

Marcos Cronies  
Down But Not Out  
See page 3

# ANG KATIPUNAN

A Fil-American  
Visits Cuba  
See Centerfold

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Clark and Subic Take Center Stage

## THE U.S. TO R.P.: "LOVE ME, LOVE MY WAR PLANS"

By NANCY ROCAMORA

**B**ranching a pointer, the general strode the length of his war room, jabbing at one of the many colorful maps that lined the walls. "I can have Phantoms into some fields in East Africa twelve hours after they leave here, for example, to cover an evacuation of civilians from Southern Africa," he told a reporter.

The general was Fred "Freddie" Poston, commander of Clark Air Base in the Philippines, the year was 1978. The U.S. and the Philippines were in the process of renegotiating the base agreement originally signed in 1946.

Poston was telling a reporter from the Associated Press that Clark was essential to U.S. security worldwide. "During the first ninety days of the Korean War, 9,000 flights will be flown out of Clark," he added to emphasize his point. Or, the Philippine facility might provide a back-door supply route to Israel, should that nation fall under siege by its Arab neighbors.

Four years later, the Reagan administration confirmed Poston's view. Reagan

regards those bases as more important than ever—important enough to dispatch U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger on a mission last March and April to tell allies—Japan, South Korea and the Philippines—an important modification in U.S. defense strategy.

The U.S. Defense Department's classified guidance for the next five years emphasizes "a shift in planning and forces from Northeast Asia to Southeast Asia and the Indian Ocean."

In case of a crisis in the Persian Gulf area, U.S. troops stationed in Japan, Guam and even some in Hawaii are to be sent packing to the Middle East while Japan and South Korea are to beef up their armed forces to protect the North.

But the boys at Clark and the Subic U.S. naval base in the Philippines will have a different role. Now that the U.S. no longer has to worry about "containing" its neighborly China, it's up to the boys at Clark and Subic to mind the store for U.S. interests in Asia.

Thus it comes as no great surprise that Ronald Reagan plans to welcome Ferdinand Marcos to the U.S. later this year for his

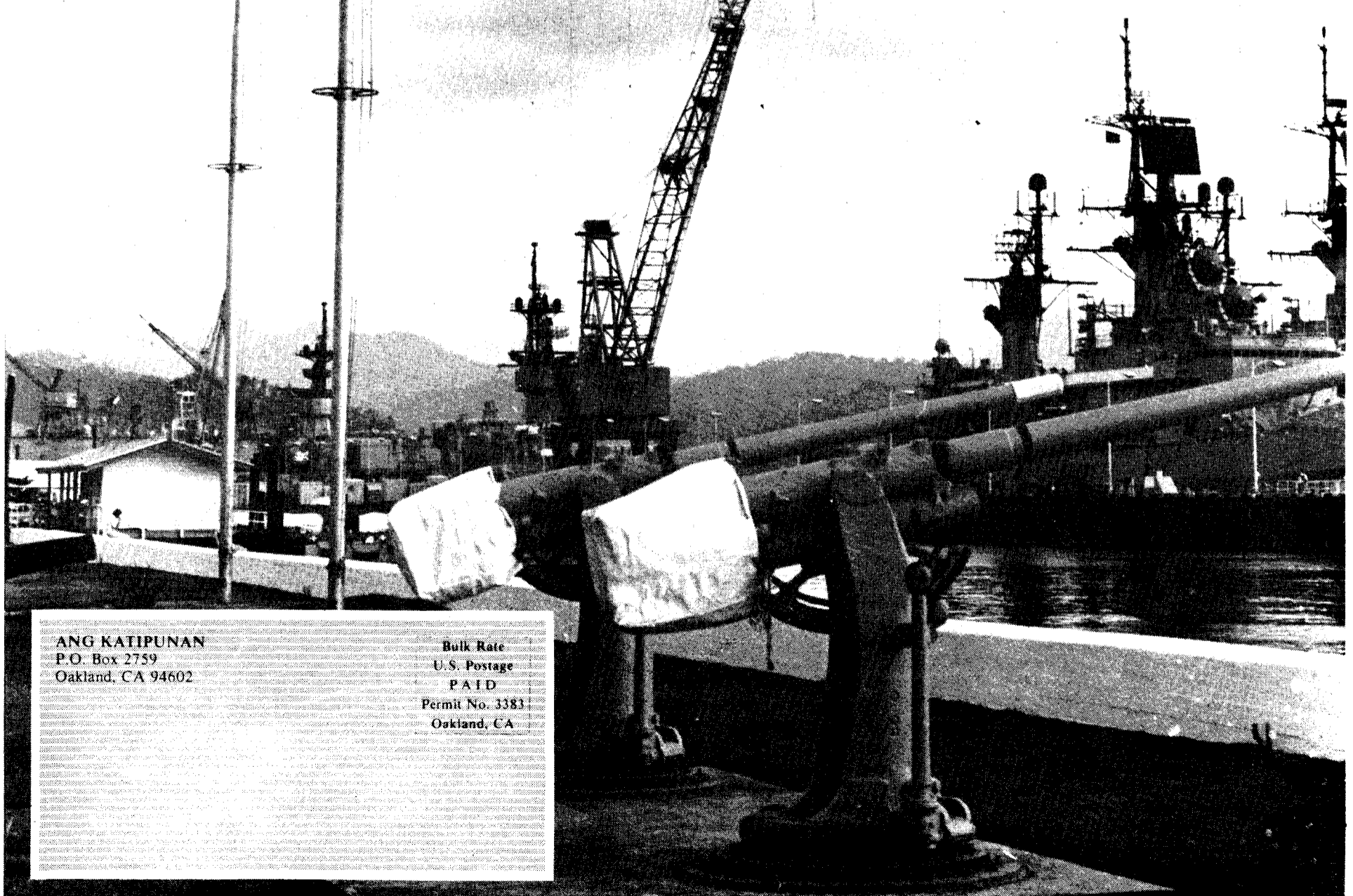
first state visit in years. Marcos, much-criticized as he is for violations of human rights, is after all the landlord of an extremely valuable piece of real estate.

Ferdinand Marcos has already revealed his intention to use the visit to re-open negotiations on the bases, ostensibly for more cash and cosmetics. No one on the U.S. side has objected to the proposal.

**D**iplomatic expressions of concern for "mutual security" will surely dot the texts of future military agreements between the two countries. But the new defense strategy of the gun-toting Reaganites has confirmed what many critics of the bases have known all along: there is nothing "mutual" about the security involved. The bases in the Philippines are crucial only to the U.S., as outposts in its effort to preserve its military dominance worldwide.

No one put it more bluntly than the U.S. Joint Chiefs-of-Staff themselves. In a top secret 1945 memo on the strategic value of the bases, they insisted, "the United States bases in the Philippines

Continued on page 5



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## Lebanon: Zionism is Genocide

The devastating Israeli invasion of Lebanon ranks as one of the most vicious acts of Zionism to date. The death and destruction sown by the Israeli might bares the real nature of Zionism: It is an aggressive, expansionist and racist cause that has masqueraded as a progressive alternative to the historic oppression of the Jewish people.

One cannot end oppression by oppressing another people. But the Zionist state of Israel is built precisely on this premise. It is founded on the need to disenfranchise the Palestinians, to expel them from their historic homeland and to crush every bit of their resistance. The mangled Palestinian and Lebanese bodies, the hundreds of thousands left homeless are but the logical result of this unjust premise. The "cancer of terrorism" that must be removed is not in West Beirut but in Tel Aviv.

The United States must be held equally responsible for the carnage in Lebanon. It is American arms—the \$3 billion in annual aid to its main ally in the coveted oil region—that has enabled Israel to launch such an ambitious military enterprise. It is Washington's guarantee of political support that emboldens the Israeli regime.

Reagan's limp protest and passive "demand" for Israeli withdrawal are based on purely self-serving reasons. The White House was merely irritated by Israel's apparent lack of respect for U.S. counsel (the spectacle of the tail wagging the dog), hardly flattering to the power who is supposed to be calling the shots. Furthermore, Begin's "rashness" in Lebanon threatens to upset the alliances the U.S. is carefully building with reactionary Arab states such as Egypt. Even the resignation of Alexander Haig, the Begin regime's most enthusiastic advocate within the White House, merely signifies a falling out among conspirators.

The reality is, the United States shares the fundamental goals of the Israeli invasion. Despite its irritation over Tel Aviv's crudeness, it echoes the Israeli conditions for withdrawal: the expulsion of the Palestinians and their Syrian allies from Lebanon. In other words, the destruction of Palestinian resistance, specifically the PLO, and the further dispersal of the Palestinian people. This is why Reagan refuses to condemn Israel's aggression at the UN; why it refuses to heed the growing popular call for a cessation of U.S. aid to Israel.

The Palestinians and their resistance movement need the support of all those who uphold the right of oppressed peoples to national self-determination. The Soviet Union, Syria, the Lebanese progressives deserve commendation for their acts of solidarity while the reactionary Arab states who refuse to come to the Palestinians' aid deserve harsh criticism. The progressives in the United States must boldly challenge prevailing anti-Palestinian and pro-Israeli prejudices and demand that the Reagan White House stop all aid to Israel's campaign of genocide. □

## The U.S.-China-ASEAN Plot on Vietnam Thickens

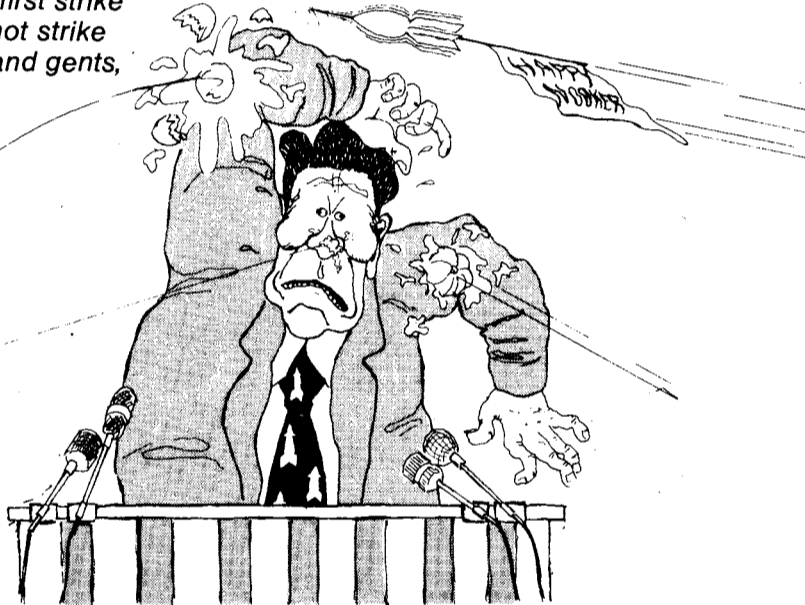
The ASEAN regimes—the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore—have been acting like bullies lately. The recently concluded conference of ASEAN foreign ministers sharply demanded that socialist Vietnam withdraw its presence in Kampuchea, or face the consequences. This grouping of rightwing dictators even self-righteously demanded that "truly free elections" be held in Kampuchea.

It is no coincidence that this burst of political activism on behalf of "the rights of the Kampuchean people" comes in the wake of heightened U.S. activity in the region. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger's diplomatic tours have been paralleled by increased anti-Vietnamese propaganda—from Vietnam's alleged use of "Soviet-supplied yellow rain," to Vietnam's alleged "unprovoked attacks" against U.S. patrol ships.

Washington's new ally, Beijing, has again raised the volume of its anti-Hanoi tirades. Meanwhile, the pro-U.S., anti-communist Cambodians now allied with the ousted Pol Pot forces and Prince Sihanouk have publicized their "unity" and preparedness to overthrow the Vietnamese-assisted Kampuchean government. The U.S.' and China's roles in forging this alliance was never secret.

It is becoming apparent that new military attacks on Vietnam and Kampuchea are in the making—both to destabilize Hanoi's socialist construction efforts and to install a reactionary regime in Phnom Penh. The U.S. and China are coordinating these preparations with the anti-communist insurgents. Washington's client states in the ASEAN are being tasked to lay the political justifications for these new attacks. Progressives and anti-imperialists must become aware of these new dangers to the anti-imperialist struggle in Southeast Asia and must take steps to oppose them. □

*I cannot agree to the Soviet "no first strike" offer because that means I cannot strike them first . . . . Now, now ladies and gents, hold your first strike . . . . please!*



## APOLOGIES TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS

Due to a confusion that was beyond our control, the Post Office did not mail the June issue of the *AK* until we found out three weeks later. We are extremely sorry for the unnecessary delay—Ed.

