

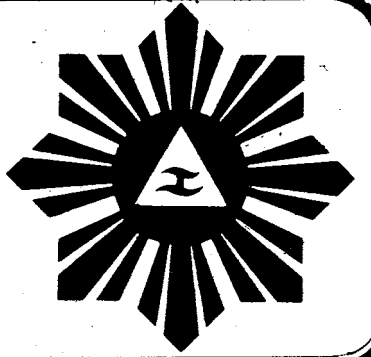
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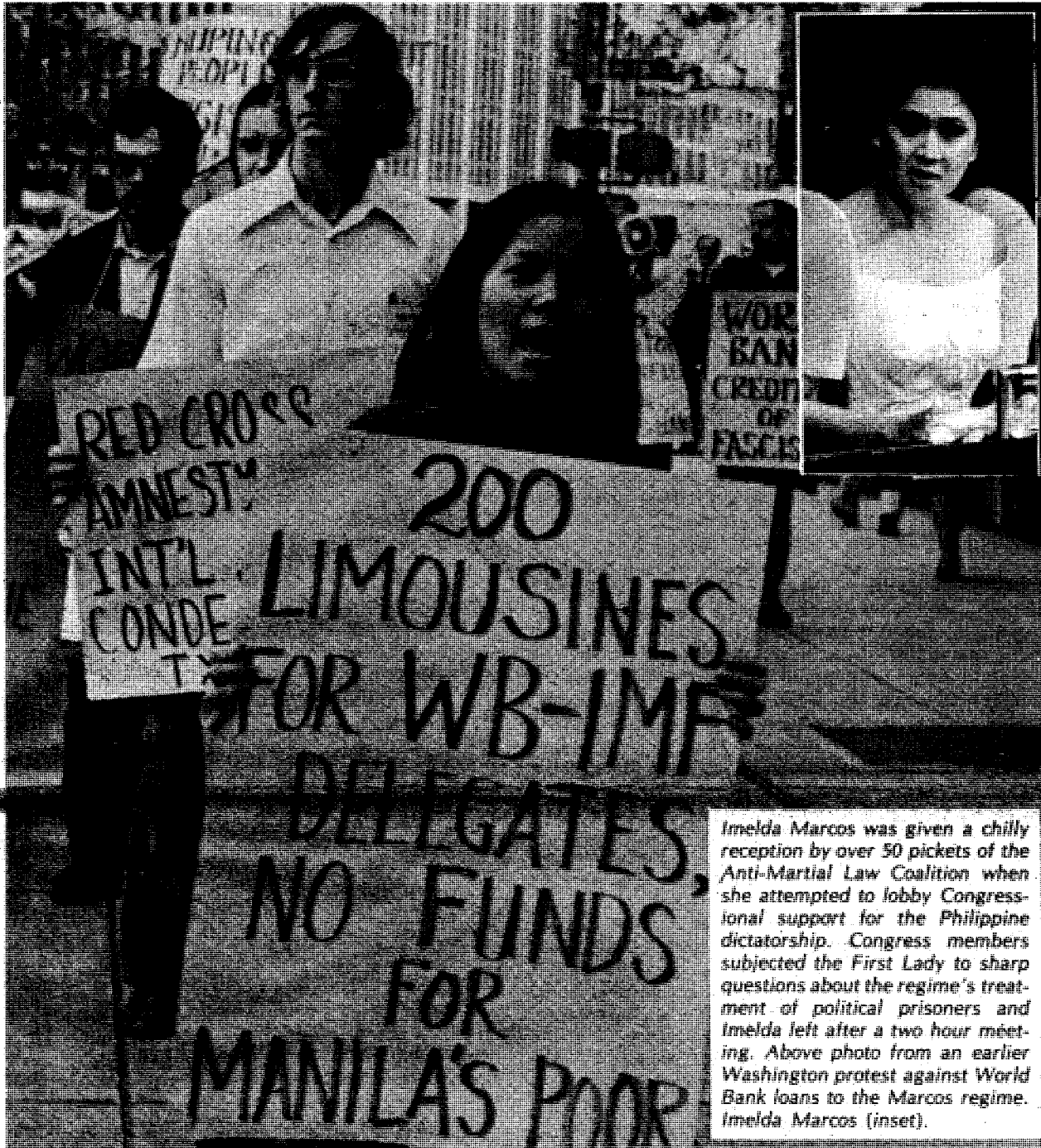
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National Newspaper of the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP)



Hostile Reception

Imelda Routed on Capitol Hill



Imelda Marcos was given a chilly reception by over 50 pickets of the Anti-Martial Law Coalition when she attempted to lobby Congressional support for the Philippine dictatorship. Congress members subjected the First Lady to sharp questions about the regime's treatment of political prisoners and Imelda left after a two hour meeting. Above photo from an earlier Washington protest against World Bank loans to the Marcos regime. Imelda Marcos (inset).

By VICTORIA LUNA

Imelda Marcos will think twice before she asks to meet with members of the U.S. Congress again. The Philippine First Lady breezed into Washington last July 26 for a meeting with members of the House of Representatives. The Anti-Martial Law Coalition (AMLC) and the Friends of the Filipino People (FFP) were ready for her and greeted her with a militant picket of over 50 members and

supporters on the Capitol steps. Chanting vigorously, they reminded an uncomfortable Mrs. Marcos that the unpopularity of her husband's vicious regime extends across the oceans and that she herself is widely regarded by the people as one of the key villains in his administration.

Marching beside the AMLC and FFP was Charito Planas, LABAN candidate and recent escapee from the Philippines. Planas had challenged Mrs.

(continued on page 8)

U.S.-Marcos Scheme

Attempt to Legitimize BMLO Fails

By VICTORIA LUNA

An attempt to "end" the raging rebellion in the Southern Philippines through negotiations between the Marcos government and the regime's own hand-picked "rebel" group has temporarily run aground.

U.S. Congressional sources revealed last week that the State Department's Robert Oakley was quietly pressuring certain members of Congress to sponsor a conference between Philippine government officials and representatives of the Bangsa Moro Liberation Organization (BMLO). The Congresspersons, after discussing the BMLO with independent Southeast Asia specialists, decided not to become involved in legitimizing this dubious organization.

The initiative came as no surprise to observers who have followed with great interest the emergence of the BMLO.

The BMLO first made its appearance in mid-1977. Headquartered in conservative Saudi Arabia and led by Harun al-Rashid Lucman and Macapantong Abbas, the BMLO suddenly claimed leadership of the Moro struggle. Unconfirmed reports add Moro "leaders" Abdul Baki, Salipada Pendatun and Hashim Salamat to the group's roster.

Both Pendatun and Lucman represent some of the traditionally most powerful families in Mindanao. Abbas is an ex-New Society bureaucrat who left the country in 1976. He took up residence in Saudi Arabia but has been a frequent visitor to Washington. Salamat is a former member of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) Central Committee whose recent attempt to seize leadership from Chairman Nur Misuari failed, resulting in Salamat's expulsion and denunciation as a traitor. All, except Salamat are better known for cooperation with the regime than opposition to it.

The BMLO claims to have 5,000 rebel fighters in the field. There have been no reports, however, from either military or media sources, of encounters with the BMLO or of local support for the group.

AMERICAN SUPPORT

The strongest supporters of the group, in fact, is an American outfit headquartered in Washington with the suspicious name, Development Strategies Corp. (DSC). DSC, according to its brochure, operates "development" projects throughout the Third World, most of them well-known hot spots. One of its largest projects just "happens" to be in Shaba Province, Zaire.

Information about this group came to light last May in the form of a confidential letter from Rear Admiral Romulo Espaldon, head of the Philippines Southern Command (Southcom), to President Marcos, with Marcos' handwritten reply. (See AK, June 15-30.)

In the letter, Espaldon informed Marcos that a Peter Schaeffer of DSC was urging him to open negotiations with the BMLO. Schaeffer, with "the apparent involvement of the U.S. government," according to Espaldon, "hinted that he will arrange for a meeting between the BMLO and Southcom representatives, if acceptable to

(continued on page 11)

Supreme Court Backs Bakke

see pages 6 and 7



Tagalog Column Nilalangaw ang Batasan

pahina 5



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Editorial

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CONSULATE CAPITALIZES ON NEW YORK INCIDENT

The N.Y. Philippine Consular office has recently chided the anti-martial law movement for not coming to their defense in a mysterious disturbance and assault on their office by the New York Police Department last month. They have asserted that the incident was a racist attack by a police department well-known for its brutalization and harassment of minority communities throughout New York City.

