing. The most effective way to consolidate our forces is through an anti martial law coalition composed of all those opposed to the Marcos dictatorship!



Aimee Cruz of KDP delivers welcoming address. Seated, from left, are Dr. Nick Lansigan, Peter Hirsch, Esq., Reuben Seguritan, Esq., and Senator Israel Ruiz.

N.Y. Immigration Conference . . .

(continued from front page)

the foreign born as a scapegoat for unsolved social problems." He pointed out that the current anti-alien drive is an attempt to hoax the public into supporting repressive legislation and massive deportation.

Dr. Nicolas Lansigan, M.D., Vice President of the Philippine Medical Association in America (PMAA), spoke on the Case of the Foreign Medical Graduates. Dr. Lansigan cited several "push factors" which motivate Filipino medical graduates to immigrate to the U.S. He also

described the discriminatory and restrictive policies on FMGs and members of other health care professions

Mr. Elmer Fried, professor on Immigration Law, gave an overview of the U.S. Immigration System and Mr. Peter Hirsch, an immigration lawyer, spoke on the rights of "Illegal Aliens."

WORKSHOPS CONDEMN DISCRIMINATION

Lively discussions followed in the afternoon workshops. In the Workshop on "Illegal Aliens," the term "illegal alien" was immediately condemned as discriminatory as it connotes violation of criminal law, and that the term should be changed to "undocumented

residents."

Discussing why thousands of Filipinos would risk "illegal" status here in the U.S. than live in the Philippines, the workshop cited the underdevelopment of the Philippine economy due to the domination of U.S. multinational corporations. If the Philippines were truly industrialized, that is, instead of an economy based on exporting cheap raw materials and importing finished U.S. products at inflated prices, there would be enough jobs for the Filipino population.

The other workshop on the Case of the FMGs and other health care professionals called for unity among FMGs, members of other health care professions and other sectors of the Filipino community to oppose all restrictive and discriminatory policies which affect them, citing that these problems all stem from racial and national discrimination, thereby affect the community as a whole.

Concrete resolutions on the political and educational areas were formulated in both workshops and in the Plenary session, presided by Mr. Reuben Seguritan, Esq., the resolutions were presented and approved by the body.

The conference proved to be an overall success. It was sponsored by seven major civic and political organizations: New York Philippine Jaycees, the Philippine Medical Association in America (PMAA), the Philippine Nurses Association (PNA), the Philippine Lawyers Association, the Philippine Executive Council, the Philippine Forum of New York, and the KDP.



"No, no, you stupid dog. We're looking for villains."

Disclosures Reveal C.I.A. Crimes

By Victor Uno

Despite numerous revelations of massive CIA involvement in domestic spying, international espionage and foreign assassination operations, Rockefeller's report on the CIA only whitewashes the agency's criminal, clandestine activities.

"There are things that have been done that are in contradiction to the statutes," said the Vice-President, trying to stem the deluge of criticism, "but in comparison to the total effort, they are not major."

The "total effort" of the CIA, however, involves hundreds of thousands of agents and mercenaries around the world in operations that go far beyond the realm of "intelligence gathering." As the recent disclosures have revealed, the CIA activities have taken the form of a secret army aimed against progressive movements both domestically and abroad.

While the liberal press tries to characterize the CIA's covert activities as simply the irrational actions of an agency heretofore unchecked, a more probing analysis reveals that the CIA operates as a conscious tool to maintain U.S. political and economic interests abroad and at home, no matter the price in lives or money.

DOMESTIC SURVEILLANCE

Recent revelations of the CIA's covert domestic activity were first revealed in the Watergate scandal when five of the Watergate burglars were discovered to be ex-CIA agents. Later, major newspapers reported that the CIA not only provided equipment and disguises for the burglary, but was also involved in subse-

quent coverup attempts.

The Watergate expose was a big start in uncovering the CIA's nefarious activities; a more penetrating investigation soon disclosed CIA spying and infiltration into progressive American movements, especially the anti-war movement. The Nixon "plumbers" squad, which broke into Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist's office in 1972 with the help of the CIA, was aimed at discrediting Ellsberg and the influence of the Pentagon Papers he released.