## COMMENTARIES

### Litter from Manila

### Give the IBP A Break



By INIDORO DELIHENCIA

In case you statesiders haven't heard it yet, "Letter from Manila" reports that our First Lady knocked them dead at the Knoxville World's Fair with her soulful rendition of "Feelings." Hardened secret service man Maj. Maximo Salbaje—Ma'am's personal bodyguard—broke down in tears, touched by it all. "No other in-demand world leader has the humility to sink to such a level to pulverize her audience with such deep-seated love," the major proudly told me. "Talagang nagpakababang loob siya para lamang budburan ng maalab na pag-ibig ang mga nanonood."

Rumor has it that Nancy Reagan got very nervous upon hearing the news. She has reportedly hired a professional singer to teach her Ethel Merman's rendition of "Home on the Range" so as not to be upstaged when the Marcoses visit them in September. Mrs. Reagan is in for a surprise. I happen to know that the First Lady is already rehearsing a favorite, "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend" (or something like that) with full choral backing. It's all in the spirit of friendly competition, by the way.

\*\*\*\*\*

Although he has been avoiding the limelight lately, Malacañang in-law Herminio Disini granted pursuing

business reporters a brief interview. Disini is not known for being extravagant with words and always keeps reporters guessing. Asked about the secret to his instant success in business, he merely replied, "It's all relative." Asked whether the nuclear reactor license was the most profitable one that he ever procured, he merely said, "No. Marriage." Keep them guessing, Hermie. . . .

\*\*\*\*\*

Steve Psinakis and his steak commandos have lost their sizzle ever since a U.S. grand jury, with Sec. Al Haig's full blessing, started grilling them. Steve, I have no beef with your burning desire to make trouble for the President but remember, one man's arson is another man's barbecue. . . . Hungry? Well, there's a plush eatery that's packing them in. It's gimmick is so simple. No utensils. All customers eat the fantastic Filipino fare with their bare hands—"kamayan." One strict rule: only patrons with clean hands are admitted, which is understandable. I am still baffled by one sign at the door that says, "No generals or assemblymen, PLEASE."

\*\*\*\*\*

Speaking of assemblymen, they are really getting dumped on. Some wisecracks are going around calling the IBP "Interim Bastusang Pambansa," "Intrigue, Bakasyon at Pagkamkam," "Interim Bukasang Pag-samba," or the English equivalent of all these "Interim National Ass—s." The rumormongers are not only corny, they are also dead wrong (especially those that have already been apprehended by military intelligence). The IBP is no sacred cow but not all its members are laggards. I paid a surprise visit and found that many are really good public servants.

Every other room was buzzing as assemblymen faced lobbyists with statesmanlike firmness. "I want 10% no more, no less!" I heard one saying to a visitor from the business sector—obviously spelling out the

guidelines for industrial output. "I want my nephew out of this," another lectured to a police detective, obviously telling the officer not to give preferential treatment in whatever he was doing. One assemblyman, who was so modest he did not even want publicity, is preparing for an exhausting tour of Europe's major cities to look for the best model for the street system of the new municipality of Baybay-Dagat, Rizal. So all may not be well at the IBP, but let's give it a fair shake.

\*\*\*\*\*

Subversives are distributing leaflets aimed at embarrassing the First Family. It has a picture of Tommy Manotoc captioned "Man No Talk" and of Imee Marcos captioned "Woman No Talk." This is really going too far. Sometimes our sense of humor tends to erode our national unity. How can anyone imply that the First Couple are ruthless criminals and kidnapers? OK, to put all this to rest here is the real story as confided to me by the President himself. It is true that they opposed Tommy's dalliance with Imee. So, the President told him off at the Muni Golf Course one morning. Tommy got so teed off he hit his ball so hard it went near the foothills of Sierra Madre. He spent a week or so looking for it until the rebels found him. They forced him to give free lessons, detaining him several more days until crack commandos came to the rescue. So there. It was such a simple confusion but the foreign press maliciously exploited it.

\*\*\*\*\*

Speaking of intrigues, someone is saying nasty things about me: "How come Delihencia is so rich when he is just a common newspaperman?" This really irks me. I am not just a common journalist. My vilifier is welcome to my house and my butler will show him all my trophies and citations. Some people are just plain envious.

Campaign for 'Joe Ma' Heightens

# Juliet Sison Released from Prison

**Editor's Note:** Hundreds of people have participated in our campaigns in behalf of political prisoners over the years. Human rights groups in the Philippines and the prisoners themselves confirm that these international efforts are particularly effective in putting pressure on the Marcos dictatorship. Although many prisoner adoption groups correspond with prisoners, it is not often that the details of the relationship, especially the satisfaction of securing a release, is shared with the broader public. It is in this spirit that we reproduce below a letter from Juliet Sison.

The International Committee to Save the Life of Jose Maria Sison was formed soon after his arrest in 1977. The work on the Sisons was subsequently taken up by the PSN-CAMD political prisoner campaign. Joema was adopted by the Seattle PSN. For the 1981 International Women's Day, the PSN National Staff prepared a brochure on Juliet. Over 500 postcards were subsequently sent to Marcos on Juliet's case.

\*\*\*\*\*

Juliet de Lima-Sison, resistance leader and wife of alleged Communist Party Philippines Chairman Jose Maria Sison was granted temporary release March 31. Mrs. Sison was released under a government program that requires the release of imprisoned nursing mothers. The Sisons' son, Jasm was born in prison December 6, 1981.

The Sisons were arrested in November, 1977 and have been in prison since then. "Joema" as Jose Ma. Sison is popularly



Juliet Sison at her trial in 1980; international pressure won her release.

called, was severely tortured and has been kept in solitary confinement on-and-off during the last four years. He was allowed to share a prison cell with Juliet only after intense pressure on the government at home and abroad. With Juliet's release, Joema is once again in solitary confinement at the Military Security Unit at Fort Bonifacio in a Manila suburb.

International efforts to secure the release of Joema are continuing. "We are very happy that Juliet and Jasm have been

released," Philippine Solidarity Network National Coordinator Elaine Elinson says. "Now we have to work harder to secure the release of Joema."

The PSN-CAMD Campaign to Save Jose Ma. Sison urges concerned groups and individuals to write letters demanding Joema's removal from solitary confinement and transfer to Bicutan Prison and his release. Letters should be sent to: Ferdinand Marcos, Malacañang Palace, Manila, Philippines. □

April 25, 1982

International Committee to Save  
Joe Ma. Sison  
P.O. Box 24737  
Oakland, CA 94623

Dear Friends,

My husband Jose Ma. Sison and I wish to express to you and your organization our deepest gratitude for everything that you have done to help us seek relief from our difficulties in prison.

My temporary release together with our newborn child Jasm on March 31 is up to the present the greatest relief that we have gotten as a result of your concern and efforts. And we take this occasion to express our gratitude.

My husband is exceedingly happy that our son Jasm and I have been spared from the difficult conditions in prison. To him, it is a comparatively small matter that he is left behind in prison and is back to solitary confinement.

But, as a wife and as one who like my husband has experienced solitary confinement for two years and four months (from November 1977 to March 1980), I know my husband will increasingly suffer the pangs of solitary confinement as time passes.

So even as we express our gratitude for what you have already done in our favor, we shall continue to seek your support and shall gladly be further indebted to you for your tireless concern and efforts.

In sum, we thank you for what you have done for us and for what you will further do for us. We are also more than ever ready and willing to do what we can to help in the total effort to seek relief for all political prisoners as well as in the more general concern to seek justice and promote the well-being of oppressed peoples.

With warmest regards and best wishes

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Juliet de Lima-Sison

## Cronyism

# The Chickens Come Home to Roost

By NANCY ROCAMORA

Not too long ago the biggest financial empires in Manila were the overnight wonders built by a select few of entrepreneurial golden boys.

A favorite source of *tsismis* within Makati financial circles and beyond was the staggering rise of the new financial elite—in particular Ricardo Silverio, Rodolfo Cuenca and Herminio Disini.

These three upstarts, it was true, had both money and brains. But the most important thing any had going for himself was a tight friendship with the most powerful guy on the block—President Ferdinand E. Marcos. It was assumed that the friendships were profitable for the President as well as that he had managed to reserve a tidy piece of the action for himself.

### DOWN THE DRAIN

Today the Manila financial scene looks dramatically different. The Disini empire, once consisting of 43 companies and growing, has shrunk to a mere seven.

Cuenca today walks a financial tightrope. The flagship company of his estate, Construction and Development Company of the Philippines (CDCP) has seen a plunge in income from ₱126 million in 1980 to a mere ₱21 million last year. Cuenca has had to sell 15% of CDCP mining to Japan's Marubeni Corp. and relinquish the CDCP chairmanship in favor of Philippine Minister of Trade and Industry Roberto Ongpin.

Silverio, whose Delta Motor Corp. is the only wholly Filipino-owned car assembly operation, does not publish any figures. But talk in Makati claims that this



Silverio



Cuenca

licensee of Toyota Motor Corp. lost ₱21 million in 1980 and ₱60 million last year.

Silverio's Philippine Underwriters Finance Corp. (Philfinance) collapsed in a scandal last year which still has Silverio and top Philfinance officers throwing accusations across the boardrooms. Silverio has been quoted as saying that his entire financial group could never cover the ₱600 million needed to bail out Philfinance.

At least the three financial whiz kids can comfort themselves that they have not gone bankrupt. In the midst of these overwhelming setbacks, they have received help from what may be a most unwilling source—the Filipino people.

### BAILING OUT THE BUDDIES

For Ferdinand Marcos, in a last burst of cronyist loyalty, has graciously extended the facilities of the Philippine government to continue financing these floundering companies or to assume them outright.

Thus on April 16, the Philippine government took over the stock in 12 of Disini's companies to cancel a debt of ₱1.3 billion. The Central Bank of the Philippines has pumped ₱300 million into Cuenca's CDCP and the National Development Corporation has bought four of his companies. The Philippine National Bank has lent ₱1 billion to Silverio's Delta and the government bank has agreed to reschedule all of that company's short-term loans.

### IMF CONCERNED

"I could write a book entitled 10,000 ways not to do things," Disini jokingly told an *Asiaweek* reporter last May. But Disini at least still has his seven companies and is eager to get started again bringing in the bucks. "I wanted," he said, "to get out of the debt burden." Meanwhile, the Philippine government is left with the problem of rehabilitating a group of companies some of which were built on the soft sands of short-term, high interest capital.

The trend has caused much concern in international financial circles, particularly within the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The IMF has, in exchange for a new round of loans to the Philippine government, been pushing "structural adjustment"—a paring away of the financial deadwood, rather than the assumption of more.

### AGRICULTURAL CRONIES HURTING

The glory days of cronyism in the Philippines are on the wane, a victim of worldwide recession—though nobody expects the institution to die out altogether as long as a Ferdinand Marcos is in office to promote it.

A brief check of the remaining top three cronies reveals that Mr. Sugar, Roberto Benedicto; Coconut King Juan Ponce Enrile; and the country's Top Banana, Antonio Florendo, are hurting far less than Disini, Cuenca and Silverio and for different reasons because of the nature of their business.

Agricultural exports require far less ready cash than manufacturing. Enrile has thus been hurt by the availability of cheap substitutes for coconut oil and Benedicto is spinning because of the worldwide sugar glut.

But nobody is hurting like the Filipino people. As their living standards decline daily and their real wages sink, they must watch their tax pesos go to the rehabilitation of a group of corporate lemons while the wheeler-dealers are off to try their luck again. □

# Buod ng mga Balita

## New Labor Bill Hurts Workers

"I anticipate foreign investors will promptly follow their natural inclination to come to the Philippines and proceed with their plans to transfer their plants here," remarked Philippine President Ferdinand E. Marcos as he signed into law Cabinet Bill No. 49 early last month.

Under the guise of reducing violence to striking workers, the Marcos regime has actually struck another blow at workers' rights. The new bill broadened the category of protected "vital industries" by adding to the list sugar, mining and coconut. It is aimed at enticing more foreign investors.

An earlier labor bill, CB45, which formally lifted the martial law strike ban retained a list of industries considered "vital to the national interests of the Philippines." Strikes were prohibited in these areas, assuring foreign investors in the country's public utilities, banks, hospitals, energy-related industries, and export processing zone plants of a docile labor force.

Sugar, mining and coconut have seen a disastrous slump this year, reflecting the slump in the world market. These industries also saw a growth in the militancy of a labor force hit hard by the crisis.