While their allegations about the incident are probably quite true and we intend in no way to defend the actions of this notorious racist police department in any of its activity, we find it quite untenable for the K.D.P. or any part of the anti-martial law movement or the Filipino community as a whole to leap to the Consulate's defense. Why is this?

The Philippine government has the extensive resources, media, and power to redress their grievances with the N.Y. Police Department. They were able to generate an immediate apology for the incident and can register their protests directly to the highest offices of the Carter administration and State Department. We are sure that there is little support in this regard that they require from the K.D.P. On the other hand, there are hundreds of thousands of incidents of this nature which takes place against the "common tao" of the Filipino community in the U.S. There are hundred of Filipinos beaten and harassed by racist police departments who never receive any apology from the U.S. State Department. There are countless cases of discrimination against Filipinos which go unrecorded and unreported. For instance, there are hundreds of cases of unlicensed Filipino nurses harassed by immigration problems and threatened with deportation, etc.

One would think that with all the power and prestige of a government in power it would be the obvious responsibility of the Philippine consular offices to take up these causes, to throw their money and support and highly paid staff into the seeking of justice for its own people here in the United States. However it seems that the consular offices are far too busy with their terno balls, elitist cocktail parties, and million-dollar publicity schemes to polish the tarnished image of the Philippine dictator.

The fact of the matter is that wherever the Philippine consulates have intervened in the issues of the Filipino community in this country, it has often been to divide, sabotage and harass the attempts to alleviate these injustices. The consulates organized a systematic attempt to divert support for the two nurses charged with murder in Ann Arbor, Filipina Narciso and Leonora Perez, when they refused to hire a lawyer of the consulate's liking. When K.D.P. activist Angel Doniego was beaten and threatened with his life by the Seattle Police Department, there is much evidence to conclude the attack was actually inspired by the Philippine consulate offices (since the police demanded he stop his organizing against the Marcos regime). There have also been countless times when the consulates have actually called in these racist U.S. police like the San Francisco Riot Squad to harass and threaten a peaceful picket against the martial law regime.

What unabashed hypocrisy for the Philippine consulates to now call for our support against the racism of the N.Y. Police Department! We are deeply involved in the struggles of the community for its democratic rights and against such racist injustices. But, our time is far better occupied with the defense of the vast majority of the community who have neither the resources or money of the martial law officials in the U.S., and who don't occupy themselves going around covertly or overtly and undermining and sabotaging the democratic rights of others. □

REGIME PEDDLES LIES ABOUT CHICAGO CASE

The martial law regime of Ferdinand Marcos has recently been shamelessly spreading lies, concocting tales and confusing fact with fiction. Through its controlled Philippine media as well as its mouthpieces like the Filipino Reporter here, it has been publicizing that five anti-martial law protestors in Chicago were convicted for their participation in the protest against the sham April elections.

Its imagination, obviously working overtime, goes so far as to claim that the five were given a six-month probation period and were even admonished by the judge who supposedly said that he "didn't want to see their faces again."

What are the facts? The fact is that there are no convictions; the six-month probation as well as the judge's remarks are sheer fabrications. Through these bold-faced lies, the bankrupt regime hopes to divert the public's attention from the real villains in this issue. It tries to discredit the anti-martial law movement by painting its ranks as "criminals." In the words of one rabid Marcos apologist, Luis Taruc: "The only opponent of the martial law fort are common criminals, rapists, etc."

The Filipino people, however, will not be so easily fooled. They know that the five anti-martial law protestors in Chicago, as well as hundreds of others in Seattle, San Francisco, New York, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., Hawaii and Guam, are not common criminals.

They, like the majority of the Filipino community, were simply expressing their outrage over the fraudulent elections and the blatant repression of the opposition. These protestors have in fact won the people's respect for daring to demonstrate the community's sentiments, for daring to show the Marcos dictatorship that its acts of terrorism against the Filipino people will not go unexposed or unchallenged.

For, in reality, who are the criminals deserving of condemnation and who are the patriots, worthy of emulation? Is it the brutal martial law regime that wantonly trample over the Filipino people's human rights?

Or is it people like the five protestors in Chicago and countless others like them both inside and outside the Philippines who defy this criminal regime in defense of these rights.

History lists innumerable names of people fighters against tyranny and oppression who were vilified as bandits and criminals. The same history also shows that these attempts have usually failed for the people can usually tell who their friends are—who their real enemies are. No amount of distortion, then, by a self-serving regime can cloud the truth that the Filipino people have long recognized that the Marcos dictatorship does not serve their interests, deserving nothing but their contempt while those who oppose it deserve to be emulated.

L.A. Police Spying AN ATTACK AGAINST THE COMMUNITY

In another case of police harassment, the Los Angeles Times recently disclosed the list of 200 community and civil rights organizations being spied upon illegally by the Los Angeles Police Department which included the KDP. (We doubt that the L.A. Philippine Consulate will have much to say about this.)

There can be no question that the L.A. police action is a clear-cut violation of our rights to freedom of speech, press and political association. It is also obvious that the widely publicized "Watergate" style abuse of government power and authority neither started nor ended with the Nixon administration. It is not an aberration, or an "excess" but rather an inherent feature of a system that relies on force and terror to maintain itself.

The police files described K.D.P. as a "radical militant organization." No doubt the K.D.P. is unpopular with the L.A. police for its fearless opposition to the Philippine dictator and its role in exposing the U.S. government as the dictator's main backer. From the L.A. police department's point of view, K.D.P. is radical, we suppose, because it has taken an uncompromising stand on the racist and discriminatory attacks against the Filipino minority here in the U.S., rooting this racism in a system that puts the interest of a few capitalists over the social needs of the vast majority of working people, including Filipino workers. It is "militant" and dangerous because it is willing to build a mass movement that will fight such injustices, seeking an end to them by replacing this inequitable system.

How horrified the L.A. police must have been as it watched the K.D.P. engaged in its "subversive" activities of successfully stopping the deportation of H-1 nurses, freeing Narciso and Perez, defending 4-H trainees being exploited for their cheap labor. How threatened it must have felt as it surveilled K.D.P. organize a movement to overturn the racist Bakke decision.

It is apparent that K.D.P. has been targeted for this surveillance and intimidation because it is in the forefront of the struggle for the democratic rights of the Filipino community. Precisely because of its role, this crime against the K.D.P.'s rights can only be viewed as a crime against the Filipino community. To allow this illegal act to go unchallenged is to leave the Filipino community wide open to attacks and harassment.

For, almost invariably, every just act of the Filipino community to secure its rights will be tagged "militant." The time to prevent this attack from happening is now not later. □ (See news story on page 10.)



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PHILIPPINE NEWS

Marcos Boosts Military Spending

In 1979, national defense, a priority budget item for the martial law regime, will be raking in 14.6% of a projected \$4.57-billion Philippine budget. This allotment was made despite a projected shortage of funds for economic development. Of the national defense budget, \$745 million is set for the Defense Ministry, with \$525 million of that amount going to the Armed Forces.

A large chunk of this year's defense spending, goes for 25 supersonic F-8 Crusader Fighter Bombers, purchased by the Philippine Air Force from Vought Corporation of Dallas, Texas this July. Delivery will be completed by the end of the year. The same corporation will also supply spare parts for ten years, provide field support, and one year pilot training.

In spite of this massive reliance on foreign made defense equipment, Marcos claims to be implementing a self-reliant defense program. The program was purportedly launched four years ago with Presidential Decree No. 415.

In essence, the program's goal is to develop civilian defense industries through a partnership of the military establishment and the industrial sector, that can eventually meet the entire defense requirements of the country.

Marcos issued three guidelines in determining the initiation of self-reliant projects:

—Specific preference to government corporations, Filipino-owned corporations and to multinational corporations with majority Filipino ownership,

—Preference should be given to private corporations over the military plants and in line with this policy, the AFP should produce only items that cannot be produced by the civilian sector,

—The AFP should farm out the manufacture of parts and component of a weapon to different contractors to spread economic benefits and achieve precision through specialization. □

R.P. Reaches IMF-Loan Ceiling

With only half of the year gone, the Philippines has managed to surpass the \$950 million International Monetary Fund-set (IMF) limit on foreign borrowing for 1978.

Manager Will E. Von Below of the European Asian Bank estimated that loans already arranged for 1978 total \$1.5 billion. Just below \$1 billion of the total is new lending, while the remainder is to be used to refinance existing loans. A full third of the country's foreign borrowings goes to pay back interest on old loans. Refinancing, according to IMF rules, does not count as new inflow of foreign credit.