The Rockefeller Commission also admitted that files on over 7,200 U.S. citizens were amassed through CIA "intelligence gathering" operations like "Operation CHAOS" and the Domestic Operations Division (DOD). "Operation CHAOS" was specifically used to infiltrate anti-war groups, operating for over six years and working in collusion with the police departments of numerous cities, including Washington D.C., Boston, Mass., and New York City.

INTERNATIONAL CRIMES

But it is in the international arena that the CIA most clearly reveals itself as a tool of subversion. Since it was established by the National Security Act of 1947, the CIA has undertaken secret activities to maintain the U.S. in its position of world domination, undermine progressive movements and repress national liberation struggles.

Probably the clearest example of this; from the many recent exposes, was the CIA's key role in undermining the democratically elected Popular Unity government of Salvadore Allende in Chile. Victor Marchetti, an ex-CIA agent, reveals in his book, "The CIA and the

Cult of Intelligence," that the agency was involved in "funneling up to \$20 million into the country" to support rightist parties and organizations.

Columnist Jack Anderson also revealed CIA collusion with ITT and other American corporations in Chile in a "plan of economic sabotage which was calculated to weaken the local economy to the point where Chilean military authorities would move to take over the government . . ."

Allende's government, which was a threat to U.S. interests in Latin America because of its nationalizing industry and trying to build socialism, was successfully toppled in a CIA-backed military coup on September 11, 1973. Allende was assassinated, thousands of Chileans were murdered and imprisoned and an ultra-right military junta took over which still rules the country.

ROLE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

In Asia the neutralist government of Prince Norodom Sihanouk was deposed in a CIA-engineered coup in 1970. The Lon Nol regime was installed which continued to work hand in hand with the CIA and the U.S. State Department to stop the liberation struggles of Cambodia and neighboring Laos and Vietnam. Only after a fierce and bitter five-year war were the Cambodian people able to oust Lon Nol and the U.S.

Assassinations of foreign leaders was another CIA specialty. Cuba's Fidel Castro, for example, was the intended victim of at least 13 CIA murder attempts. The New York Times reported that John Roselli, a former member of the Al Capone gang, and Sam Giancana, a Chicago rackets boss, were recruited by the CIA in a plan to poison the Cuban leader. The agency had promised to restore the Mafia's Havana gambling and prostitution interests should the attempts succeed.

Other criminal activities included promoting the heroin trade in Southeast Asia and the CIA's Air America airlines operations in Indochina which hired thousands of mercenaries to conduct secret bombing raids. The Phoenix program in South Vietnam was also created by the CIA to torture and assassinate opponents of the Thieu regime.

REFORM THE CIA?

The Rockefeller Commission, trying to cover up the agency's criminal actions, has proposed a number of "reforms" for the agency. These include legalizing the CIA's domestic spying and covert activities, integrating the CIA with the FBI, and forming a new congressional "oversight" committee to review the CIA's work.

Such "reforms," however, create the illusion that the CIA operates in the interests of the American people and only needs more "careful" guidance. In fact the CIA has shown itself to be against the interests of the American people as it spies on U.S. citizens, tries to subvert progressive movements and carries on international campaigns of espionage and murder in the interests of reaction and a privileged few. Only dismantling the CIA would truly "reform" it. □

America In Turmoil

NYC CRISIS SLASHES CITY SERVICES

NEW YORK CITY—The worst crisis ever to hit this metropolis of 8 million residents was sparked when banks refused last April to renew municipal bonds (These bonds are loans the city needs to operate services). Faced with the possibility of a \$792-M default in payment on its short-term debts, NYC Mayor Abraham Beame has ordered layoffs of city workers and drastic cutbacks in city and social services.

On July 1, Mayor Beame implemented the first stage of his "austerity budget" and laid off 19,000 workers in essential areas—hospitals, education, fire, and sanitation services. According to this budget plan, layoffs will continue and rise to 67,000—about 20% of the city's workers.