The new bill further lists all export-oriented industries as "likely to affect the national interest." These can thus automatically be certified for compulsory arbitration or placed under the jurisdiction of the President. The president can additionally declare any industry strike-free if he feels disputes may affect the national interest.

The government-sponsored Trade Union Council of the Philippines hailed the new law as a gain for the country's 28 million workers. Specifically, its spokespersons mentioned provisions aimed at ending strike-related violence brought on by hiring replacements for striking workers. Plant owners are also prevented from using the Philippine Constabulary and other government troops to break up strikes and pickets under the new law.

Felixberto Olalia, president of the militant *Kilusang Mayo Uno*, warned, however, that in spite of the violence-prevention clauses, the new bill hurts workers. Picketers face penalties if they "obstruct the movement of people and equipment" in and out of the plant being hit by a strike. This, points out Olalia, not only allows employers to bring in scabs, it encourages business to pack up shop, move to a new location and resume operations. □



Manila workers on strike; jeepney drivers blame Imelda for crackdown aimed at eliminating jeepney transportation. (AK File)

## Jeepney Drivers Brave Regime Attack; Leader Reported Missing

The disappearance of their union leader did not stop 1,000 Manila jeepney drivers from declaring a major strike June 7. The strike had been planned to protest stepped-up government harassment for alleged violations of city traffic laws.

The striking drivers accuse the police and military patrols of cracking down and fabricating false charges to put them out of business. One common police abuse is to tag jeepney drivers for violating portable traffic signs which are frequently moved.

One day before the planned strike, the wife of Mercado Roda, president of *Pagkakaisa ng mga Tsuper at Operators Nationwide* (PISTON) reported his disappearance. PISTON is a 15,000 jeepney drivers union.

The Philippine government had attacked the strike leaders as "members of the radical left trying to disrupt Manila." Many suspect that the government is responsible for the disappearance in a ploy to intimidate workers planning the strike.

PISTON Secretary-General Deogracias Espiritu puts the blame for the stepped-up harassment squarely on Metro-Manila Governor Imelda Marcos. The First Lady has long talked of phasing out the rag-tag yet flexible jeepney for a still to be built modern light-rail transit system. Observers suggest that she hopes to make driving a jeepney expensive enough to force drivers out of business.

Jeepneys, for Manila residents, remain the most easily accessible means of transportation.

The strikers' demands call for an end to the high fines, a stop to all confiscation of driver's licenses, the enforcement of laws as they relate to fixed traffic signs, and the end to any phase-out of jeepneys.

Roda has not been seen since June 6. His family worries that he may be imprisoned in a government "safehouse" or killed. They seek help from friends and supporters to pressure the government into revealing his whereabouts. □

## FM Calls for ASEAN 'Economic Bloc'

President Ferdinand E. Marcos called for a new ASEAN Summit Conference.

Marcos issued his proposal at the 13th Ministerial Meeting of ASEAN in Manila May 20.

The key agenda item the Philippine President proposed for such a meeting was the establishment of a regional free trade zone (FTZ) which would "take all of the next ten years to stage," he insisted.

Marcos' call comes at a time when the Philippines and the rest of the Southeast Asian region are suffering from the effects of the worldwide recession.

The meeting of ASEAN Ministers reflected the growing concern within the region over a shift toward protectionism among their industrialized trading partners. Specifically targeted were nations like the U.S. whose domestic policies have affected many of ASEAN's export products.

Philippine Prime Minister Cesar Virata backed Marcos' proposals, stating that ASEAN should "act more like an economic community," if it is to achieve its stated goal of self-reliance. Virata added, "We should trade more."

### LIMITS TO INTRA-ASEAN TRADE

A number of observers, however, were left baffled by the FTZ proposal. Intra-ASEAN trade has already grown significantly in recent years due to reduced tariffs and duties arranged by past ministerial meetings. Some 8,500 ASEAN products already fall under preferential trade arrangements.

Furthermore, trade between ASEAN members is automatically limited to each country's traditional exports, the majority of which are raw materials.

The ASEAN countries are thus hamstrung by their lopsided colonial and neo-colonial development. Since none of them have developed primary industries, all are dependent upon the industrialized countries for finished products. There is only so much sugar, copper, tin, rubber, and coconut ASEAN can trade within itself.

Though seen as an effective defence against protectionism, the formation of cartels poses other complications for ASEAN.

Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand produce more than three-quarters of the world's supply of tin and rubber and thus might be able to exert some limited price control. Singapore and the Philippines, however, do not export these products.

The Philippines has little hope of influencing the prices of its major exports. It ranks fifth in world sugar production which has recently hit a new market low. The only other sugar producer in ASEAN is Thailand while a substantial portion of the world's sugar is produced in Latin America.

While 80% of the world's copra comes from the Philippines, the need for coconut oil has diminished substantially and is being replaced by soybean and other plant oil. Finally, copper, the Philippines' third key export, offers no hope whatsoever. The two other key producers of the product are Zambia and Chile.

To no one's great surprise, the response by ASEAN leaders to Marcos' call has been lukewarm at best. They as well as Marcos and Virata know the limits of the Free Trade Zone notion. This leading observers here to suspect that the call is born of desperation and designed principally for show. □

## Tanay People Resist Kaliwa Dam

In the mountain town of Tanay in Eastern Rizal, Dumagat-Remantodo natives and settlers have joined with lowland supporters to retain their land and livelihood. The Citizens Alliance Against the Kaliwa-Kanan Dam opposes the construction of Kaliwa Dam and the regime's efforts to remove local folk to make way for friends and cronies.

The town sits on a point 25 kilometers from Manila yet the Dumagat-Remantodo people and more recent Philippine government finds the spot ideal to produce hydro-electric power and increase the water supply for the Metro-Manila area.

But the toll on the Dumaga-Remantodo people will be devastating, destroying 29,000 of their 50,000



Community meeting against Tanay Dam; residents are outraged at takeover of their lands by cronies.

hectares of rich soil. 1,650 families or 11,000 people from seven barrios will be displaced from their riverbank homes on both rivers.

The projected completion date for the dam is not until 1996, dependent upon the availability of funds. Yet the Dumagat-Remantodo people and more recent settlers are already being ordered to leave their lands.

The people of Tanay are particularly angered to see that the evacuated land is being purchased by regime officials and their friends to be used for agribusiness and cattle-raising.

The Dumagat-Remantodo natives refuse to abandon their struggle for they are familiar with the fate of the people evacuated for the construction of the Pantabagan, Ambuklao and Binga dams. Those relocated were moved to inaccessible lowland areas with unarable land.

The project is backed by three foreign banks which plan to finance 48% of the dam cost: the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of Japan. The remaining 52% will come from taxes paid to the Philippine government from the Filipino people.

The Marcos regime's eventual goal for the 130-foot structure is to produce 45 megawatts of electrical power and supply for Lungsod Silangan. □

## Baranggay Elections A Clean Sweep for FM

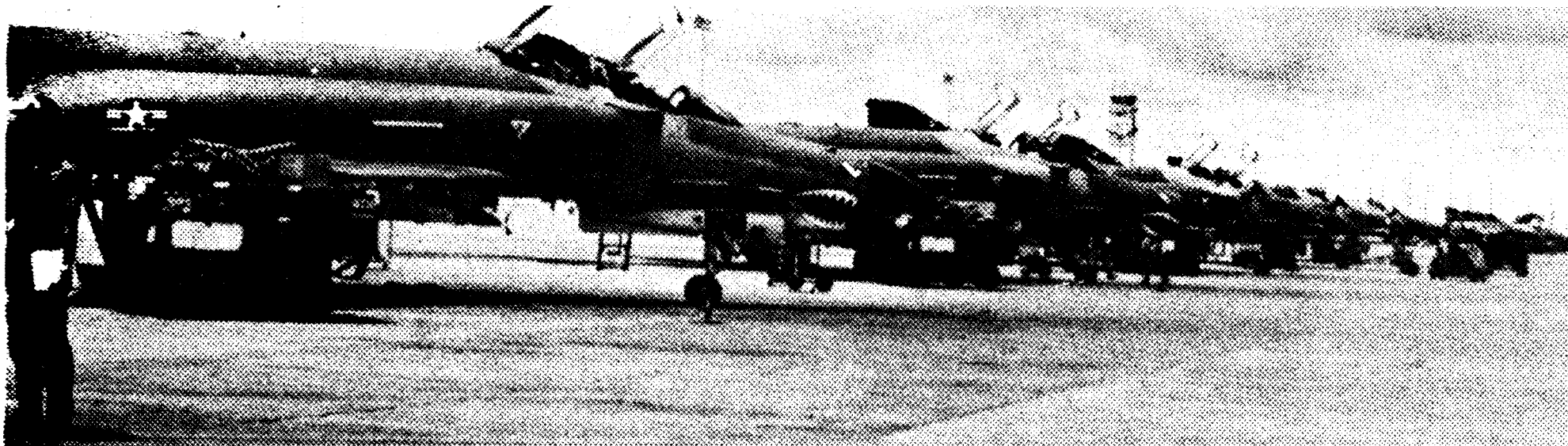
To no one's surprise, the May 17 nationwide *barangay* elections in the Philippines produced an overwhelming victory for President Ferdinand E. Marcos' *Kilusang Bagong Lipunan* (KBL) party.

Reports of the exercise—aimed at placing one *barangay* captain and six councilmen in each of the country's 42,000 *barangays*—were scant, but they suggest that the polls was far less explosive than the Interim *Batasang Pambansa* election of 1978.

Despite the meagre reportage, a number of irregularities were revealed. Four armed men entered a Muntinlupa poll and forced voting officials to allow several flying voters to cast their ballots. Flying voters were also reported in Pasay, Parañaque, and Pasig.

Only 4,000 of Pasig's 12,000 registered voters were allowed to vote. The remainder were not listed as eligible voters in the municipality's polling centers. Last-minute changes of voting centers prevented a large number of Cebu residents from casting their ballots.

Other reports reveal resistance to the elections which seriously disrupted it. Elections in 98 *barangays* were not held because of threats of violence and terrorism. In Zamboanga, elections were held a few weeks late because of a rash of bombings. A bomb hurled after a San Juan, Rizal polling center was closed allowed seven men to snatch two ballot boxes. □



U.S. Phantom jets line up on Clark runway; Philippine base could provide backdoor supply route to anywhere in Asia, Africa or the Middle East.

## 'Love Me, Love My War'

Continued from front page

should be considered not merely as outposts, but as springboards from which the United States Armed Forces may be projected."

One backgrounder written for the right-wing Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington remarked, "The depth and range of facilities presently performed from Subic Bay is staggering and not available elsewhere in the western Pacific. Subic Bay is a base that has everything a fleet could want: repair shops, an air station (Cubi Point) that sees 11,000 take-offs and landings a month, its own



"Cap" Weinberger visits Clark in March; new strategy relies more on Philippines than ever.

mountain reserved for ship to shore gunnery practice, enough beaches so that some can be set aside for the Marines to practice amphibious landings."

Loss of Subic would mean loss of six days or more in vital repair and response time were the U.S. forced to rely on other bases anywhere in the region. Furthermore, observers insist that Subic is one of nine secret ports with U.S. nuclear submarine pens. The pens were reportedly blasted into the rock beneath the Zambales Mountains.

Finally, Subic's facilities would cost billions to reproduce elsewhere, and cheap Philippine labor saves the U.S. Navy millions of dollars yearly. Labor at Subic as of 1978 was \$23 per man/day for a 12-hour shift. At the U.S. naval office in Singapore, the cost rose to \$30 per man/day; in Japan to \$107 and in Guam to \$151.

Clark Air Base, the second largest U.S. air base in the world, benefits similarly from the cheap labor of 18,000 Filipinos. Its impressive array of facilities includes the Crow Valley Bombing Range, a chunk of plain and jungle set aside exclusively for live aerial bombing and gunnery practice.

Few countries are likely to be as gracious as the Philippines which allots two-thirds of its air traffic lanes and a large proportion of its internationally assigned air frequencies to the U.S. military.

In the smooth language of diplomacy, Michael Armacost, current U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines says, "The bases clearly enable us to maintain a military presence in this part of the world for the purpose of protecting the sea and

air lanes of communication in the western Pacific."

Armacost is not merely fantasizing. The bases have proven their usefulness as arsenals for U.S. wars in Asia several times before.

In 1900, they served as staging areas for U.S. military contingents serving in the Boxer Rebellion in China.