The Philippines accepted the annual borrowing limit as a condition for access to the equivalent of \$268 million on easy credit terms over a three-year period from the IMF's Extended Fund Facility.

Last year, the country began to run into borrowing problems in August when its 1977 ceiling of \$860 million was reached. The regime was able to persuade the IMF to shift portions from one category based on loan maturity to another to achieve some breathing space. By this June, however, all categories have been exhausted.

The local banking community is taking a number of measures in an attempt to get around the current dilemma. Loans do not count against the limit until they have actually been drawn down. Several of those already arranged may not be fully drawn in order to keep overseas units of U.S., European and Japanese banks in Manila functioning. □

Human Settlements Agency's Priority — Tourism

"I would like the people to know that I am approaching this job with total enthusiasm and love and that no one will be left out," gushed Imelda R. Marcos, minister of the Department of Ecology and Human Settlements. The department was formed last May to oversee urban redevelopment and environmental projects and promises to address housing issues.

But a glimpse of the First Lady's project priorities leads one to suspect that the main activity of the department centers around beautifying major urban centers to promote tourism and business activity. Heading the list is Baguio City, the mountain resort which teems with tourists during the summer time. Baguio is slated to be spruced up with a new entrance arch, colorful balustrades, landscaped parks, and refurbished rotundas. Explaining the choice of Baguio, the First Lady punned "You see, we start from the top," referring to Baguio's elevation in both a geographic and revenue-earning sense.

With these words in mind, it can hardly be expected that the acute housing needs of shantytown dwellers and middle-income renters, will be addressed. The first housing project that the First Lady has developed, is an amateur competition promising cash prizes for anyone who can design upper-income homes. □

Tortures, Arrests on the Increase

Amnesty: Another Hoax



Atty. Joker P. Arroyo, LABAN lawyer, was arrested April 9 and released June 12. His arrest caught international attention.

(Phil. Times Photo)

By MA. FLOR SEPULVEDA

When President Marcos announced June 12, his plans to release, acquit and grant amnesty to hundreds of political prisoners, the languishing occupants of some 28 stockades were the least excited. Long accustomed to similar oft-repeated promises, the announcement provided, if little else, a good laugh for the supposed beneficiaries of Marcos' latest bout of "magnanimity." Though not surprising, those who lauded the move were the least likely candidates for incarceration—Marcos henchmen in the IBP and his media spokesmen.

After suffering a tremendous blow in the wake of the fraudulent April 7 elections, Marcos' move to supposedly relieve prisoners was a much needed image booster.

RUSE

But a cursory review of the

June 12 prisoner program billed by Marcos as "a sincere attempt to maintain national unity" betrays its true character as yet another propaganda hoax. Of the 688 prisoners ordered released by Marcos, 631 have actually long been freed. These 631 former prisoners represent the number of amnesty applicants whose cases have been under review by the Judge Advocate General's Office since 1973. According to one ex-detainee released in 1974, "Whenever Marcos orders new releases, he adds the number of old releases to the new to make it look impressive. That's why, since 1974 I have been officially released ten times as reported by the newspapers."

This Marcos ruse is not new and the discrepancies in figures are evident even to the foreign press—the immediate object of the regime's deception. Thus, in real terms, only 57 prisoners have been released since June 12.

June 12 Counter-Rallies Held

Davao Observance Ends in Tragedy

Adapted from the Philippine Liberation Courier and BMP

While the Marcos-controlled Interim Batasang Pambansa (IBP) opened with pomp and ceremony, the militant Davao City observance of June 12, Philippine "Independence" Day, ended in tragedy. Hours after the Davao rally ended, a grenade explosion ripped through the town's crowded market where many of the rally participants went shopping. Ninety-six people were injured while eleven more were added to the growing list of those killed in a rash of bombings in this city and nearby towns since January this year.

Among those killed was Karen Guantero, a church social worker and community organizer in Piapi, an urban poor district in Davao City.

Capitalizing on the resulting fear and helplessness among the city residents, the military stepped up the militarization of the city. Checkpoints sprouted while barangay tanods (para-military goons), were given free license to harass and intimidate the people.

Whatever gains the military hoped to reap from whipping up a climate of fear, the results were short-lived.

FUNERAL MARCH

Davao City residents, perceiving that the bombing fell into a pattern of similar incidents in which Army trainees figured, staged a militant demonstration five days after the June 12 carnage. At least 2,000 people—slum dwellers, workers, students, religious, and professionals—went out on the streets of Davao in an angry, militant funeral march, the biggest such action in the city in over five years.

Armed with placards and bearing black armbands, the marchers passed through the main streets of the city, boldly expressing their indignation and protest over the bombings, demanding justice on behalf of the victims. People poured out of their homes and offices and lined the streets, reaching out and at times scrambling for the leaflets distributed by the marchers. Even policemen directing traffic took off their caps and bowed their heads in sympathy.

The Concerned Citizens for Justice and Peace in Davao is currently seeking an investigation of the incident and justice for the victims.

PRAYER RALLIES

Elsewhere in the country, June 12 was observed in prayer rallies

FEW REAL CONCESSIONS

Perhaps the only noteworthy outcome of the June 12 directives was the dropping of charges against nine religious and the impending release of bitter Marcos foe, Benigno Aquino. Aquino whose continued detention has been an irritant in U.S.-R.P. relations, is reportedly prepared to accept terms for his immediate release. A prison source assessed the new amnesty directive as one principally stemming from and tailored to meet the "release Aquino move" which the regime apparently considers a necessary concession to the U.S.

The indirect beneficiaries of such a move are likely to be religious and other more prominent personalities whose release would certainly add credibility to the government's "compassionate stance" towards political prisoners.

TORTURE, ARRESTS ON INCREASE

That the regime's stance towards political detractors remains essentially repressive is evidenced by the upswing of arrests and torture in all parts of the country. The truth is, Marcos' stockades are being filled and replenished at a faster rate than these are being emptied.

From March 21 to May 27, 104 arrests were reported in Metro Manila, Davao del Sur, Agusan del Sur and Samar alone. While in Metro Manila a noticeable return to the practice of torture (see page 5) has been documented.

"The escalation of arrests, torture and salvaging—these are the main trends. Not amnesty and fake releases," added the prison source. □

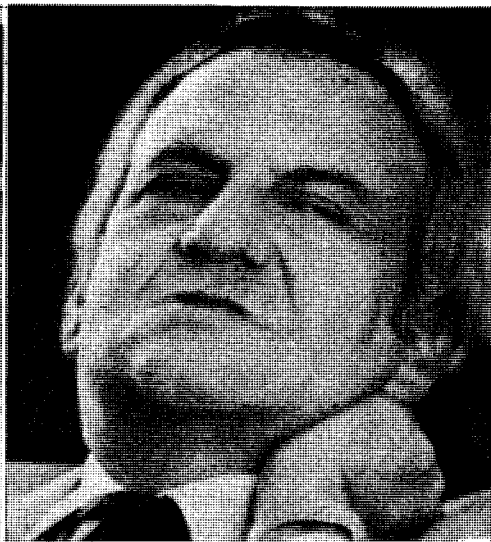
spearheaded by the Association of Major Religious Superiors and the Concerned Women of the Archdiocese of Manila. The two groups issued a joint letter on the week of "Independence Day" asking all Filipinos to join in a day of "penance and prayer" for the cause of human rights in the country. The letter was signed by Zenaida Quezon-Avancena, daughter of the late president; Sr. Irene Dabalus, head of the Association of Major Religious Superiors of Women; and Rev. Joaquin Bernas, chairman of the Major Religious Superiors of Men and president of the Ateneo de Manila University.

In Cubao, Quezon City, about 200 youths dashed in groups through this commercial center, staging a lightning demonstration against the "Bogus IBP and Bogus Independence Day." Led by the militant youth organization, Kabataang Makabayan, the protestors snaked through the Uni-wide Department Store, New Frontier Theatre Cinema 21, C.O.D. Department Store, and dispersed along Aurora Boulevard.

Pedestrians and motorists alike cheered and applauded as the demonstrators dashed by chanting "Marcos, Hitler, Diktador, Tuta" and "IBP-Huwad." □

\$2 Million Scandal

Imelda Involved in Ford Kickback?



Henry Ford II (left), fired top-manager Lee Iacocca (right): Was the firing part of an attempt to cover-up the kickback scandal? (Newsweek)

Henry Ford II, Board Chairman of Ford Motor Company, one of the giants among U.S. corporations, has been caught with his hand in the cookie jar.