The banks, who reap 9-10% a year in tax-free interest (1974—\$1.1 billion or 11.2% of the city

budget), held out on purchasing the municipal bonds until the city agreed to surrender its "non-profitable" services such as public hospitals, tuition-free City University, and others they labelled "window dressing."

Mayor Beame, in collusion with the banks, publicly blamed "inefficient" and "overpaid" city workers as the cause of the crisis. Furthermore, he conducted a 6-month propaganda campaign threatening even more outrageous cutbacks to intimidate people into accepting the "austerity budget" he later implemented.

In response to these profit-making schemes, thousands of city workers mobilized in massive demonstrations against the cutbacks and layoffs. After weeks of turmoil—wildcat strikes and massive demonstrations—a "compromise" between city, state and bank officials emerged and Gov. Hugh Carey authorized Beame to increase municipal taxes (\$330-M) and accept new loans with higher interest rates. Deficit spending however, will continue as the new taxes only provide enough to retain police, fire, and sanitation services.

Most of the other service cutbacks will not be restored as Mayor Beame plans to shift budget expenditures towards "profitable" (for the banks) projects like redevelopment. □

NEW BILL SEEKS INCREASED 'LEGALIZED' REPRESSION

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Federal Criminal Code Reform Bill, known as S-1, threatens to open a new era in repressive legislation if passed by Congress. Particularly important is the bill's "official secrets act," which will forbid the release of "national defense" information and reinstitute capital punishment for "treason, sabotage, and espionage."

S-1 will provide for wider use of wiretapping, stiffen anti-riot legislation and allow courts to accept confessions extracted by police as evidence. It also will broaden the legal definition of espionage and treason to allow easier convictions in conspiracy cases and 15 years imprisonment for membership in an organization "advocating violence" against the government.

The drafting of the bill began two years ago at the direction of then Attorney Gen. John Mitchell and its supporters in Congress include arch conservative Sen. John McClellan (D-Ark.) and liberals Sen. Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) and Sen. Birch Bayh (D-Ind.). A major effort is being made to ram the bill through the present session of Congress before public sentiment can be mobilized against it. □

Mozambique: Independence After 13-Year Struggle



Women in Mozambique carry supplies to fight the Portuguese in the 1960's

By Polly Parks and Sherry Valparaiso

On June 25, Mozambique, a former Portuguese colony in southeast Africa was officially established as the People's Republic of Mozambique. Tens of thousands of Mozambicans, black and white together, jammed the capital of Can Phumo (formerly Lourenco Marques) to hear Samora Machel, the President of the country and FRELIMO (Mozambique Liberation Front). In his inaugurating address, he declared "a peoples' democratic state . . . in which all patriotic strata are engaging themselves in the struggle to destroy the vestiges of colonialism and imperialist dependence, to eliminate the system of exploitation of man by man, and build the new material, ideological, political, cultural, social, and administrative base of the new society."

Mozambique's liberation is a great victory gained after 13 years of protracted peoples' war—engaging in armed struggle, establishing liberated areas and nurturing the seeds of a new society, economy and culture within them.

BRIEF HISTORY

Colonized by Portugal for five centuries, Mozambique became a very poor and underdeveloped country. Its natural resources were constantly extracted by the colonialists and its 10 million people were cruelly exploited as a source of cheap labor. Initially, Portugal used Mozambique only for agricultural production and cultivated three-fourths of the land for export crops, like cotton and sugar cane. Due to this "one crop" system, a lopsided economy was developed and drastic food shortages occurred regularly.

With the discovery of large deposits of uranium in the 60's, colonial exploitation re-focused on mineral extraction. Little of the great wealth brought from these deposits, however, was used to upgrade the country and develop its industry. In fact, only one-tenth of the economy is industrialized, and even then only for the processing of export goods.

In addition, the people who traditionally engage in subsistence farming, were forced to pay exorbitant taxes levied by the colonial regime. If they were delinquent, the Portuguese would sentence them to "correctional labor," and contract them out to work in the diamond mines of South Africa.