From 1918 to 1920, they acted as a base for intervention in Soviet Siberia and in 1927 they played a role in protecting the international settlement in Shanghai.

In 1958, Clark provided a base for U.S. intervention against Sukarno in neighboring Indonesia during the "Colonels' Rebellion." Throughout the Vietnam War, Clark and Subic provided vital staging areas for America's most vicious act of intervention to date.

Almost as an afterthought, Armacost adds that the bases deter "challenges" to the security of the Philippines." But Philippine and U.S. officials have had difficulty proving that these challenges are "external." In fact State Department and U.S. armed forces officials had to admit during the 1979 Congressional hearings on the bases agreement that the "Philippines is in no danger of being attacked by a hostile external force."

Ironically this has bolstered the contention posed by Filipino nationalists, notably by the late Senator Claro M. Recto, that the Philippines will be attacked by a foreign force because of the bases, not in spite of them.

U.S. officials then, are referring to security challenges that are "internal." The bases are seen as a counterforce against any revolutionary upheavals that may threaten the pro-U.S. government.

The origin of the bases has in fact been partly rooted in the drive to suppress Filipinos during the Benevolent Assimilation era at the turn of the century. They originated as simple garrisons flung throughout the countryside where Krag-carrying U.S. soldiers and cavalymen rested their battle-weary feet as they exchanged stories about those ragged, barefooted brown "googoes" who simply would not give up their fight for independence.

The area now occupied by Clark, for example, included what was then known as Fort Stotsenberg. U.S. expeditionary forces also took over the site of a naval base already being developed by the Spanish colonialists, and that became Subic. With the final defeat of the Filipino *independistas*, the Americans consolidated their garrisons in more strategically located sites. After "independence" in 1946, their use against internal upheavals became part of standard operations, albeit low-key.

During the Huk Rebellion of 1945, the U.S. graciously offered its facilities at Clark and its pilots for bombing runs against the guerrillas in Central Luzon. In 1972, the offer was repeated and Philippine Air Force bombers took off from Clark on strafing runs against NPA guerrillas in Isabela. At about the same time, the Symington Committee in Congress reported that U.S. helicopter pilots participated in reconnaissance flights to direct Philippine

troop movements against guerrillas in Central Luzon. In 1973, PAF pilots received their training at the same base.

Filipino resistance to the bases has flared up at many times. Apart from the killings of Filipinos by U.S. servicemen who were almost always spirited away to the U.S. to escape prosecution, many nationalists are still smarting from the ignominious way the bases were secured by the Americans after World War II. Washington threatened not to give war damage payments if the country did not sign over the bases to the U.S. In addition, Washington saw to it that Manuel Roxas, a collaborator with the Japanese, became president. He could be threatened with prosecution if he did not see to it that U.S. economic and military interests were not secured. Thus, popular resistance to the bases remained simmering beneath a submissive surface.

In response, even the closest of U.S. friends, Ferdinand Marcos, has had to play the role of nationalist—but only to demand cold cash, not withdrawal. As a result of the base negotiations of 1978, the Philippine government now receives \$500 million a year in aid—almost all of it military.

In a gesture designed to soften the glare of continued U.S. presence, the U.S. also agreed to acknowledge Philippine "sovereignty" over the bases. Thus today the U.S. flag no longer flies over Clark or Subic. It has been replaced by that of the Philippines.

Subic's entrance gate now reads "Philippine Naval Base." Clark's official commander is none other than Gen. Fabian Ver who otherwise keeps himself busy as Chief of Staff of the Philippine Armed Forces and head of the dreaded National Intelligence and Security Agency—an equivalent of the FBI and CIA all rolled into one.

Ver's new position and the sight of the Philippine flag waving over Clark and Subic has done little to win over the opposition to the bases. Few are comfortable at the thought of the vast nuclear weapons reserves at Clark and Subic. "The U.S.

can now stock as many nuclear missiles in Clark and Subic as it wants, so long as the stocking is done silently and discreetly," commended journalist Teodoro Benigno, hardly an opposition figure, in August 1981.

"Russia will attack the Philippines not because it considers us an enemy, but to cripple American bases which would be used against it," insists elder statesman and former Senator Lorenzo Tañada.

Faced by arguments against involvement in a worldwide nuclear conflict, supporters of the bases fall back on an economic argument: should the U.S. bases be withdrawn, 30,000 Filipinos employed at Subic, 18,000 employed at Clark and thousands more engaged in support services will lose their jobs.

Their worry is by no means considered all that important by critics. "The bases," growls Homobono Adaza, Governor of Misamis Oriental, "have produced 30,000 pimps and prostitutes." It is a slight exaggeration but the image is compelling. Many would prefer to see their countrymen and women employed through other means.

"Of course, people will lose their jobs," exclaims Geline Avila, Co-Chairperson of the Committee Against the Marcos Dictatorship. "But that only brings up the issue of why this regime cannot provide for the livelihood of the people. Opposition to the bases is inseparable from opposition to the continuation of the U.S. supported regime of Marcos."

That the Philippines and the U.S. have a "special relationship" remains a consistent theme heard over and over again from diplomats and politicians. It is recurring with greater frequency under the Reagan administration.

It is a very special relationship indeed. As the U.S. engages in exploitative economic relationship with Third World countries everywhere, no other nation shares the distinction of acting as a host to the gigantic military might that is aimed at protecting precisely those relationships.

It is an honor which most Filipinos should just as soon do without. □



Subic Bay: "Everything a fleet could want."

U.S./INTERNATIONAL

**From the Editor:**

*Cuba and the Philippines have had many striking similarities. They were both colonies of Spain, and later of the United States. They are island countries, where sugar has played an important role in their economic development. But here the similarities stop. The Philippines remained a neocolony of the U.S. and the Filipino people suffer from both foreign and domestic repression and exploitation. But Cuba and the Cuban people fought through a revolution, which overthrew a repressive puppet government, and eventually ousted U.S. political and economic controls. Finally, Cuba became a socialist country.*

*The 26th of July is an important date for the Cuban people and for their friends around the world. It marks the anniversary of the beginning of the Cuban Revolution in 1953, a struggle which triumphed five years, five months and five days later on January 1, 1959.*

*With this special section of the July issue of Ang Katipunan, we extend our solidarity with Cuba. In one article, we share the observations of a member of our National Executive Board, Cathi Tactaquin, who travelled to Cuba with the Venceremos Brigade last April. In a second article, we provide an update on the nature of U.S.-Cuba relations—and explain the role that Cuba plays in relation to the developments in the Central American region.*

*In May, the Reagan administration renewed its propaganda attacks on Cuba by increasing restrictions that block travel to Cuba by people interested in bringing back to the U.S. information about the island and its socialist society.*

*In response, the Venceremos Brigade declared it "Will continue to travel . . . We will continue to bring back first-hand, factual information about Cuba—to report on the tremendous accomplishments of the Revolution and the example of a new society organized around human needs and based on equality, justice, and the principles of international solidarity."*

**A Filipino-American Visits the New Cuba**

By CATHI TACTAQUIN

Cuba is just 90 miles off the Florida coast. "So close and yet so far away," the saying goes. Most people in the United States know very little about this island country.

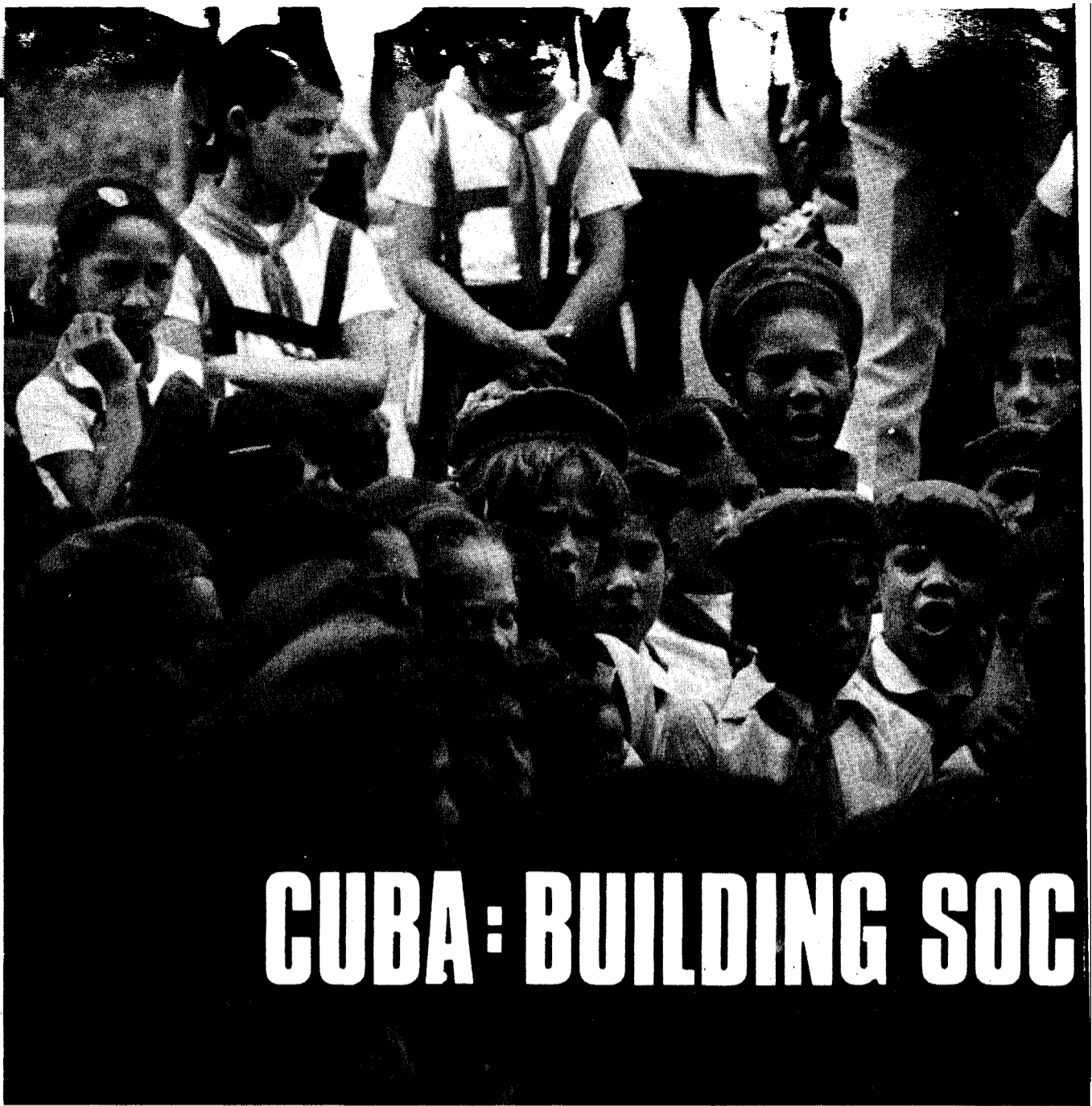
While I knew a little about Cuba, I had to admit my own knowledge was very sketchy. I looked forward to seeing Cuba to answer many questions: Is socialism working there? Is there racial discrimination? What is life like for the ordinary Cuban? Although I am a socialist, I realized that even my own ideas about the country could be distorted by years of anti-Cuban propaganda peddled by the U.S. government and its intelligence networks such as the CIA.

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I was in Cuba with over 80 other North Americans, as part of the "Venceremos Brigade." The Brigade's purpose is to educate people in the U.S. about Cuba, and to build solidarity between the North American and



Cathi Tactaquin (left) doing Brigade work.



**CUBA: BUILDING SOC**

Cuban peoples. Almost every year since 1969, the Brigade has sponsored contingents. The first brigade, composed mainly of students and anti-war activists, went for two months to help in harvesting Cuba's sugar cane crop which kept growing bigger ever since the revolution.

Since that time, contingents have continued the pattern of doing work, as a show of solidarity with the Cuban people. Aside from work, there are many tours and seminars, so that the Brigadistas can learn as much as possible about the new social system.

Our contingent, the 13th to visit Cuba, was very different in composition from the earliest brigades. Among us were community workers and activists, professionals, with a strong representation of women and minorities—but very few students. The average age was about 30. Quite "old" by previous standards.

The Venceremos Brigade—as with similar others from Europe, Africa and other parts of Latin America—is sponsored by the Cuban Institute for Friendship With the People. Brigades from all over the world visit throughout the year.

The contingents no longer harvest sugar cane, which is now largely mechanized. However, there are construction tasks, or work in the citrus industry—to which our contingent was assigned.