The ex-husband of First Lady Imelda Romualdez Marcos' dearest jet-set friends, Christina Ford, was charged in a New York court last June 27 with taking a \$2 million kickback from the "highest officials" of the Philippine government.

The charge was an amendment to a stockholders lawsuit against Ford originally filed last April 24 accusing him of billing the company for personal expenses and taking a \$750,000 kickback from a catering company.

The amendment contends that the Philippine payment was designed to encourage the construction of the Ford stamping plant in the Mariveles, Bataan Free Trade Zone. Lawyers for the prosecution argue that the plant cost \$50 million to construct, has been "an economic disaster," incurring losses of several million dollars since it

began operations.

TOP FORD MANAGERS FIRED

The Philippine accusation follows closely a U.S. federal investigation which revealed an illegal payment by Ford of as much as \$1 million to an Indonesian general in an attempt to secure a major telecommunications contract. Ford at first angrily denied the charges. However when the corporate cover-up began to fall apart, Ford fired his number four man in the Ford Motors hierarchy, in an attempt to project a "house cleaning" image. Afterwards, however, Ford inexplicably ordered that a huge bonus be paid to the fired company official.

When Ford similarly demanded that Ford Motors President Lee Iacocca be canned in a dramatic boardroom confrontation last July 15, observers in the business world were genuinely puzzled. columnist William Safire, in a New York Times July 17 piece coyly suggests that Iacocca was a sacrificial lamb in Ford's effort to divert attention

**Regime Rushes Trial
Sison, 89 Others
Charged**

While the Marcos regime is claiming "compassion" in its treatment of political prisoners, it is also hastening the trials and conviction of those it describes as "hardcore subversives." Jose Ma. Sison, alleged chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines was charged along with 89 others with subversion and other national security offenses before Military Commission No. 25 early this month. Sison who has been imprisoned for nine months in the isolation section of Ft. Bonifacio, is reportedly kept in arm and leg irons.

Among Sison's co-accused are Diosdado Layug, Cesario Diego, Saturnino Ocampo, Benjamin de Vera, Ramon Isberto, Sylvia Sales, and Ester Ceniza.

Despite an earlier promise to transfer criminal cases to civilian courts, cases of political prisoners are still prosecuted by military tribunals. The International Commission of jurists, Amnesty International and various human rights organizations have pointed out the inherent unfairness of the military court system since the martial law government is at once the complainant, prosecutor and judge.

At present three major subversion trials involving more than one defendant, are underway. These are PP vs. Luzvimindo David, 56 defendants; PP vs. Nilo Tayag, four defendants; and the Karagatan Andrea case. □

away from himself as the corporate scandal intensified. Safire refers to "the secret of the Manila envelope," delivered by "the beautiful wife-emissary of a dictator" as a key factor influencing Ford to fire Iacocca.

FREQUENT GUEST OF IMELDA

Ford and Imelda's jet-set partner, Christina, parted last year. But prior to that, Ford, along with Christina, Van Cliburn, Margot Fonteyn, the Marquis de Villaverde, and the rest of Imelda's international clique, had frequently been the object of the First Lady's conspicuous hospitality and generosity.

The Ford Motor Co. and Henry Ford II have so far declined to comment on the Philippine kickback charges. □

Pagbabalikwas



**Teehankee Calls
for Lifting
of Martial Law**

Adding to the resounding demand for the immediate lifting of martial law, Supreme Court Justice Claudio Teehankee emphasized before a meeting of Rotarians in Baguio City, that the lifting of martial law is the only way to restore democratic normalization in the Philippines.

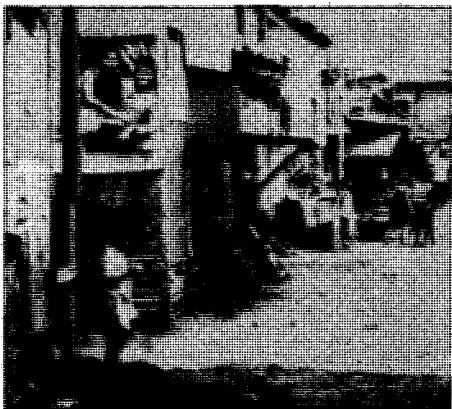
Teehankee's assertion comes as a response to Marcos' earlier announcement that he has no intention of lifting martial law soon, in spite of insinuations to the contrary before the IBP (Interim Batasang Pambansa) elections. Like many, Teehankee observes that after six years, martial rule has not resolved the enormous problems of crime, graft and corruption, the anomalies which existed prior to the imposition of martial law. He says that crime, and numerous social problems as drug addiction, prostitution, gambling etc. could be remedied by "honest and effective police action, and effective and sustained public education campaigns; and not by martial law."

Teehankee called for six moves to restore normal conditions in the country.

1. Restoration of security tenure of judges and of civil service officials and employees as guaranteed by the Constitution.
2. Abolition of military trials of civilians and a return of criminal jurisdiction to the regular courts of justice.
3. Restoration of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus.
4. A clear-cut, concise and liberal definition of national security and subversion.
5. Implementation of the 1973 Constitu-

tion's parliamentary system of government with checks and balances.

6. Recognition of all constitutional rights. □



Shanty town dwellers are highly vulnerable to urban renewal and other forced removal schemes. (AK Photo)

**60,000 Protest
Eviction in Cebu**

Sixty thousand urban poor from ten depressed areas in Cebu are fighting the demolition of their homes and their subsequent relocation.

According to Pakigbisog, a Cebuano resistance newspaper, President Marcos ordered a community clean-up evicting the slum-dwellers in Letter of Instruction No. 555.

Acting on the Letter of Instruction, Cebu City Mayor, Eulogio Borres ordered the demolition of slums in Carbon, Ermita, Pasil, Alaska, Barrio Luz, Lorega, San Miguel, Hippodromo, Sambag I, Villagonza, and Opra.

Residents of the area have discovered that the area is slated to become the site of Malayan Integrated Corporation (MIC), headed by the dictator's mother, Dona Josefa Edralin Marcos.

MIC also plans to reclaim 300 hectares of seashore, converting the entire area into an industrial site complete with modern docks, markets, and recreational centers. MIC projects are funded by the World Bank and a Japanese construction corporation, with the cooperation of the provincial council.

As early as last October, residents of Alaska marched to city hall to confront the mayor and delegates of the World Bank.

Irate slum-dwellers from Ermita stopped a census started by local government upon learning it was part of a plan to evict them.

The victims of this demolition move are to be relocated to Canduman in Mandaue, which until now still has no houses, drinking water or any community necessities. Furthermore, the relocation site is far from the job sites of the affected people, who are fish vendors, "kutseros" (drivers of horse-rigged carriages), stevedores, small fishermen, and laborers. □

**NPA Clashes
in Bataan**

In a two-hour battle at Sitio Bakong, Hermosa, Bataan, NPA guerillas killed eighteen government troopers and wounded many others, last May according to belated BMP (Balita ng Malayang Pilipinas) reports. Four fatalities from the NPA squad was reported. The four fighters were identified as Benedicto Deldoc or Ka. Lirio, Patrocino Siasat Jr. or Ka. Rene, and two others known only as Ka.

Mario and Ka. Marlin.

The gunfight started when military troops surrounded Sitio Bakong on a tip by a military agent that an NPA unit was in the area. After two hours of firing, the NPA squad successfully broke out of the military-set ambush. Rampaging soldiers stripped off the personal belongings of the slain NPA fighters.

Two days after the clash, more than 2,000 mourners in Samal marched through the streets of the town to pay their last respects to the slain fighters. Farmers bore the caskets of Ka. Lirio and Ka. Rene on their shoulders all the way to the municipal cemetery. □

**Consumer Groups
Denounce Price
Increases**

Five national consumer groups along with a federation of workers unions, urged Marcos to decrease prices of basic commodities and called for the dissolution of the Price Stabilization Council (PSC). The groups claimed that the PSC has been incompetent in fulfilling its tasks.

With the sharp decline in the purchasing power of the peso, Philippine consumers are outraged by the increase in prices of commodities as laundry soap, cooking oil, and milk. They feel the decision to increase such prices was "unilateral" on the part of the government.

Public hearings are proposed by the groups "to determine the propriety and the necessity for any price increase not only of these, but also all other basic commodities whose prices have been spiraling in the past week without any action taken by PSC." □

Dagok at Daliro

Ni Tata Selo

Nilalangaw ang Batasan

Sa Pilipinas, ang tawag ngayon ng karamihan sa Batasang Pambansa ay Bastusang Pambansa.