FRELIMO EMERGES TO LEAD THE STRUGGLE

While Mozambique has a long history of many uprisings against the Portuguese, the colonial regime was always able to effectively repress them. The people were not fully united and they had no clear strategy to win independence. But after World War II, an anti-colonialist, pro-independence movement began to spread through Africa. It was during this period of upsurgent nationalism that progressive and revolutionary forces within Mozambique

began to emerge. After a long period of spontaneous rebellions, strikes and massive demonstrations, the nationalist movement matured into a revolutionary struggle for complete independence from Portugal.

FRELIMO, formed in 1962, stepped forward with a program for national liberation through building a broad-based people's movement and engaging in armed struggle to forcibly eject Portuguese rule from Mozambique.

Applying the strategy and tactics of protracted people's war, FRELIMO explained: "The purpose of our struggle is not only to destroy. It is first and foremost aimed at building a new Mozambique, where there will be no hunger and where all men will be free and equal. We are fighting with arms in our hands, because in order to build Mozambique we must first destroy the Portuguese colonial system . . . only after this will we be able to use for ourselves our labor and the wealth of our country."

During the years of armed struggle, liberated areas were established where the people administered their own villages. Working hand in hand with the liberation army, the local people set up revolutionary programs (i.e. land reform, day-care, schools and health clinics) to provide for the needs of the people. Women took part in the revolutionary movement and broke away from their subservient and inferior position in traditional society. Many people joined the FRELIMO liberation army and became good soldiers and militant leaders for the revolution.

FIGHTING THE ENEMY

During the liberation struggle, Portugal retaliated viciously and fought the revolutionary movement by burning villages and crops and indiscriminately dropping napalm bombs over the countryside. They also utilized the "strategic hamlet" concept developed by the U.S. during the Vietnam war; thousands of Mozambicans were herded into barbed wire compounds and allowed to leave only to attend crops. Almost all of Portugal's military equipment came through military and economic aid from the U.S. and NATO.

In an effort to further weaken FRELIMO and splinter the movement into rival factions, the Portuguese assassinated FRELIMO president, Eduardo Mondlane in 1969. The colonialists then unleashed a campaign of blind terrorism and massacre, which brought even more resistance from the Mozambican people.

Though the intensified repression claimed many lives and seriously damaged the revolutionary movement, FRELIMO struggled to overcome these setbacks and eventually emerged much stronger. Its efforts were then stepped up and in late 1972, FRELIMO liberated two key provinces essential to transportation lines. After this victory, the Portuguese army had to air-ferry its troops to areas outside the towns.

In 1974, the revolution was favorably affected by the progressive coup d'etat which overthrew the fascist Caetano regime in Portugal. Rightist forces in Portugal's newly formed coalition government wanted to keep its colonies and tried to manipulate the liberation forces to accept a joint Portuguese/Mozambican government. In answer, FRELIMO escalated its fighting and quickly forced Portugal to completely surrender in September, 1974.

BUILDING A NEW MOZAMBIQUE

Even with its independence completely established, Mozambique does not see that its struggle has ended. Now the country must be completely reorganized, its natural resources developed and industry built. Most importantly, the lives of its 10 million citizens must be upgraded and centuries-old problems—like famine, illiteracy, poor health—must be eradicated. This new struggle will entail years of sacrifice and hard work, but as the past decade of people's war in Mozambique has already shown, the people's determination is decisive and a new country will surely be built. □

World in Focus

THAILAND, CHINA ESTABLISH TIES

THAILAND—The People's Republic of China and Thailand established full diplomatic relations in a ceremony July 1, in Peking.

Thai Premier Kukrit Pramoj had earlier announced the severing of all his country's official ties with the Taiwan regime.

Thailand, which throughout the Vietnam war had provided the major base for U.S. bombing raids, has ordered all American military forces out of the country by March, 1976. The last U.S. B-52 bomber planes have already been removed from Thai soil.

Thailand is the third Southeast Asian country, after Malaysia and the Philippines, to form diplomatic ties with China in recent months. (*Guardian*)

U.S. JOINS PAK JUNG HI IN "WAR THREAT" HYSTERICS

SEOUL, S. KOREA—Adding more hot air to Pak Hung Hi's hysterical war-cry of possible "North Korean invasion," the U.S. has threatened to defend South Korea with tactical nuclear weapons. This announcement was followed by a recent disclosure that the U.S. Air Force had been ordered to begin training in the delivery of such nuclear weapons to target areas.