Cuba's uneven development became apparent when we began to work. As we exhausted ourselves digging and shovelling dirt into plastic bags for citrus seedlings, we wondered aloud—"Aren't there machines to do this?" The Cubans who worked with us would answer—"Of course there are, especially in the U.S." But the U.S. has refused to assist Cuba since its revolution in 1959—even to share technical farm implements. (Because the U.S. will not even sell spare parts to Cuba, the Cubans have had to reconstruct parts for old U.S.-made machinery, cars and trucks.)

Despite the U.S. economic blockade, Cuba has come a long way since 1959. Prior to the revolution, Cuba was locked into a single crop dependency—sugar—over 80% of which was purchased by the U.S. Since the revolution, agriculture has become more diversified, and greater attention is being given to industrial development. For example, one field trip brought us to a new textile factory, with production geared towards export. (By the way, while we were there, construction had been started on a hospital and an Olympic-sized pool for use by the workers.)

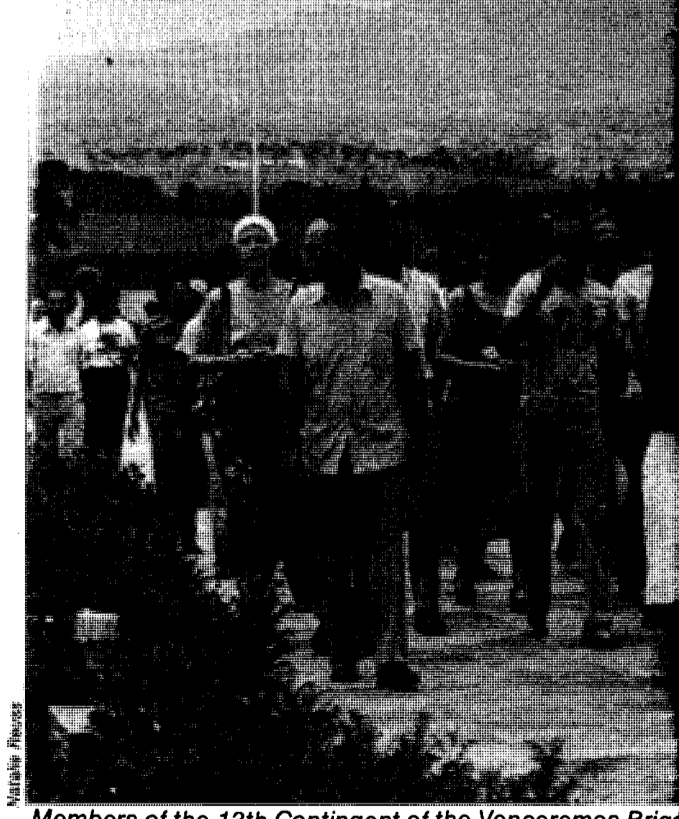
On a few excursions into Havana, we were constantly surprised—and amused—by our observations of city life. What would a city be like in a socialist country? For me, rush hour in Havana is just like rush hour in any other U.S. city (except the bus costs only 5 centavos). Hanging out of the open door of a bus careening through "Old Havana" reminded me of a crowded cable car ride in San Francisco.

Saturday night in Havana was crowded with young couples and families strolling the streets; going to movies (the "Last Shark" was the current big hit); eating delicious Cuban ice cream; or jamming into the many nightclubs for an evening of lively dancing.

What was immediately noticeable was the mixing of people of different colors. There are "white" Cubans, "black" Cubans, and every shade in-between. But it is quite a contrast to most social settings in the U.S., where whites and non-whites are not often seen together. Wherever we went in Cuba there was no separation based on skin color.

After the revolution, any discrimination based on color was severely punished. There is no difference in the kind of life people have because of their skin color, unlike in the U.S. where non-white people are generally found in the lowest income strata, and whose living conditions are lower than whites as a whole. Minority Brigadistas were noticeably moved by the lack of prejudice. Said one Black member, "In Cuba I feel like I have some dignity. I've never felt like this before."

We never saw people begging in the streets, or people



Members of the 13th Contingent of the Venceremos Brigade

roaming, looking for work. Under socialism, everyone is seen as a productive member of society. Every job is important and every effort is made to ensure that people can participate in production. If you don't have a job, you won't get evicted, or go without food. Your family will get medical care and your children can go on to higher education.

One of the things that impressed us most is the attention given to education. Prior to the revolution, Cuba had an illiteracy rate of almost 25%. Immediately after the revolution, a literacy campaign was launched. Hundreds of young people went into

# A Thorn on Imperialism's Side

By VINCE REYES

In recent months the Reagan administration has stepped up its political attacks against Cuba. Washington is blaming Cuba for the problems in Central America and the Caribbean and with characteristic anti-communist fervor, Ronald Reagan has imposed a strict travel ban to the island. This measure is but an extension of unflagging attempts to isolate Cuba since its Revolution in 1959.

The United States does have big problems in Central America and the Caribbean. The growing revolutionary movements in Central America specifically target the expulsion of overbearing U.S. business interests. The Nicaraguan revolution, now two years old and eradicating all vestiges of U.S. influence has severely weakened the U.S. position in the region. In El Salvador, the FMLN continues to gain ground despite the U.S.' increasing military aid to the notorious rightwing regime.

Additionally, the U.S. is beginning to feel the consequences of siding with Britain in the Falklands/Malvinas affair. Its stalwart allies in Latin America are now expressing lack of confidence in U.S. pledges regarding their "commonality of interests."

Losing ground in Central America and mired with problems in justifying its role there, the U.S. has tried to justify the need for increased involvement by drawing attention to the supposed root of the problem: Cuba—the "Trojan Horse of the Soviet Union" and the "capital of terrorism" in the Caribbean.

The newest restrictions on Cuba came at a crucial time when educational and cultural exchanges might promote a friendlier relation which the U.S. needs to avoid at all cost at this time.

But recent events are not the only reason for U.S. hostility. For the U.S., Cuba as a socialist society represents a "possession that got away" to join the other camp.

## A 'DANGEROUS ALTERNATIVE'

Socialist Cuba forever changed the balance of forces in the hemisphere and set a new standard for the peoples of Latin America. The potential of a society free of foreign domination was now laid out before everyone's eyes—right under the shadow of the greatest power in the region and in the world.

Objectively, Cuba has become a source of inspiration

sending troops to fight against the racist South African troops that were threatening Angola's newly-won revolution against Portugal.

At the height of the Vietnam War in the 1960s, Cuba sent medical teams directly into North Vietnam to build hospitals and to teach medicine. Although by no means a rich country, Cuba is prepared to share its resources and blood for the promotion of peace and equality. In essence, the defense of socialism and socialist ideals has been Cuba's foreign policy. It is a policy that runs counter to every bit of U.S. big power interest in the world.

## LESSONS FROM CUBA

This explains why the U.S. has kept up the slander for 23 years. This continuous barrage may have resulted in many North Americans viewing Cuba as a villain, but for Latin Americans, and U.S. progressives, there is a lot to learn from this "villain."

Cuba's revolution in 1959 was the culmination of hundreds of years of attempting to throw off the yoke of colonialism, first under Spain, then under the U.S. After Cuba was seized as an American possession during the Spanish-American War, Cuban society was geared for the production of sugar, expressly for the American market. The island's domestic production was subordinated and its population remained as peasants and sharecroppers producing sugar cane at the lowest wages possible.

After generations of resistance the final overthrow of "Yankee imperialism" came in 1959 when U.S.-backed dictator Fulgencio Batista was ushered out of Cuba's history by the revolution led by Fidel Castro. Over 20,000 people died in the seven year fight against Batista.

Unfettered by foreign domination of its economy, Cuba became free to determine its future and to direct its resources towards the development of its own society. Almost immediately industries, landholdings and banks were nationalized as a basis for eradicating a class of wealthy elites in a country dominated by poverty.

The revolution of guns then became a revolution against unemployment, illiteracy, disease and hunger. Twenty-three years later, Cuba emerged as a country where everyone works; where almost every adult has a sixth grade education; where health care standards are the highest in Latin America, and where malnutrition is no longer a problem.

In 1961 when Fidel Castro declared that the Cuban Revolution was a socialist revolution, the process of raising the people's standard of living was already making progress. For Cubans, the word "socialist" could not be equated with "repression"—a western prejudice. On the contrary, socialism is seen as the welcome alternative to capitalism—the system that had caused the repression of the past. This is the most important lesson the U.S. has tried to obscure through slander.

## SABOTAGE

Slander is not the only means by which the U.S. tried to destroy Cuban socialism. The U.S. tried to strangle

# ALISM

the countryside to teach the basics of reading and writing.

Today, there is hardly any illiteracy in the adult population. In fact, the national goal of a general 6th grade level has been reached, and the new goal is a 9th grade education for everyone. We were surprised that many people continue to go to school, especially night classes, taking up a variety of courses. Excluding children under 6, half of the population is going to school!

We were always impressed by the attention given to the children. We visited the "Pioneer Schools," which provide children with specialized education. Once a week, children who show particular promise attend the Pioneer School, or the "Palace" as it is called.

The Pioneer Palace in Havana serves 8,000 students a week. We saw classes in art, drama, criminology, etc. A miniature sugar mill occupied one large barn where students learned all aspects of production, including new



laying a wreath at a monument to the martyrs of the first battle of the Cuban Revolution.

technology. There were similar set-ups for tobacco growing, mining, and poultry farming. The students were obviously very proud to be "Pioneros." "Do you have palaces like this for children in the U.S.?" they asked us. Sadly, we shook our heads and explained how cutbacks are severely limiting even basic educational opportunities, especially for poor and non-white children.

We also visited one of Cuba's 12 "sports schools," where youth who show promise in particular sports can receive both basic education, and the opportunity to develop their skills. This school was named

Continued on page 11



Students of the Martyrs of Barbados Sports School.

and assistance for countries which are engaged in the process of challenging imperialism and oligarchies in Latin America.

It is no secret that Cuba assisted Nicaragua with material aid in its struggle to overthrow the murderous U.S.-backed Somoza regime and is now sharing education, medical and technical resources to help rebuild the war-torn country. In El Salvador, where the challenge to imperialism is the sharpest, Cuba has given its open political support.

Cuba has not limited its commitment to anti-imperialism only in Central America. During the 1970s, at the request of Angola, Cuba risked the lives of its own citizens by

Cuba's economy by ending trade relations (the U.S. imported 80% of Cuba's sugar and supplied virtually all its machinery) and imposed an economic blockade after the Revolution in 1960. It was other socialist countries, principally the Soviet Union, that assisted Cuba in the difficulties of embarking on its own economic course.

The U.S. attempted to isolate Cuba internationally. But the latter successfully developed diplomatic and trade relations with hundreds of non-socialist countries. Cuba has also taken a leading role in the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

But the U.S. was not satisfied with economic and

Continued on page 11

## 'The Manila Connection' in Seattle Murders NY Times Story Sparks Consulate Denials

Special to AK

"The *New York Times* no doubt is the most prestigious paper in this country," said Danilo Lopez, 33, a Filipino New Yorker. "They wouldn't put out something like this if there was nothing to it."

Lopez was referring to an article that appeared May 30 in the newspaper's editorial page, linking the slaying of Seattle union leaders Silme Domingo and Gene Viernes to a possible "Manila connection."

The article was written by Tom Wicker, a 56-year-old *Times* editor, and a highly-acclaimed journalist. Wicker noted that the murdered leaders of the Seattle-based Alaska Cannery Workers Union Local 37 were also "anti-Marcos activists, founding members of the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP) and active in the Coalition Against the Marcos Dictatorship."

Referring to statements made by legal counsel of the Committee for Justice for Domingo and Viernes, Wicker wrote that "Mr. [Michael] Withey's committee believes the original order for the murders may have come from Manila . . ."

Their investigation "found Philippine intelligence agents to have been operating in the U.S. since 1973, mostly infiltrating

and harassing anti-Marcos groups in this country."

A similar charge was leveled by noted columnist Jack Anderson in 1979. Anderson said that a secret report to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee cited "instances of surveillance of anti-Marcos groups by Philippine agents, all known to U.S. intelligence services that made no apparent attempt to stop such activities."

The *New York Times* article prompted angry denials from Philippine Consulates in Seattle and New York, "deploring the innuendo that the local killings 'may be linked to Marcos.'"

"It is a fact that the Philippine government has no intelligence agents in the U.S. tracking down anti-government groups," wrote New York's Philippine Consul General Ernesto Pineda in a *Times* letter to the editor the following day. "There has never been any record of harassment of opposition groups here by Philippine security agents."