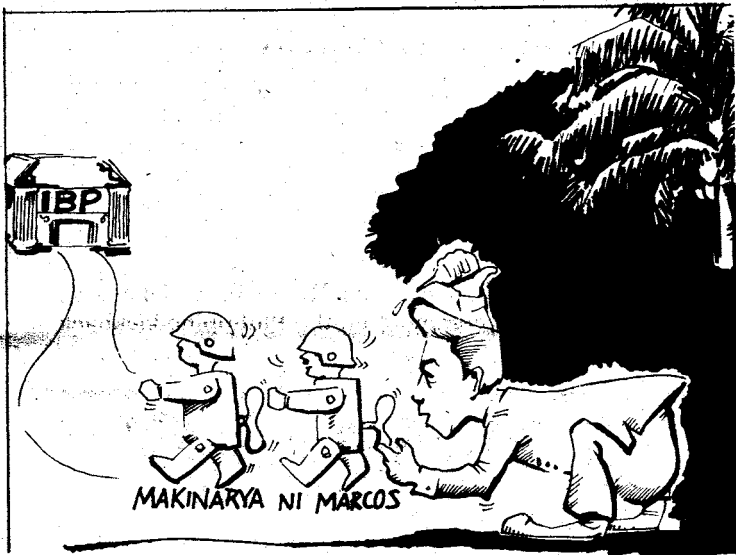
Kamakailan, sinabi natin na ang mga palabas ni Marcos ay basura. Hindi lamang pala ito pakahulugan o simbolo sa mga palabas, tulad ng IBP. Literal din pala. Kung nasaan ang basura, naroon din ang mga langaw!

Sam mga unang araw pa lamang ng mga sesyon ng IBP, nilusob na ito ng mga langaw at bangaw. Nagsidapo ang mga ito sa mga terno, pantalon, mukha, leeg, at iba pang parte ng katawan ng mga delegado.

Malaking oras ang naaksaya ng mga delegado sa paghampas lamang ng mga langaw sa pamamagitan ng mga niroyong diyaryo. Hampas dito, hampas doon. Hampas dito, hampas doon. Umalingawngaw sa loob ng hall ang hampasan—kahit nang mismong nagtatalumpati si Marcos.

Pati si Marcos ay pabalik-balik na dinadapuan sa mukha ng dalawang bangaw habang ang kanyang ulo'y pinapalibutan ng mga langaw. Napapahinto siya sa pagsasalita para lamang bugawin ang mga hayop.

Dahil dito, and unang privilege speech sa questioning hour ay tungkol sa kung paano mapapalayas o mapupuksa ang mga langaw at bangaw. Inaprobahan agad ito ni Marcos at kagayat niyang inatasan ang ministry of health ang public works na tumalima.



Gusto ninyong malaman ang ginagawa ng kasapiang ng IBP? Ganito ang sabi ng isa mismo sa kanila: "Naturingang kaming mga assemblymen sapagkat wala kaming ginagawa kundi mag-assemble (magtipun-tipon)!"

Para sa IBP, ang pinakamahalagang komite ay ang tourism committee (komite sa turismo). Ito ang may pinakamaraming miyembro—31 lahat!

Parang mga asong nagbangayan at nag-agawan sa posisyon ang 200-kasapiang ng IBP. Hindi katakataka: Malaki ang kuwarta sa komiteng ito at madalas pa ang junkets (libre at magastos na paglalakbay sa ibang bansa).

Inihahanda na ngayon ng IBP ang ilang bagong batas para sa pagkolekta ng buwis. Pagkaapropa, sabot sa P412 milyong karagdang buwis ang pipigain nitong 1978 sa mga mamamayan. Hindi pa nagtatagal ang IBP, ang ginagawa na nito'y pahirap sa bayan!

Umano, ang buwis na ito'y idaragdag sa mga gastusin ng gobyerno sa 1979. (Ang mungkahing badyet nga pala para sa 1979 ay P34.3 bilyon.) Mabuti sana kung ang perang ito'y maibabalik sa mga mamamayan sa pamamagitan ng mga serbisyo at proyektong pangmamamayan. Ang siste, mapupunta lamang ang kalakhan nito sa badyet militar (tulad ng nangyayari taun-taon), sa bulsa ni Marcos at ng kanyang mga kampon, at sa mga imprastruktura at iba pang proyektong para sa mga dayuhan.

Wika nga, kinikikilan ang mga mamamayan ng salaping pampahirap din sa kanila.

Pagkakalooban daw ni Marcos ang bawat kasapi ng IBP ng harapatang pumuna sa mga kalabihan ng gobyerno. ang lakas ng loob, ano ha? Palibhasa'y mga tuta ang mga kasapi ng IBP. Sino naman kaya sa mga tuta ang malalakas-loob na lumaban sa kanya? Ipagpalagay nang mayroon, makalusot kaya?

Big palabasin ni Marcos na may "oposision" sa loob ng IBP, tulad ng mga delegado ng Pusyon Bisaya, ni Reuben Canoy ng Mindanao Alliance, at pati na ang dating Senador Tolentino. Magmamukha nga naman, hindi demokratiko and IBP kung wala na.

KIL (Kilusang ng Bagong Lipunan) ang partido ni Marcos at kasalukob sa nakaraang palabas na eleksiyon. Dahil sa mga pagpapalibang nito sa eleksiyon, ang tawag ng mga tao dito'y Kilusan ng Bagong Lokohan. Sa ibang lugar naman, dahil sa mga karahasan nito sa mga tao, tinatagurian itong Kilusan ng Bagong Lipunan. □

Exposes Reveal

Torture on the Upswing in Manila



Modesto "Bong" Sison was among the salvaged victims found buried in Maubas, Quezon last August. Graduation photo (left) from Ateneo de Davao University and Sison as he was found after his death. (AK Photo)

The use of torture in Greater Manila is on the upswing following a period of exposes by religious and international human rights groups. The MISG (Military Intelligence and Security Group) of the Metrocom leads in current reports of almost fatal torture of political detainees.

From 1975 to 1977, numerous missions revealing the frequent torture of Philippine political prisoners forced the Philippine government into a defensive posture with Manila issuing vehement denials of the reports. In January of 1978, Pat Derian, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, was assured by Philippine Secretary of National Defense Juan Ponce Enrile that "he would be the first one to order the investigation of violations of human rights."

Yet a few months later, in April and May, a new wave of arrests related to the IBP elections ensued. Consequently, the use of torture increased while the Marcos-controlled media spouted figures of supposedly released prisoners.

Reputed for his notoriety as a torturer, 1st Lt. Laurico's name recurs in several of the present cases. Other names repeatedly mentioned are 2nd Lt. Pacis and CIC Pat Ordon.

Patterns of torture are similar in their frequency and severity. Aiming to extract information or confessions to trumped-up accusations, the torturers extensively use the water-cure method, electrocutions, punches, slaps, and beatings. In the case of women sexual abuse and degrading commands are frequently used. The following cases of torture were reported in a recent issue of the Free Philippine News Service (BMP).

SOME REPORTED CASES

Mario and Melvin Cayabyab, a married couple were arrested at the home of Melvin's father on May 5, 1978. They were tortured separately and both needed hospitalization for their injuries. Mario was hospitalized for severe stomach pains, broken ribs, and a pierced tympanic membrane. Yet the Camp Crame hospital denied such injuries in their X-ray findings. Melvin, two months pregnant, suffered profuse bleeding and was hospitalized for a threatened abortion. Both Mario and Melvin were later transferred to the Bicutan Rehabilitation Center from Camp Crame.

Eduardo Blanco, a former high school student was arrested, tortured, and thrown into a well of decomposing carcasses and skeletons. The ordeal so terrified him, that he bore the trauma of pain and fear even as of interview time.

Jose Duran, a Fine Arts student at the University of the Philippines, was suspected of subversion, arrested on May 24, and tortured the same day until dawn of the following day. He was tortured alternately with several other detainees captured the same day. Among his torturers were Rolly Bante (a PMA cadet involved in the hazing deaths of other PMA cadets) and Pat Ordon.

Rogelio Dagar, an electrician's helper was arrested and was savagely beaten even while

still in the car on the way to Camp Crame. His torturers were Lt. Pacis, a certain Peralta of the Metropolitan Police Force, someone called Balao, and a civilian employee named Ric. Unable to make Rogelio admit the allegations, they stopped the beatings only after six days.

Eduardo Hilis, a journalism student at the Lyceum of the Philippines was arrested on May 4, 1978. His torture was discontinued only after he suffered a serious heart seizure.