The U.S. and Pak, however, have not been able to provide any convincing evidence to substantiate the "invasion" charges. In fact, most analysts feel the recent visits of DPRK Pres. Kim Il Sung to Europe, Africa and Asia fall neatly in line with the diplomatic offensive begun by North Korea three years ago. North Korea recently reiterated its call for the withdrawal of U.N. and U.S. troops from South Korea as a basis for the peaceful reunification of Korea, divided since 1945.

In addition, the U.S. is aware the next U.N. session in September will move to dissolve the "peace-keeping" U.N. Command, actually a cover for the presence of U.S. troops. In an attempt to keep U.S. military forces there, the U.S. requested early this month that the U.N. command force be replaced by a joint U.S.-South Korean force. □

GANDHI IMPOSES IRON-FISTED RULE

NEW DELHI, INDIA—On June 26, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, under the pretext of averting a "right-wing conspiracy" to subvert democratic institutions in India, declared a "state of emergency" and began arresting all opposition political leaders. Civil liberties were suspended and the press heavily censored. The "conspiracy" however, was actually a mass civil disobedience campaign aimed at forcing her resignation following her June 11 conviction of election fraud.

On July 9, Mrs. Gandhi announced that she would reconvene Congress in two weeks to "ratify" the "state of emergency." Its passage is virtually assured, since her opposition has been arrested. Estimated at several thousand, those detained include right-wing leaders, the Marxist Communist Party head and opposition within her own party, the Congress Party.

Since then, in an attempt to placate the people's spontaneous opposition to the martial law-type edicts, she has suddenly produced a barrage of propaganda and reforms, ironically identical to those promised by her in 1971.

The crackdown represents Gandhi's growing unpopularity and inability to solve India's internal problems, like widespread poverty and famine, massive unemployment and industrial underdevelopment.

While international opinion has been highly critical of Gandhi's repressive tactics, the Soviet Union has accepted her thesis that India is threatened by a combined internal and external conspiracy. The USSR, which has been attempting to extend its influence over India for years, made no mention of the suppression of civil liberties in its press.

Gandhi's "state of emergency" decree closely parallels Marcos' U.S.-backed 1972 martial law declaration—although in this case, the country to profit is a so-called "socialist" country. □

CORRECTION

In an article last issue titled "Smith Fuels Fears of Civil War," the AK regrets a typographical error in the third paragraph, first sentence. The sentence should have read: "Enos Nkala, a spokesperson for the militant Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU), which favors continued guerrilla war against the Smith regime . . ." □

UNITY... Magkaisa!

L.A. COMMUNITY DEMONSTRATES SUPPORT FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS

LOS ANGELES—The overwhelming concern and support for Philippine political prisoners was evidenced June 28, when over 300 persons from various communities attended an educational/fundraising dinner sponsored by the Ad Hoc Committee of the Anti Martial Law Movement.

Over \$900.00 for financial and medical aid for political prisoners was raised from the event, which launched the L.A. area's campaign to expose the plight of those incarcerated by the dictator and provide material assistance for them. (Other areas in the U.S. are undertaking similar events as part of a nationally-coordinated effort of the Anti Martial Law Movement.)

During the program, Rafael Ortila of KDP spoke on the harsh realities of the political prisoners, while Prosy Abarquez of the NCRCLP, linked the role of the U.S. to Philippine conditions. A slide show, folk dancing, a skit on the prisoners, and the reading of solidarity statements from over twenty Asian and other Third World groups were also a part of the program.

The audience readily signed a petition for Congress which demanded an end to U.S. military aid to Marcos, and were also enthusiastic in purchasing a new booklet, "Political Prisoners in the Philippines," which documents the cases of some of the thousands of prisoners. The booklet, being nationally distributed, has been prepared by the Documentation Committee for Philippine Political Prisoners as part of the campaign by the National Coordinating Committee of the Anti Martial Law Movement. □

MIJARES EXPOSES MARCOS BRIBERY ATTEMPT

SAN FRANCISCO—Marcos' bribe of \$100,000 to his former propagandist Primitivo Mijares, made through Ambassador Trinindad Alconcel, comes as no surprise to the anti martial law movement. The offer, so that Mijares would not testify in Congressional hearings, follows the long pattern of corruption in the Marcos administration.