Seattle's Consul General Ernesto Querubin, in a letter to the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* which reprinted the Wicker column, echoed Pineda's remarks.

"That the two were anti-Marcos activists in Seattle, by itself, does not warrant any allegations of Philippine government involvement in the unfortunate slaying of the two."

Interestingly, both Pineda and Querubin failed to comment on Wicker's reference to the San Francisco grand jury investigation of Marcos opponents last February, reports of which were found to have been turned over to intelligence authorities in Manila.

The Committee for Justice for Domingo and Viernes, responding to Querubin's letter to the *Post-Intelligencer*, also noted that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee report cited by Anderson, "states that the Philippine consulates participate in this [spying] plan, which specifically authorizes the use of violence against anti-Marcos critics."

In the same letter, the Committee for Justice asked why "the Philippine government, through Consul Querubin, presented Tony Baruso with its most prestigious award last Thanksgiving for outstanding leadership and service to the community," even after the former union president had been implicated in the murders.

Wicker described Baruso as "strongly pro-Marcos," and has been publicly honored by the Marcos government. He noted that the defense counsel for Tony Dictado, the Tulisan gangleader who was convicted of the murders, charged that the order for the killings came from Tony Baruso.

During his trial, Dictado made a statement to the effect that he knew who were really behind the murders but that he feared "for the safety" of his family in Manila. □



Three memorial services, honoring the one year death anniversary of Silme Domingo and Gene Viernes, were held in Seattle "to pay tribute to the union leaders' contributions to working class struggles." The service above, showing Domingo's widow Terri Mast, was held June 5th at the Local 37's Union Hall and was attended by 225 people.

By V. VILLAPANDO

What does a struggling union do when a powerful company pushes its back against the wall?

Set the strike machinery in high gear, and prepare to fight it out for as long as it takes.

This is exactly what the Alaska Cannery Workers Union Local 37 is doing after Ocean Beauty Seafoods, Inc. at Uganik Bay, Alaska proposed a contract that union officials claim will "destroy" their union. Local 37 has been in the news as a result of the murders of its two reform-minded leaders last year, Silme Domingo and Gene Viernes. It is affiliated with the International Longshoremen and Warehouse Union (ILWU).

While this case smacks of the classic management versus union conflict, the stakes involved explain the union's decision to slug it out with a powerful company.

The stakes? Job security for Local 37 workers assigned to Ocean Beauty, and more long range, the union's prestige as a "fighting organization."

If Local 37 goes on strike it would mark the first ever in the local's history.

### UNION-BUSTING TRY

It all started when Ocean Beauty took a series of actions that shook up the Local 37 leadership.

Local 37 recently concluded settlements with 15 other Alaska salmon canneries on a two-year contract, which included seafood industry giants such as Bumble Bee, Peter Pan, Columbia Wards Fisheries, and Alaska Packers.

During the recent round of negotiations, Ocean Beauty decided to pull out of the employers' association consisting of the 15 canneries, declaring it wanted to strike a bargain with the union separately on its own.

Without even considering the union's demands and requirements for needed improvements in the contract, Ocean Beauty proposed a series of "takeaways" that targeted basic benefits which union workers at Uganik Bay have enjoyed for many years.

The six major issues in dispute were:

- No first preference hiring rights for Local 37. First preference, Ocean Beauty representatives said, would be given to Sea-Alaska shareholders that number around 100 job placements.

- 3 No exclusive hiring hall. Because union members will no longer enjoy first preference hiring rights, the company says

## 'Domingo-Viernes' Union in Angry Mood

# Local 37 Set to Strike Union Buster



Local 37 stewards training program, held in the union's Seattle headquarters

there is no need for Local 37 to be the hiring hall.

- No wage guarantee. Ocean Beauty will pay workers only for time worked—no more, no less.

- No transportation fees paid. The company proposed that Local 37 workers will now have to furnish and finance their own transportation to and from Uganik Bay, estimated at more than \$700 round-trip.

- No stand-by pay. Ocean Beauty said stand-by pay is no longer needed since Local 37 will no longer have hiring rights, hiring hall and transportation fees provided for.

- No pension and the elimination of other benefits. In the past, these benefits have been guaranteed to union workers who have been dispatched to Uganik Bay.

"These proposals are part of a concerted union-busting effort on their part to eliminate our union members from jobs and benefits at Uganik Bay," said David Della, a member of the union's Executive Board and its Negotiating Committee.

### TALKS BREAK DOWN

During the rigorous mediation sessions, that followed, the union has maintained flexibility in a number of disputed areas.

With regards to first preference hiring, the union agreed to first preference hiring for all their workers assigned to Uganik

Bay (which numbered 71 last year), and conceded to giving additional slots to Ocean Beauty shareholders who are mostly native Alaskans.

Similarly, the union's Negotiating Committee agreed to a \$900 package, which would cover transportation, stand-by pay and pension fees for its workers.

However, the union vehemently refused to give concessions on the issue of wage guarantee.

"That deals with our workers' job security and that's our bottom line," declared Terri Mast, the union Vice-President and member of the Negotiating Committee. "We have no alternative but to strike if Ocean Beauty doesn't budge from their proposal."

Explaining the cruciality of this issue, Mast said workers might as well not go to Uganik Bay if there was no assurance of two months pay, estimated at \$2,300.

"What good is it if they sell their labor power knowing they'll come back with half a month's pay, or worst, empty-handed?" exclaimed Mast.

### UNION'S FUTURE AT STAKE

But the more long range stake involves the precedent Ocean Beauty will set with other companies in the multi-million dollar seafood industry.

"While we've signed contracts with other companies, if we give in to Ocean Beauty, other companies will follow suit—it

could mean the end of our union," remarked Della. "We have no recourse but to fight back and defend the basic principles of our union," he added.

Justifying their position, Ocean Beauty's officials are pleading "hardship case" citing the nationwide economic crunch, as well as the recent botulism scare that led to financial setbacks for the industry. In addition, they claim that they are still dealing with the debts of their predecessor, the bankrupt New England Fish Company (NEFCO).

Thus, they say certain provisions in the union contract are "obsolete," and no longer apply to "changing conditions of the industry."

Mast challenged Ocean Beauty's claims, stating that other companies that signed contracts with the union were similarly affected by the botulism scare. "If other companies agreed to wage guarantees for our workers, there is no justification to Ocean Beauty's refusal to provide a similar guarantee," she said.

### STRIKE VOTE

In a news bulletin issued to its membership of about 1,200 seasonal workers employed by 16 canneries, Local 37 rallied its rank and file to "support and participate in this possible strike action."

The response was overwhelming, as rank and file opted to strike in simultaneous meetings held in Stockton and Seattle. The union was given an additional boost when they learned the powerful Inland Boatmen's Union and the ILWU will provide support "all the way."

"It's the toughest bargaining we've ever had," says Mast. "But we are pretty optimistic because over the past year, we've been able to substantially rebuild. There's tremendous unity and interest among the membership."

A year ago, Local 37 suffered a major setback after two of its leaders, Domingo and Viernes, were brutally murdered.

"But even in the face of losing Gene and Silme, two murder trials and extremely serious difficulties in organizing and bargaining, we've carried on pretty well," remarked Della. "We're still on the right track." □



By ANNATESS ARANETA

Where do Filipino immigrants find work as they enter the U.S. job market? What kinds of jobs are most available to them?

Filipinos who entered this country in the last decade were of different ages, and different educational attainment. Old and young, men and women, undocumented and legal immigrants, they are all eager for jobs. They usually find it in the service sector.

Contrary to myth, Filipinos are not always found in prosperous "professional" occupations.

One simply has to observe restaurants, large hotels and hospitals, retail stores, or look over the counter of fast-food places like McDonald's to see Filipinos as busboys, waiters, custodians, and cashiers.

The service sector embraces a force of 30 million workers, varying from high skilled to unskilled, and continues to grow.

For the most part, service work does not require a college degree or highly developed skills.

**MARGINAL EMPLOYMENT**

Food service and lodging is the largest industry in the sector. It has the bulk of unskilled service workers, numbering 5.9 million. Despite its growth, no other service industry projects the worst aspects of marginal employment than food service and lodging.

The ease with which workers are able to enter this field, corresponds to a high turnover rate. Most hotel employees are started off on an indefinite "on-call" basis. Among the newly-hired, only a few stay after the first three months.

Jobs are not secure or stable. Work availability is determined by business fluctuations, which gives it a seasonal character. The busiest period for hotels are during the summer, holiday vacations, and convention cycles.

The industry is always vulnerable to crises in the economy. More than perhaps

**Hotel and Restaurant Work**

**An Unstable Haven for Immigrant Labor**

businesses, many of which do not even allow paid sick leaves. In these establishments, free meals and breaks are about the only benefits known.

Workers have to be full-time permanent before they gain benefits. Because the "on-call," split, or part-time situations given workers when they start, few are eligible for benefits for a while. Many wait a six-month to two-year probation period before their benefits go into effect.

Despite the "bare bones" that large parts of the industry provide, recruitment is not a problem. These jobs have become most available to the swelling unskilled, lower strata of the U.S. labor force.

**STRATIFICATION**

Minorities and immigrants (both legal and undocumented) fill this lower strata. The food service industry, for example, embraces 1.5 million immigrants and minorities comprising 26% of all food service workers.

A personnel officer of a Hyatt Hotel in San Francisco said, "Our best recruiters are our own employees who bring in their friends and relatives to fill in the vacancies."

In some cities, such as San Francisco, the minority population accounts for over

frequent. Few minorities or immigrants become bartenders. Most are maids or kitchen help. The managerial levels are overwhelmingly Caucasian.

There is very little upward mobility for non-managerial jobs. Elderly workers who have been in the industry for years are of course afraid to leave though they are not happy.

A chambermaid at Ramada Inn for



Filipina chambermaid making the bed in one of the better known hotels. By the end of the day she would have completed cleaning and sprucing up at least 16 rooms.

eight years, a Mrs. Añonuevo laments, "Kung ako'y bata pa at meroon akong pinagalaran, hindi ako tatagal dito, at napakahirap ng trabaho." (If I were young and educated, I would not stay in this job—it is very strenuous.)

But some immigrants who have higher education, settle for being underemployed mainly because the overall job situation is bleak. "Maraming mga titser o nars na Pilipino dito na hindi na naghahanap ng ibang klaseng trabaho, pero hindi naman umaasenso sa gawaing ito." (There are Filipino teachers and nurses who no longer look for other kinds of work even if they do not go any further here.)

**UNORGANIZED**

Industry-initiated affirmative action programs for higher skills are rare. Unions usually take responsibility for this. San Francisco's Local 2, for instance, has a training program for members. But where there are no unions, workers are at the mercy of institutionalized racism.

The immigrant sector has been difficult to organize and the hardest to have an accurate count of since undocumented workers cannot be accounted for.

According to Ron Granfield, an or-

ganizer for Local 2 in San Francisco, the union has made strides in reaching its immigrant membership. Bilingual information is made available, and a special outreach program for immigrants or bilingual members is underway.

But not all unions have been successful in activating the immigrants. Granfield says some of the problems have to do with "immigrants not knowing their rights." For the most part, employers make it a point not to fully inform them of their rights.

The struggle to unionize service workers dates back to the 30s, as soon as service work emerged as an industry. First-wave Filipino immigrants in the West Coast, like other immigrants, entered service work in between seasonal farm jobs.

Filipino first wavers actively participated in labor organizing in the 30s. Pablo Valdez, President of the Miscellaneous Workers Union, Local 110 until he retired, was a well-known figure in labor struggles that led to concrete gains for cooks and waiters.

"Filipinos had to be organized because we had no choice with the racism that surrounded us," reflected Valdez. "We were

kept in the backroom because customers would comment—"Why are monkeys hired to serve us?"

**HARD TIMES AHEAD**

Today immigrants are still seen as vital to the hotel and restaurant industry. Local 2 passed a resolution recently stating: "With a large membership of immigrants, both legal residents and undocumented 'illegals,' our union has a vital interest in immigration policy."

In the immediate future, the whole workforce will feel the pressures brought by the economic recession.

The very rich are not the only source of patrons for hotels and restaurants. Vacationing or touring workers make up the largest source of revenues. But recession and inflation have drastically cut into "dispensable incomes." Thus, the inherent instability of work in this field will be more pronounced.