TORTURERS STILL ON THE LOOSE

All the detainees mentioned here feared for their lives and reprisals on their families as they told their stories. Some were reluctant to disclose their experiences since they were threatened with death. Meanwhile, the identified torturers continue to operate, and are even rewarded or promoted. □

Last Seen with P.C.

Bataan Worker Disappears

From the vigilant citizens of Morong, Bataan, comes the urgent message that one of their ranks, last seen in the hands of the Philippine Constabulary, disappeared.

Ernesto Nazareno, a worker of Power Contractors, Inc. (PCI), has not been heard from since June 14. Power Contractors, owned by Marcos in-law Herminio Disini, holds the major contract for building the reactor.

An ex-detainee who was arrested and tortured on March 13 and held until May 2, Nazareno was last seen by three co-workers who drove him to the Philippine Constabulary (PC) camp at Napot Point, Bataan. According to his father, Ariston Nazareno, regular reporting to the PC was a condition for Ernesto's release.

In a confidential statement written after his May 2 release and forwarded to Ang Katipunan, Nazareno revealed that, on March 13, upon his arrival at Camp Olivias, Pampanga, he was subjected to blows on the forehead, stomach and shoulders and that his head was dunked repeatedly in a toilet bowl. After a prolonged period of this treatment and in order to stop his torturers, he finally admitted to their charges of supporting the NPA and organizing co-workers to sabotage the reactor. "It is clear to us all, based on the accusations, especially those concerning the nuclear power plant," he added, "that this (project) is really risky for the whole country."

Upon his release from Camp Olivias, Nazareno returned to work at the Napot Point reactor site. After his June 14 disappearance, his father began making inquiries as to his whereabouts with the PC detachment at Napot Point; PC Provincial Headquarters at Balanga, Bataan; and Zone Headquarters at Camp Olivias. He has written Secretary of Defense Juan Ponce Enrile, urging him to inquire into the matter. So far the worried Nazareno family has heard nothing. □

BAKKE RULING ATTACKS DEMOCRACY

Reprinted from THE GUARDIAN

The claims of affirmative action "victory" in the recent Bakke decision amount to little more than whistling in the dark.

Associate Justice Lewis Powell's majority decision represents the most serious legal blow against democratic rights for minorities since 1896, when the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of segregation on the basis of "separate but equal."

In a scathing attack on the Court's 5-vote majority, Associate Justice Thurgood Marshall, its only Black member declared: "I fear we have come full circle. After the Civil War, our government started several 'affirmative action' programs. This Court in the Civil Rights Cases (1883) and Plessy v. Ferguson (1896) destroyed the movement toward complete equality. For almost a century no action was taken, and this nonaction was with the tacit approval of the courts. Then we had Brown v. Board of Education (1954) and the Civil Rights Acts of Congress, followed by numerous affirmative action programs. Now we have this Court again steppin in this time to stop affirmative action programs of the type used by the University of California."

When stripped of its verbiage, Powell's decision:

- Subverts federal law designed to deny federal funds for institutions practicing racism, thus bringing into question all such governmental activity.

- Sets a "constitutional" standard that could result in the destruction of almost all but the most ineffective affirmative action programs.

RACIST ASSUMPTIONS

The theory underlying Powell's opinion is that racial minorities are but some of the many competing groups which make up the mythological American melting pot, that racism has been "substantially" eliminated, and that everyone must be treated "equally" in the competition for society's scarce resources. It's legal theory reflecting the "free enterprise" propaganda about U.S. monopoly capitalism.

On the basis of this myopic and racist view, the Court

freedom, and the protection of the newly made free man and citizen from the oppression of those who had formerly exercised dominion over him."

As a result of the struggle against racism over the years; the protection of the 14th Amendment has been applied to other third world people. Justice Powell is now using this broadening of the amendment's scope as a means to destroy the amendment.

By broadening the 14th Amendment to include other racial minorities, Powell argues it now prohibits discrimination against whites.

Justice Blackmun took Powell to task in a dissenting opinion. "This enlargement," he writes, "does not mean to me, however, that the 14th Amendment has broken away from its moorings and its original intended purposes. These original aims persists and that, in a distinct sense, is what 'affirmative action,' in the face of proper facts, is all about . . . I suspect that it would be impossible to arrange an affirmative action program in a racially neutral way and have it successful. To ask that this be so is to demand the impossible. In order to get beyond racism we must first take account of race. There is no other way. And in order to treat some persons equally, we must treat them differently. We cannot—we dare not—let the Equal Protection Clause perpetuate racial supremacy.

Powell's majority opinion, however, does not view the Constitution in this way. By upholding Bakke's claims, it creates a standard that could lead to the destruction of almost all affirmative action programs.

The basic elements of the Powell standard for finding such programs constitutional is that they:

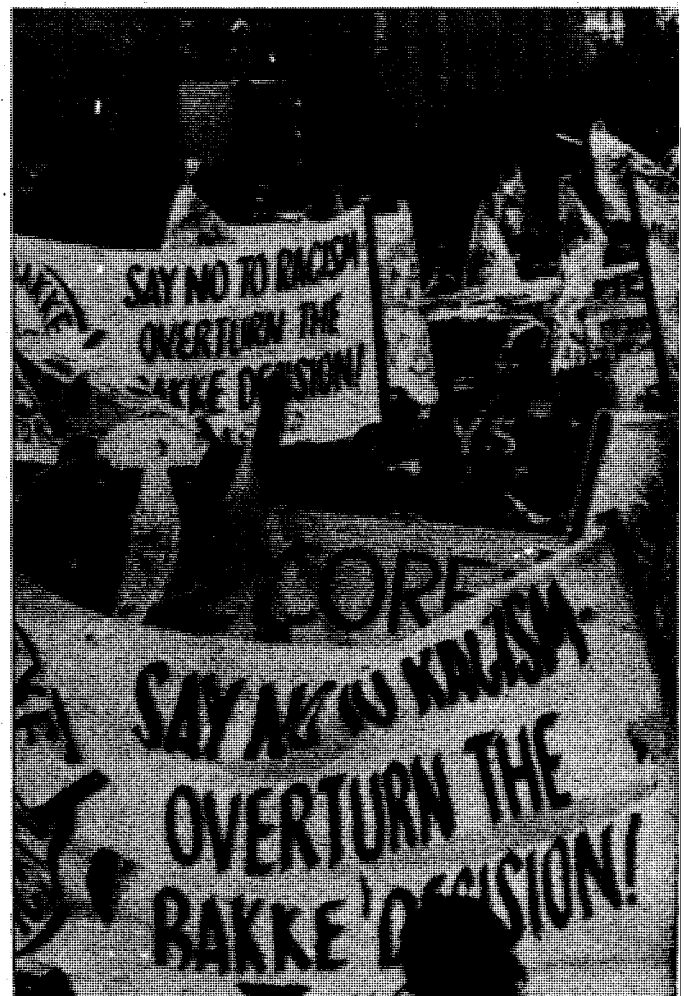
- Must be the only way that equality can be achieved;

- Must prove that a specific institution had engaged in specific acts of discrimination, without which a program cannot be set up by someone voluntarily to help eliminate discrimination if they did not engage in it;

- Must not cause "injury" to anyone.

Such a stance can and undoubtedly will be used in increasing numbers by white students, workers and others who will claim injury caused by affirmative action programs.

Supreme Court Co



Over 20,000 marched on the Supreme Court April 15 to overturn the last year to protest the "reverse discrimination" case in a suit.

Angry reaction to the Supreme Court's June 28 Bakke ruling was displayed in streets from San Francisco to Washington as hundreds of anti-Bakke forces demonstrated against the controversial decision.

In Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia, all-night vigils were held by protestors. In Milwaukee, a rally of 120 gathered at the U.S. courthouse in a protest called the People United for Integration and Quality Education.

Over 200 people gathered in downtown Boston as news of the decision became known, and an all-day vigil and protest was staged.

In New York City, Larry Holmes of the NCOBD told a protest rally that the decision was "devastating" in its "anti-gay, anti-women, anti-minority" implications.



majority then takes a federal statute designed to combat segregation and turns it into its opposite—a perfect example of how bourgeois justice will subvert even the most progressive reforms if it is allowed to do so.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 provides that "[No] person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any program receiving federal financial assistance."

The clear intent of this law and many subsequent governmental actions in the area of education, housing and employment was to eliminate the federal funding of institutions that perpetuated racist practices.

Bakke, however, claimed in his suit that the affirmative action program at the University of California-Davis Medical School resulted in his being discriminated against on the basis of his race and thus was prohibited by Title VI. Powell agreed with Bakke. He held that if a program designed to aid minorities could be shown to "disadvantage" anyone else, those "disadvantaged" people would have the right to challenge such a program as being discriminatory.