The "scandal" has been likened to Watergate, and similarly, has been exposed in the nationally syndicated columns of Jack Anderson on July 2 and 3, and in major U.S. and Filipino newspapers. The articles appeared two weeks after Mijares testified in hearings before the Subcommittee on International Organizations. The subcommittee, headed by Rep. Donald Fraser, had previously heard the testimonies of Fr. Bruno Hicks, Raul Manglapus, Heherson Alvarez and others, who denounced martial law and asked that the U.S. halt its military aid to Marcos.

It seems the day before the hearing, when he was already in Washington, D.C., Mijares received a phone call from Marcos, who said to him in Tagalog, "Tibo, would it be possible for you to not appear before that Committee? You know that we are saddled with too many problems here already. Your testifying may add more to our problems. It would be better if you returned to San Francisco immediately." Marcos then had his principal assistant, Guillermo de Vega, offer the bribe of "fifty." Another "fifty" was promised Mijares if he would leave the U.S. and visit his sister in Australia.

Despite Mijares' refusals, Amb. Alconcel, attached to the S.F. consulate office, also called him and verified the money would be waiting for him in San Francisco. Copies of bank statements from Lloyd's Bank of California show that \$50,000 had been deposited in Mijares' and Alconcel's names on June 17: it was withdrawn and transferred to an account under Alconcel's name on June 18, the day after the testimony.

The bribe attests to the value Marcos places on his international image and his fear that it would be tarnished, particularly in a public hearing of the U.S. Congress. As it was, even Anderson's column carried numerous examples from Mijares' testimony of Marcos' terrorism, vote frauds, financial chicanery and general corruption. This verified facts previously raised by the anti martial law movement—such as the role Marcos agents played in planting bombs among demonstrators, and how Marcos directed the bombing of the Constitutional Convention in August, 1971, and then blamed it on the "Maoists."

The FBI has already started an investigation of the case, which could result in the expulsion of Amb. Alconcel, who did the "dirty work," despite his diplomatic immunity. However, no amount of denial or fabrication by the Marcos administration can undo the adverse and widespread exposure of the "smiling dictatorship," and the blows to its international image. □

Northern Calif. Conferences:

FWC Builds 'Working' Character

By Cathi Tactaquin

BERKELEY—With six weeks to go for the 1975 Filipino People's Far West Convention, the program committee is busy finalizing plans for the four remaining "sectoral conferences" in Northern California. These conferences—in the fields of education, health, housing and elderly, and labor and employment, are key to the development of this year's "working convention."

So that the working character of the FWC could be strengthened and more participants drawn into its planning, the program committee decided to sponsor a series of conferences in common fields of organizing within the Filipino community. This setting would provide a broad cross section of community workers and interested individuals the opportunity to exchange experiences, discuss common problems and needs, and prepare possible working proposals for the Convention. By establishing these working relationships among different groups and individuals in the Bay Area, these conferences would lay the groundwork for a more substantive and successful FWC.

In addition, this would avoid the past practice of adopting resolutions only of "intent," as resolutions from these sectoral conferences could be raised for consideration and more thorough discussion at the FWC.

Two examples of this are the resolutions developed in the student and the youth conferences. The youth have proposed that the Convention have a youth workshop which will be developed and led by youth and who would prepare for it by working with the program committee. Northern California students have proposed a confederation of Filipino students against racial and national discrimination. Plans for its activities and implementation are being readied by a student steering committee.

More importantly, however, the program committee is learning the questions, problems and experiences within the sectors, thus becoming more prepared to facilitate similar discussions at the convention.