However, the industry itself remains optimistic. "As now, the unskilled or semiskilled won't have the most interesting or best paid jobs," Fortune magazine admits in its June 28 issue. "But with the growth of the service economy neither will they be scrapped in the jungle." □



Young Filipina behind a McDonald's counter, part of the unorganized sector of the food and lodging industry.

any other industry, it is dependent entirely on people's spending capacity to thrive as a business.

It is prone to cutbacks in workforce as proprietors try to maintain a profit margin in periods of slumps.

About the worst feature of these jobs are the wages. Through federal legislation in 1960, entry-level earnings for service workers were standardized to start at minimum wage, presently \$3.25/hour. Union wage varies in different states, but averages \$4.10/hour.

Small businesses have tried to circumvent paying even the minimum to workers who receive gratuities ("tips"), citing that this extra income gained within their business premises more than made up for the insufficient wages.

Benefits are negligible in most smaller

half of the hotel and restaurant labor force. Local 2 of the Hotel, Restaurant, Employees and Bartenders Union reveals that 30% of its members are Asian, 20-25% Latino, and 5% are Black.

The food service and lodging industry mirrors society's stratification on the basis of race and nationality. For immigrants who have limited English, the working conditions are compounded by discrimination and stereotyped treatment. The language barrier sets a limit on training and promotion to higher-paying jobs.

A room attendant with Hilton Hotel for three years, observes "there is favoritism in promotions. Supervisors are appointed even before the vacancy is announced."

Jobs assigned to immigrants in particular are "backroom" jobs where prolonged and direct contact with the public is not



Hotel, Restaurant Employees and Bartenders Union, Local 2 went on strike in San Francisco in 1981. Local 2 has a large number of Filipino members.

## HR 6046 'More Deadly'

## House Bill Poses New Extradition Peril

Critics blasted the House counterpart of the controversial extradition bill S 1940, as a "devastating blow to constitutional rights and judicial process." House Bill 6046, sponsored by Representative William Hughes (D-N.J.) and now making its way through the House is strongly supported by the Reagan State Department.

According to its critics, HR 6046 "virtually eliminates" the political context provision of traditional extradition law and leaves the targets of extradition with no judicial protection.

In defending the bill, Rep. Hughes claimed that "Judgement about the political context or motivation of the requesting state is not appropriate for political assessment" of extradition cases.

Both critics and supporters of S 1940 and HR 6046 acknowledge that the move to revamp the US extradition process is being spearheaded by the State Department.

After an exhaustive study of HR 6046, opposition leaders from the National Committee to Oppose the U.S.-R.P. Extradition Treaty, warned that although HR 6046 is clothed in more liberal rhetoric than its counterpart in the Senate, S1940, the bill "carries the same serious dangers to civil liberties and political dissent."

We must watch this bill with utmost suspicion and unmask it for its real motivations," stated Walden Bello, the National Committee's Co-coordinator.

## REAL DANGERS UNMASKED

A well-documented analysis paper recently released by the National Committee, enumerates the bill's far-reaching implications on political dissenters' civil liberties:

- HR 6046 defines "political offense exception" so narrowly as to do away with it altogether. Under this bill, only "pure" offenses (like treason) would qualify for exception.

"Relative" political offenses, i.e. crimes of violence committed in connection with a political objective are removed from their political context and treated as common crimes.

All such offenses could thus be extraditable, except under "extraordinary circumstances."

- HR 6046 eliminates the "Castini" test, the principal defense in arguing the political offense exception in traditional extradition laws. This test holds that a person is not subject to extradition if the offense for which he is sought was committed in connection with a political disturbance or insurrection. "Judgement about the political context or motivation of the requesting state..." said Rep. Hughes, "is not appropriate for political assessment."

In short—the U.S. government will not

on behalf of the accused. rights or political record of a requesting country, especially its allies, in determining whether a person charged is extraditable or not.

- HR 6046, in Hughes' description, "does not apply the same detention bail rules or procedures as are used in domestic cases." Thus, a person may be detained up to 60 days without the requesting state producing the necessary evidence to show probable cause for the detainee's guilt. The detainee may also be held without bail in the first ten days after arrest and upon showing of good cause by the U.S. government, the non-bail period can be extended for successive five-day periods.

This provision sets up a double standard for the treatment of individuals accorded the same protection by the U.S. Constitution, thus representing a blatant violation of constitutional rights. If passed, it would set a precedent from which the rightwing could expand the practice of unconstitutional detention to other areas.

- HR 6046 allows the State Department to appeal an extradition ruling. This

provision was included according to Hughes, with the intent of protecting "both the government and the accused." However, under current law, the accused already has the right to appeal a magistrate's ruling through habeas corpus proceedings. This provision thus mainly enables the State Department to appeal the court decisions on extradition cases, and not to fill a historically and generally felt inadequacy on the accused's behalf.

Both Senate and House versions of extradition bills—S 1940 and HR 6046—are thus aimed at totally eliminating judicial process, either by giving the Secretary of State jurisdiction over the political offense exception, or legally defining it in such a way as to make it impossible for political dissenters to even appeal for it.

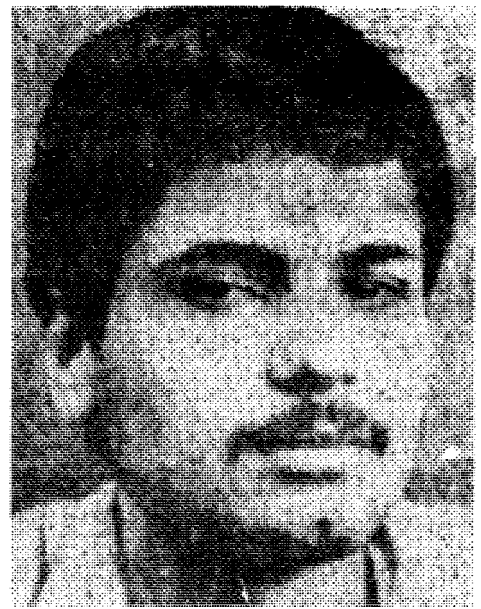
All political dissenters would be denied the right to a fair court hearing on the possible relationship between alleged offenses for which they are being extradited, and the political reasons why they committed those acts in the first place.

## DON'T ASK

A politically significant feature of the Hughes Bill is its treatment of the "rule of non-inquiry," which bars the courts from looking into the judicial process in the requestion country or state.

For example, should a Filipino activist residing in the U.S. undergo an extradition hearing, the system of law and justice in the Philippines—which allows persons to be held for years without charges; wherein persons accused of "offenses against the state" are to be tried by military tribunals and not civilian courts; or wherein hundreds of persons have been "salvaged" or have disappeared without a trace in the hands of the military—could never be examined or scrutinized by the U.S. court.

In other words, it is improper for a U.S. court, in evaluating an extradition case, to



Ziad Abu Eain, 23, a Palestinian whose fight against extradition in a U.S. court took two years, was recently sentenced to life imprisonment in Israel.

inquire into the existence of due process in such countries as Argentina, Chile or the Philippines.

Foremost experts on extradition law, Professor Richard Falk of Princeton University and Professor Cherif Bassiouni of DePaul University, have urged the need to adopt changes in the rule of non-inquiry, to incorporate now-accepted human rights considerations into the extradition process.

"U.S. courts should be permitted to deny extradition," claimed Bassiouni, "or to request assurances that a person shall not be subjected to cruel and unusual punishment in the requesting state."

He further urged that extradition laws be modernized but insofar as to allow the courts to determine whether the alleged offender—although requested for an extraditable offense—is actually being sought with the intentions of prosecuting him on the grounds of race, religion or political belief.

The striking similarities between the State Department positions on extradition and HR6046 prompted Bello to label the House bill "The State Department Extradition Act of 1982." □



Filipinos turned out nationwide to celebrate Philippine National Day—June 12—now an established institution in the Filipino community. Events were held in New York, Seattle, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Sacramento, and San Francisco. Amado David, a member of the Philippine National Day Committee in San Francisco noted: "This year's PND helped deepen our appreciation that we are a minority immigrant community in this country, struggling to uphold our rights as immigrant workers." David also criticized Philippine Consulate-sponsored "Independence" Day festivities as an attempt by the Marcos regime to promote the "illusion of political and economic independence from the U.S."



Preparations are underway for the 1982 Filipino People's Far West Convention to be held in Los Angeles, September 3-5. The site for this year's convention will be CAL State Los Angeles.

Shown in photo are steering committee members responsible for organizing the event: (l-r) Denice Palicte, Maribel Salomon, Sal Morano, Rose Ibanez and Committee Chair Araceli Rufo. (Committee member Tino Fabros is not in photo.)

Morano said, "This will be the 11th year of the FWC's existence, and the third time it is held in L.A. We aim to live up to the tradition of it being a progressive institution."

For more information call Denice Palicte (213) 835-3700 or Sal Morano (213) 250-0602. □



## A Fil-American in Cuba . . .

Continued from page 6

the "Martyrs of Barbados," after the 73 Cuban athletes killed in the 1976 bombing of a plane carrying sports stars returning from an international sports competition. (The CIA trained the terrorists who admitted responsibility for the massacre.)

The 2,000 students at the school board there during the weekdays (40% are female.) Everything is free, including all services. After completing their 12th year of education, they may go on to any career they choose.

As I watch the students—of all skin colors—I thought of a similar situation in the U.S. where private schools offering such specialization would cost thousands of dollars in tuition, and would obviously be limited to children of higher income families. They would also mainly be white. Certainly no ghetto children could have such opportunities!

One of the many highlights of the trip was our visit to a major psychiatric hospital. We toured many of the facilities, and for those of us who had visited psychiatric hospitals in the U.S., the contrast was stunning. There are, of course, mental problems in Cuba. But what has considerably decreased since the revolution are those illnesses which are socially induced. Illness that result from the strains of unemployment, racial prejudice, the pressure to live better than your neighbors, etc. What moved us was the sense of dignity given to the patients who were all working at jobs or crafts that matched their capacities.

We saw people making baskets and shoes and we

noticed some obviously talented artists who proudly showed us their masterpieces. Other patients were organized as entertainers, singing and dancing in a cultural program for us. A full orchestra backed an operatic singer during a banquet in our honor. The atmosphere was very warm and open, totally unlike the sterile, prison-like state-run facilities in the U.S.

Of course, in Cuba, these and other medical services are free, and very accessible. Cuba has already one of the best national health care programs in the world. After the revolution, there were only 3,000 doctors in the country. Today, there are over 10,000.

Symbols of Cuba's revolution are everywhere—monuments to its heroes, museums depicting different aspects and periods of the revolution. There is a new song movement which is leading in creating a new culture that reflects present society. The new songs combine the old, or traditional music—the Caribbean, Latin and African sounds that make up Cuban music—with innovations in music and lyrics. In general, cultural work has a very prominent role in Cuban society.

Everywhere we went, we were treated with the greatest respect. A word to anyone that we were with the Venceremos Brigade immediately brought us many new friends. During one visit to a small municipality, we were shocked to find that the whole community turned out to give us a banquet and program complete with dancing in the streets until the early morning.

One elderly woman warmly greeted each of us, holding our hands and hugging us. She said something that we heard so many times during the trip. "I'm so happy to see you comrades. I know you must make many sacrifices to come here. We are glad when you go back you will tell the North Americans about Cuba."

With these words, we were reminded of the purpose of

our trip: to learn, to experience, and to bring back our understanding so that people in the United States will not be kept ignorant about Cuba. So that the friendship between the peoples of the U.S. and Cuba can grow.

The short three weeks I spent in Cuba were very happy. It was an enlightening experience. I left with warm memories of the Cuban people, and a greater appreciation for socialism—as a system that upholds the interests and needs of the working class and the struggle for real equality. □

## Thorn on the side . . .

Continued from page 7

diplomatic attacks. Counterrevolutionary attempts forced Cuba to keep a vigilant watch. Bombings and killings of Cuban officials and civilians occurred years after the revolution.

In 1961 a CIA-directed mercenary force of Cuban exiles (mostly ex-landowners and bankers) launched an air, land and sea attack on Playa Giron, then known as the Bay of Pigs. The purpose was to install a ready and waiting puppet government. The attack failed but not before 100 Cuban lives were lost.

In 1962 President Kennedy almost led the U.S. into war in what is now called the "Cuban Missile Crisis" over whether or not Cuba had the right to arm itself with Soviet-made missiles against U.S. invasion threats.

The CIA has been implicated in over 90 attempts to assassinate Fidel Castro and is suspected of sabotaging Cuban crops and population with the introduction of lethal bacteria. Between 1980 and 1981 plant diseases and dengue flue destroyed millions of dollars worth of crops and claimed the lives of scores of children.