In a similar manner, Powell turned the Constitution's 14th Amendment into its opposite.

The overriding purpose of the 14th Amendment, as the High Court announced in 1873, was "the freedom of the slave race, the security and firm establishment of that

Powell indicated that such a "properly devised admissions program" was the one used by Harvard. The Harvard program claims to use race as one of many factors in a "flexible" program designed to bring diversity to its student body. Harvard described the program in this way: "Fifteen or 20 years ago . . . diversity meant students from California, New York and Massachusetts; city dwellers and farm boys; violinists, teachers and football players; biologists, historians and classicists; potential stockbrokers, academics and politicians. . . Harvard college has now expanded the concept of diversity to include students from disadvantaged economic, racial and ethnic groups."

The result of equating race with ability to play football was to destroy the reality of a meaningful affirmative action program.

Such a decision, according to Hayward Burns, of the National Conference of Black Lawyers, "is a clear message to the streets that there will be no legal protection for affirmative action programs. In my opinion," Burns said, "the decision is a further indication that America is unwilling to fully face up to its racist past . . . It is a challenge that must be met by a broad and militant political fightback."

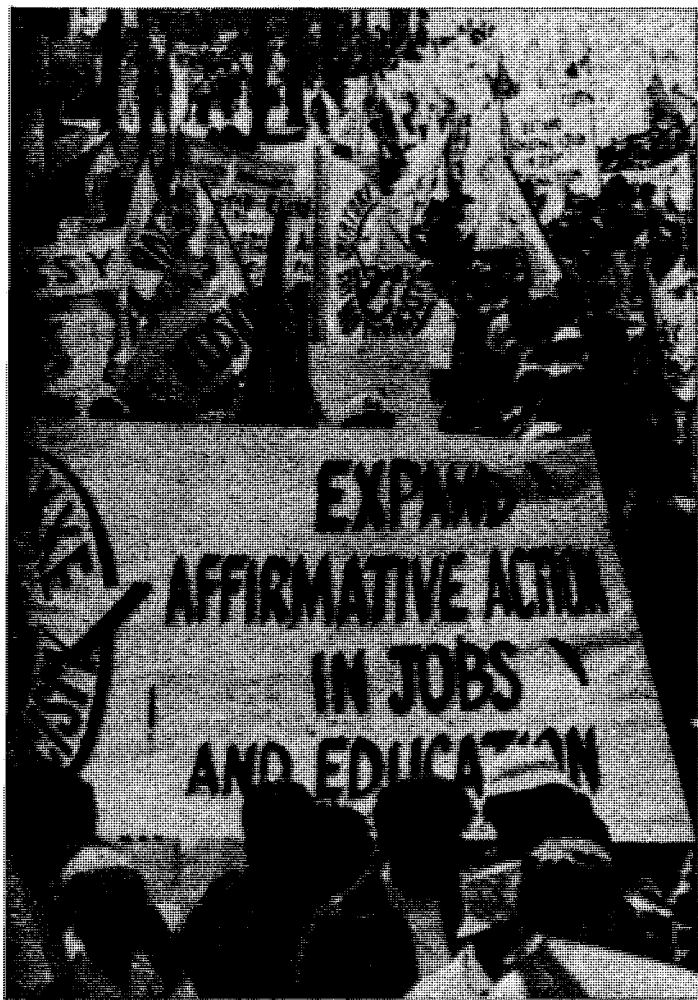
The clear intent of this law and many subsequent governmental action in the area of education, housing and employment was to eliminate the federal funding of institutions that perpetuated racist practices.

Clerk Confronts



Audrey Hair to Burger: "300 years is long enough." (UPI)

CIVIL RIGHTS Capitulates to Racism



In the wake of the Bakke decision, tens of thousands rallied nationwide over the opposition of the high court's June 28 ruling which upheld Bakke's

In the Bay Area, three days of protests were held which drew over 1,500 people. Called by the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision (NCOBD) and the Anti-Bakke Decision Coalition (ABDC), close to 1,000 marched from San Francisco's Federal Building through the predominantly black Fillmore community to a rally at Jefferson Square Park.

In an angry statement, the NCOBD noted that the ruling "represents a capitulation to the growing racist attack against minority people, specifically against affirmative action and special programs for minorities." The NCOBD further noted that the ruling will have a "dangerous and widespread negative effect on the rights and conditions of minority communities in this country." □

Burger Over Bakke

In the aftermath of the U.S. Supreme Court's Bakke decision, one black bookstore clerk had the occasion to talk to Chief Justice Warren Burger and voice her opposition to the case.

Burger, shopping at Washington's Discount Record and Books on Dupont Circle July 7, was confronted by the store's clerk Audrey Hair who talked with the justice for 40 minutes about the court's split decision upholding the "reverse discrimination" charge of Allan Bakke.

Burger, who "always referred to black people as Negroes," told Hair "to be patient" in her criticism of racism in America. "He said his grandparents had come from Europe and were illiterate and it had taken 150 years for his people to improve themselves," said Miss Hair.

"I asked him if he didn't think 300 years was enough time for my people. He said to be patient."

During the discussion, the chief justice offered the opinion that Florida was one of the most liberal states in the South. Miss Hair told him that her grandfather was lynched in 1931 in Fort Pierce, Florida, when her mother was 8.

"I told him Florida was not a liberal state," she said. "I told him I remember the Ku Klux Klan used to meet on a field behind the high school I attended."

Hair, a student at Antioch College, grew up in Fort Lauderdale. She wants to attend law school after graduation and said that the Bakke case would not make that effort any easier. □

editorial

The Bakke Decision — Racism Legalized

By MELINDA PARAS
KDP National Executive Board

The U.S. Supreme Court gave its approval to renewed racism in its historic June 28 Bakke ruling.

Any objective reading of the high court's decision in upholding the "reverse discrimination" suit can only draw the conclusion that one Black newspaper summed up in its headline: Bakke—We lose.

For the Filipino community and for the broader American society, the Bakke decision must be seen as a serious setback for this country's historic struggle for genuine racial equality. Even more than a setback, the Supreme Court's ruling comes as a direct attack on the limited gains the civil rights movement of the past two decades was able to win from the U.S. ruling class.

Affirmative action programs, designed to compensate for decades of discrimination suffered by the country's racial minorities, were dealt a serious blow when the court outlawed the use of quotas as "exclusionary" towards whites. Without the use of quotas, these programs can only rely on the good intentions and the existing political climate to desegregate institutions which have long been bastions of the white majority.

Good intentions have never sufficed in the anti-racist struggle and the current political climate has been moving ever more dangerously towards the right. A program without an enforceable quota is like a watchdog without teeth. Or as one observer put it more bluntly, it is like a gun without bullets.

Even more insidious than the outlawing of quotas, however, was the court's tacit upholding of Bakke's cry of "reverse discrimination." Charging that the U.C. Davis special admissions program was "exclusionary" towards whites, the court ruled that the 14th Amendment to the Constitution and the 1964 Civil Rights Act had been violated. The bitter irony here is that these laws were enacted only after massive social upheavals which demanded that guarantees be enacted to protect and defend the rights of the subjugated Black American!

Upholding the "reverse discrimination" charge only adds fuel to the backward and reactionary view that it is the country's white population which is being unfairly discriminated against by the nation's minorities, that it is the nation's minorities who now get the best jobs and preferential treatment over better qualified whites.

The high court conveniently ignored the fact that it is the nation's minorities who continue to suffer systematic and all-pervasive discrimination, from birth to old age, resulting in higher infant mortality rates, shorter life expectancy, lower income levels, higher unemployment rates, and greater incidence of social disease than the white majority.

The Bakke decision is an insidious attack on the country's minorities and a signal for an invigorated reactionary movement to launch increasingly more attacks on the gains of the nation's anti-racist forces.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION VICTORY?

There are many people, however, who do not realize the dangerous implications of the Bakke decision, and who may even see it as a "partial victory" for affirmative action.

This is due in part to the Supreme Court's decision not to totally exclude the consideration of race as a factor in special admissions programs. Any "victory" here, however, is more illusory than real.

The high court ruled that the consideration of race could only be one factor among many, and not the decisive factor at that. The more race is considered as a factor in special admissions, the more "decisive" and the "exclusionary" of whites it becomes. Thus the more illegal it becomes.

Since the very basis for affirmative action programs is the consideration of race, the more successful these programs are in integrating schools and other institutions, the more they will be challenged as discriminatory against whites.