The schedule for the four remaining sectoral conferences is as follows:

Education: On Sunday, July 20, from 1-8 p.m., at the START Center, 314 E. 10th Street in Oakland. Sponsored by various people in the educational field, the conference will discuss topics from student and parent participation in schools to the role of the bilingual/bicultural movement in education. Organizers are asking a \$1.00 donation, and \$1.50 for dinner; a fundraiser for the FWC.

Housing/Elderly: On Saturday, August 2, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Project Manong, 561 16th Street, Oakland. Sponsored by Project Manong and the International Hotel, the conference will center mainly on housing and discuss how poor housing conditions bear significantly on other problems, such as health, social activity, etc.

Health: Also on Saturday, Aug. 2, in Sacramento. The Delta Organizing Committee, KDP and Mga Kapatid, a youth group, are organizing the conference which will address the particular the role of "people's" health clinics in the Filipino Community. (D.O.C. operates two clinics in the Sacramento, Delta area.) Filipinos in the medical industry is another focus of the meeting, which is expected to draw Filipino medical workers and students in Northern California.

Labor/Employment: This last conference has been tentatively scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 9. Sandigan, the Filipino Newcomer's Service Center in San Francisco, will sponsor the event. Problems of employment will be discussed as well as the question of organizing at the workplace for higher wages, better working conditions, etc. along with other workers. □

'END AID CAMPAIGN' CLIMAXES IN WASHINGTON, D.C. . . . (continued from front page)

drive, aimed at Congress, which drew over 21,000 signatures all over the U.S. and Canada; a budget analysis of U.S. aid to Marcos; the printing and distribution of an information packet to Congressional members and other authorities; and the fielding of witnesses to the Congressional hearings on aid to repressive regimes. The Washington demonstration and lobby-in were timed to coincide with the hearings before Fraser's subcommittee.

The National Coordinating Committee speculates that overall, the "campaign has contributed significantly to drastic changes in the Department's public positions on Marcos." Such changes are obviously critical because the Philippines is one of the major remaining bastions of U.S. presence in S.E. Asia.

Rene Cruz, spokesperson of the National Coordinating Committee, explained that many

of the gains resulted from the "better coordinated and more unified" work undertaken after the Anti Martial Law Conference held in Chicago last December.

According to Severina Rivera, Washington coordinator of the anti aid campaign, the two studies submitted by the National Coordinating Committee to Congress—the budget analysis of aid allocations and a Philippine political prisoners documentation—have been acknowledged as quite effective. Charles Runyon, Asst. Legal Advisor for Human Rights, told her, "you (the anti martial law movement) are forcing me to act as a gadfly in the Department. You keep on posing questions that can't be answered well. Your political prisoners study was very effective."

Cruz summed up the work in the campaign by saying that, "Although our gains are modest in relation to our goal of totally cutting off aid to the Marcos dictatorship, these gains give a good basis to continue working with the people of the U.S. in building pressure (on Congress) until the pressure gets so strong, that even Marcos' request for a gun to commit suicide with will require an act of Congress!"

He added that the movement could be more effective "if all the anti martial law forces were unified and organized into an active coalition instead of just a coordinating committee."

While the campaign to end aid has "officially" terminated, efforts will continue in educating the American public about the U.S. government's key role in propping up the Marcos dictatorship. In Washington, the extensive lobby work will be maintained, particularly as various committee hearings affecting U.S.-R.P. relations will continue through the summer, leading up to the actual deliberations on next fiscal year's budget. In light of the changed conditions for the U.S. in S.E. Asia, U.S. support of the Marcos government will be a key focus of these discussions. □

PILIPINO PEOPLE'S FARWEST CONVENTION UC Berkeley, August 29, 30 & 31 1975

PALINGKURAN ANG SAMBAYANAN (Serve the People), the theme for the 1975 FWC, embodies a new, emerging attitude that must be nurtured among those of us who actively search for higher social, political and economic change for our people. Serving the people is working earnestly to develop proposals, when implemented, will benefit the Filipino community.

Mobile speaking teams are available to speak with interested persons in the community about the FWC. For further information, contact the FWC at 504 Eshleman Hall, UC Berkeley, 94720 or call (415) 642-0795.

**PALINGKURAN ANG SAMBAYANAN
SERVE THE PEOPLE**