### THE REAL CRIMINAL

The U.S. insists that its actions against Cuba have been "defensive," and insists on its responsibility to protect the "free world" from the "poverty and repression of Castro's Cuba."

Cuba's progress has been possible mainly because it has not been built around the priorities of the U.S. For that, Cuba is portrayed as an international criminal. But for an increasing number of peoples worldwide, especially those who are experiencing the plunder of imperialism, there is nothing about Cuba to be afraid of, even the fact that it is socialist.

On the contrary, the U.S.' policy of propping up repressive dictatorships who maintain an unequal system of wealth is increasingly making it clear as to who is the international criminal.

It is not surprising that the U.S. government wants to keep the accomplishments of Cuba a mystery to the American people. With U.S. society mired with unemployment, inflation, education and health care out of reach for many; where poverty has created tremendous social ills, Cuba's system may become an attractive alternative not only to Latin Americans but to North Americans as well. □

## Clarification on 'Know Your Rights'

The recent issue of *Ang Katipunan* newspaper had an article regarding the recent raids by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (Operation Jobs). Next to the article was a brief reprint from an Asian Law Caucus brochure entitled "Search and Arrest Rights of Aliens." Unfortunately, the reprint did not fully explain the rights of aliens as they should be known. Certain sections are not applicable in all situations, and therefore, I am writing to clarify these points.

The "know your rights" section should read as follows:

### IF YOU ARE QUESTIONED BY AN INS OFFICIAL:

1. If you are a permanent resident, and an INS agent asks for your status tell him your name and tell him that you are a permanent resident. Show him proof of your identification, i.e. alien registration card ("green card").
2. If you are a United States citizen, you can tell the INS agent your name and that you are a citizen. He will usually ask for some identification for proof.
3. If you are a visitor in legal status, i.e. you have not overstayed, or if you are in otherwise temporary legal status, (e.g. student, fiance, etc.) you can give the agent your name and show proof of your legal status.
4. If you are unsure about your status or if you are undocumented, you can refuse to give the INS agent your name, alienage or other information, you have the right to remain silent. Use it. Ask to see a lawyer immediately. Do not sign any papers unless your lawyer is present. Remember, the two things that the

INS needs to deport you is your name and your alienage (i.e. proof that you were born outside the United States).

5. Ask if you are under arrest. If so you have the right to know the charge against you.

6. The INS agent may search you for concealed weapons by patting your clothing. Do not physically resist. Do not verbally agree to any search of yourself, your car, your home, or any other surroundings.

7. Remember, anything you say can be used against you or could be used against someone else.

### IF YOU ARE ARRESTED OR HELD

1. You have the right to remain silent. Use it if you are not sure of your immigration status. Don't engage in "friendly" conversation with the INS agents.

2. Ask to see a lawyer immediately. Don't engage in

2. Ask to see a lawyer immediately. Don't talk to INS agents unless your lawyer is with you.

3. Don't make any decisions on your case until you have talked to a lawyer and understand what your choices are.

4. An alien charged with being in the U.S. illegally has the right to a deportation hearing in which the INS has the burden of proving the alien is deportable.

If you are currently unsure about your status, consult a lawyer.

I hope you can share these clarifications with your readers. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

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Dr. "Bobby" de la Paz

By NENE OJEDA

Who killed Remberto "Bobby" de la Paz? Who could have pumped 11 .45 calibre bullets into Catbalogan's beloved people's doctor in broad daylight and simply dash off to disappear in the downtown shopping crowd? Why was the life of a young doctor, dedicated to the practice of medicine in the hinterlands of Samar wantonly destroyed?

Bobby's widow, friends, family, and colleagues have been joined by countless outraged Filipinos demanding answers. Their insistence on an impartial investigation and justice for Bobby has reached the highest government and military officials: President Ferdinand Marcos, Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, Generals Fidel Ramos and Fabian Ver.

The evidence is not all in and may never be. But the longer the delay, the more thoroughly convinced are Bobby's friends and family that the culprit is the Philippine military and that Bobby's crime was his determination to practice people's medicine in impoverished Samar.

"Dr. Bobby" is dead at 29. The lone gunman—stocky, mustachioed, wearing a white T-shirt and *maong* shorts—is still at large. He had entered Dr. Bobby's clinic in Catbalogan, Western Samar, just before 4:30 p.m. on April 23, 1982. Twenty-two gunshot wound punctured Dr. Bobby's body. Eleven surgeons of the Samar Pro-

## Outrage Grows Over Rural Doctor's Murder

vincial Hospital, including Bobby's wife, Dr. Sylvia Ciocon de la Paz, struggled to keep him alive. Bobby died seven and a half hours later.

### 5 STRIKES AGAINST THEM

The couple's move to Samar four years ago was welcomed neither by the military nor civilian authorities. It seemed that Bobby and Sylvia had five strikes against them.

Sylvia had once said that they were "being suspected as subversives because we are 1) from the University of the Philippines; 2) not from Samar but chose to stay in Samar; 3) not in the U.S. where most doctors are; 4) able to go to barrios to establish community based health programs and to return unharmed; and 5) attending to health needs of people regardless of color, creed, and ability to pay."

For these two UP graduates of the class of '76, the move to Samar came after a challenge posed to them by Dr. Florentino Herrera, then Dean of the College of Medicine: serve in the country's rural areas. Bobby and Sylvia participated in the College's six-month Rural Community Health Program. He in Zumaranga, she in Daram, island-municipalities off Samar.

Bobby and Sylvia learned to love Samar for its unpolluted beaches, abundant fish, and simple life. But Samar, too, they realize, had more than its fair share of human miseries.

### NON-LOCALS SUSPECT

In Samar, malnutrition, pneumonia, and tuberculosis bring death to many. Seventy-six out of every 100 babies born never reach their first birthday. Daily diets of *kamote* fulfill only 59% of the daily recommended food intake. Nine out of 10

people never avail of any medical help.

In Samar, government military checkpoints dot the poor dirt roads every few kilometres. Malicious sprees by drunken soldiers have left many dead, beaten or raped. Non-locals are almost always suspect. Little wonder it is in Samar that the NPA has gained one of its strongest footholds.

After earning their licenses, the de la Paz couple settled and set up practice in Gandara, between Calbayog and Catbalogan. They did not charge much—just ₱10 per visit to those who could afford to pay. Often they consulted with patients and dispensed medicine free.

Their practice also took them to the interiors of Western Samar in search of patients. That the couple could pass through the reportedly "rebel-infested" areas unaccompanied and unharmed further aroused the suspicion of government authorities.

### UNDER SURVEILLANCE

Constant questioning by the authorities forced the couple to move to the "safer" town of Catbalogan. "Why are they not in Manila or in the States," was one constant query. Of all Philippine medical graduates, 67% have gone abroad for more lucrative practice and "professional growth." In Catbalogan, there were only 17 doctors to care for over 150,000 residents.

The move to Catbalogan did not satisfy the military. Among Bobby's and Sylvia's patients were alleged members of the NPA. Having taken the Hippocratic Oath, Bobby and Sylvia felt it a right of everyone to medical aid when needed.

Rumors that Bobby and Sylvia were being watched by the authorities increased. Neighbors noticed one jogger, an unfamiliar face in town, regularly pass the couple's house. One suspicious neighbor followed

the jogger to the nearby military camp. A man, who boasted of having turned in a whole family of "subversives" in Mindanao, set up residence next door to Bobby's clinic. He asked many questions about Bobby's practices.

After Bobby died, the jogger was never seen to pass by the house. But one man, fitting Bobby's description of his assailant, a .45 still tucked in his waist, was said to have strolled in the provincial hospital, shortly after his death. He inquired if Bobby was dead yet and walked out again. The police and military troops securing the area made no attempt to question him.

### PMA CALLS FOR SECURITY SECURITY FOR RURAL DOCTORS

Outrage at the death of the young doctor and the lack of cooperation from authorities has grown. The voices expressing concern over Bobby's death now include the controlled press and the usually uninvolved Philippine Medical Association. The press are calling for an impartial investigation, if only to defend the military's "integrity."

The PNA, in its 75th Annual Convention, decried the military's attitude towards rural doctors. Pointing to President Marcos' own call for service in the rural areas, they demanded an assurance of security from the government.

Twelve hours after Bobby's death, a ranking intelligence officer of the Eastern Command in Samar, Col. Hernani Figueroa, announced that Bobby was killed by a member of the New People's Army. Bobby, claimed, had squealed on an NPA member who was subsequently captured by the military. He offered no more information. □



### THREE ENEMIES

While NDF health workers are warmly welcomed in the villages, they still face three formidable enemies, according to MASAPA.

First comes peasant superstition which is rooted in centuries of ignorance and lack of education. NDF teams thus emphasize education in hygiene and basic health care. Another serious enemy is malnutrition. Good health begins with proper diet and the Filipino people's caloric intake rates as one of the lowest in the world.

Finally comes the third enemy—repression by the Philippine government. In the Philippines today, any health worker interested in working in the countryside is automatically suspect. Given the political situation, any worker who supports the people's interests—even in an area as fundamental as health—is an enemy of the government.

Thus, arrest, torture, and even death face medical workers captured by the military. The recent murder of Remberto de la Paz (see related story this page) by the Philippine military served to underscore the NDF's position. A genuine people's health care system can only come as a part and as a result of a people's revolution. □

## Guerrilla Health Care System Advances

By EMIL DE GUZMAN

In the midst of roadless countryside, within the most distant of distant barrios, at the heart of dangerous battle zones, the National Democratic Front labors steadily to establish an alternative health care system to serve millions of Filipino people.

Such a national health movement has long been needed since the Philippines rates as one of the most unhealthy nations of the world. Number one worldwide in whooping cough, diphtheria, and rabies, the Philippines in addition, has one of the world's highest incidences of leprosy. The leading causes of death in the last 20 years have been pneumonia and other respiratory diseases—illnesses conquered and controlled in developed countries long ago.

The country's current health care system is woefully inadequate to deal with the population's needs. The ratio of doctors to the broader population is 1:5,300.

Sixty-eight percent of graduates from Philippine medical schools leave the country to practice abroad. Of those who remain, the majority stay in the cities leaving the rural folk to fend for themselves.

The majority of the population earns far too little to pay for medicines or health services on a regular basis. The average national family income is \$74 a month—barely enough to cover food needs.

### NDF PROGRAM

"The Filipino people will never be genuinely healthy without a revolution," is the position taken by the National Democratic Front (NDF).

The current economic and political system, says the NDF, leaves good health, like good food or any other commodity, well out of reach of the impoverished Filipino people.

The profit motive which underlies the health industry has made good health into an extremely expensive commodity. The existing health care system, based on the profit motive, is thus an elitist one. An emphasis on institution-oriented treatment leaves the vast majority of the population altogether out of the picture.

The National Democratic Program for the Health Sector lays a blueprint for future health goals. In contrast to the



NPA medic aids Kalanga woman; biggest enemies are ignorance, malnutrition and government repression.

current elitist system, it proposes, "the health system must be democratic and founded on the right to determine health care to serve the majority. The people must be involved in the process to appropriate the health program to respond to their needs."

In its approach to medical care for an impoverished people, the NDF chooses to begin with the most fundamental health needs and to provide health care for free. All possible sources of medical supplies

are tapped for the system. Considerable savings are made by buying in bulk for village cooperatives. All NDF medical workers are volunteers.

Central to the NDF health care system is the *Makabayang Samahan ng Pangkalusugan* (MASAPA) founded in 1978.

MASAPA's main task is to organize health workers. For several years, it has succeeded in mobilizing nurses to fight for higher wages and better working conditions. It has recruited doctors, medical students, and other health professionals and transferred volunteers to the countryside. In addition, it does extensive research and training in acupuncture, herbal medicine, and other inexpensive and inadequately researched techniques.

### NDF MEDICAL TEAMS

NDF medical teams hope ultimately to create a full-blown health care system which will genuinely improve the health of the Filipino people nationwide. Though gains to date are modest, two New People's Army (NPA) fronts in Eastern Mindanao, an area covering five provinces, have had a glimpse of what a genuine people's medical system might be. Here 63 full-time medical cadre divided into 39 medical teams attempt to provide all-round health care to people.

Because the NDF medical teams face enormous needs, they devote their attention to training one health worker per village to handle the more basic tasks. The medical teams come in to treat more serious complicated cases.

Financial support for the NDF medical program comes from several sources: the NPA general fund, urban support organized by MASAPA, and the people themselves in the form of food and shelter for health workers.