More important than any lack of understanding of the decision, however, was the carefully orchestrated political clouding of the decision, emanating from the highest circles of the Carter administration.

This attempt to obscure the obvious dangers of the decision was witnessed by the timing of the decision—the last week of the court's 1978 session when schools and colleges, an immediate site of popular and vocal opposition, were adjourned for the summer.

The nation's largest monopoly newspapers also played an important role in confusing the decision, echoing a similar cry with headlines of "Justices Uphold Affirmative Action" (Los Angeles Times), "Advantage for Minorities Allowed," (New York Times), and "Bakke case impact minimized" (Christian Science Monitor). The mass media all seemed to say what the Wall Street Journal proclaimed, that it was a "decision—everyone won."

Even more important were the spokespersons, the supposed civil rights leaders, who offered the necessary political verbiage to further cloud the issue. Benjamin Hooks of the NAACP claimed the decision was a "clear-cut victory for voluntary affirmative action." Stephen Horn of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights said "We were heartened by the action," while civil rights attorney Joseph Rauh of the Americans for Democratic Action proclaimed, "I think we won."

MASS ACTIONS EXPOSE DECISION

It is much to the credit of people in the anti-Bakke movement who organized protest actions nationwide only hours after the handing down of the decision, that the complete obscuring of the Bakke ruling was minimized. In numerous cities, protest actions by the National Committee to Overturn the Bakke Decision (NCOBD) and the Anti-Bakke Decision Coalition (ABDC) called attention to the dangers of the court action.

Such mass demonstrations which mobilized tens of thousands of persons nationwide to oppose the Bakke case prior to the June 28 ruling, were an important factor in the extent to which the high court attacked affirmative action programs and will continue to be our important factor in the anti-racist movement.

For while the Bakke decision was rendered by the Supreme Court, it will actually be outside the legal arena that the issues of racism and national discrimination will be finally decided. Progressive and anti-racist forces must continue to organize against racial and national discrimination, understand the dangers of the Bakke decision and fight for the democratic rights of the country's minorities. □

Anti-Martial Law Front

FFP National Conference

'Democratize U.S. Policy towards R.P.'



Dr. Daniel Boone Schirmer (inset) 'Do away with U.S. domination . . . buttressed by U.S. Military bases.' (AK Photo)

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Sixty anti-martial law activists from across the country affirmed plans to spearhead public opposition to U.S. military bases in the Philippines at the fourth National Conference of the Friends of the Filipino People (FFP).

The conference held July 22-23, was marked by enthusiastic discussion and broad participation as delegates reviewed the past year's work. The conference likewise accomplished planning of several grassroots campaigns and sharing ideas about ways to strengthen the FFP and expand its impact and grassroots organizing in the coming year.

Keynote speaker for the two-day meeting was Dr. Daniel Boone Schirmer, FFP founding member from Boston. Dr. Schirmer summarized the FFP's reasons for approving the campaign to remove U.S. bases from the Philippines as a major effort in the coming year.

Schirmer said, "We believe that the present U.S. bases negotiation represents the most important and crucial element in U.S.-R.P. relations today. The proposed millions in U.S. rent for the bases would act as a lifeline flown to dictator Marcos in his moment of peril from a deep and ongoing political and economic crisis."

Schirmer stressed that the essence of "national security" arguments used to justify the bases and continued support for Marcos is "that same definition which uses U.S. bases as the springboard for projection of U.S. armed forces." Schirmer added that "recent right-wing efforts to make U.S. military intervention viable again after its catastrophe in Vietnam . . . is especially important today to U.S. bases, as a means for such intervention. All this provides the U.S. people with ample reason for opposing U.S. intervention in the Philippines."

In his keynote address Schirmer noted that "The specific purpose of the FFP is to democratize U.S. policy towards the Philippines; to do away with the relationship of U.S. domination and Philippine subordination which is buttressed by \$3-4 billion in U.S. investments and by a system of U.S. military bases and military troops in the Philippines." To achieve this he concluded, "We have to win the majority of U.S. people to support this goal. This is possible, and it will be done."

1977: "BUSIEST YEAR IN OUR HISTORY"

In reviewing the past year's FFP achievements, National Coordinator Jim Regan said, "1977 was the busiest year in our history."

Regan cited the Human Rights Investigating Team to the World Peace Through Law Conference last August in Manila; the success of the eight per cent military aid cut to Marcos last October and "our most extensive, coordinated U.S. bases campaign which has already gathered over 23,000 petition signatures."

Moreover, FFP has expanded to 17 chapters and the national coordination has improved during the past year.

Guest speaker at the conference was Charito Planas, candidate of the opposition LABAN party during the fraudulent April 7 Philippine election. Planas who recently escaped to the U.S. went underground when the Marcos government cracked down on the opposition at the end of the election.

Planas described the worsening economic conditions in the Philippines, the swelling popular opposition manifested in the past election. She thanked the FFP "for struggling with us in our fight to attain true independence in our country."

ADOPTED CAMPAIGNS

In addition to the bases campaign, the FFP also

adopted the following campaigns:

Continued efforts to cut off U.S. economic and military aid to the Philippines with special emphasis on indirect economic aid through international lending institutions and U.S. Government corporations like the Export-Import Bank.

Preventing the Nuclear Regulatory Commission from licensing the Westinghouse nuclear reactor to the Philippines.

Campaign Launched Against U.S. Bases

Efforts to remove American bases from Philippine territory moved into gear July 24.

On that day the Campaign to Remove U.S. Bases From the Philippines, supported by a coalition of human rights, peace, disarmament, anti-nuclear, labor, church and women's groups, staged its first demonstration at the U.S. Department of State.

Spearheaded by the Anti-Martial Law Coalition (AMLC) and the Friends of the Filipino People (FFP) and supported by the Community for Creative Non-Violence; the Coalition of Grass Roots Women, International Task Force; Don't Mourn Organize; Enlisted People's Organizing Center; SANE; and others, the coalition vowed to expand its membership in an all-out effort to remove U.S. bases from Philippine soil. □

"Adopt" a Philippine political prisoner and exposures of notorious torturers; to work with unions around the issue of industries that "runaway" to the Philippines to exploit Philippine labor; educating the U.S. public about the struggle of the Moro people for independence and about the massive human rights violations brought about by the U.S.-aided Marcos army in its war against the Moros.

Other projects which FFP will undertake this coming year include: working with local Human Rights coalitions, massive public protest for Sept. 22 (the sixth anniversary of martial law), protest against the Aug. 3-4 ASEAN meeting in Washington, D.C., and participation in South African solidarity activities.

In concluding the conference, Stephanie Brown, Standing Committee member from Seattle, remarked, "It was the most successful national conference in the five-year history of the FFP. The quality of the political discussion, the democratic participation and the spirit of cooperation by grassroots members made this an outstanding conference."

She added, "The conference has strengthened our unity, sharpened our skills and deepened our commitment. By the fifth national conference, we can look forward to major advances in our work to win support for a democratic U.S. policy towards the Philippines." □

Imelda's Visit...

continued from front page

Marcos to a debate. Mrs. Marcos, of course, unable to refute the plain truth and knowing that she is no match for the eloquent Planas, ignored the challenge.

CHILLY RECEPTION

Inside the Capitol, her reception was no less chilly than the greeting on the outside. She had asked specifically to meet with the 14 Representa-

Judge Drops Charges

Case Against Chicago AMLC-5 Ends

The case against the five Anti-Martial Law Coalition (AMLC) delegates arrested April 13 for disorderly conduct at the Chicago Philippine Consulate's office ended July 19.

Belen Asidao (AMLC), Geline Avila (KDP), Fr. Tom Joyce (Eight Day Center for Justice), Joe Meinhart (Church Committee for Human Rights in Asia), and Bill Simpson (NAFL-FNG) staged a sit-in at the Consul's office protesting the April 7 fraudulent Philippine elections. The five refused to leave the Consul's office in protest of the Marcos' administration's crackdown on the opposition soon after the elections.

At their hearing July 19 at the Cook County Circuit Court, the Philippine Consulate's legal adviser Manny Doria argued that the defendants should be placed under one-year supervision. This would have meant a "guilty" plea which the defense opposed.

A recess was called during which a closed conference for bargaining occurred between Doria and defense lawyer Fennerty with both the State Attorney and the judge present.

The judge presented a proposal whereby if the defendants pleaded "guilty" he would reject the plea and drop the case by Dec. 21, 1978, placing the defendants under no supervision. On that date the bond money of the defendants would also be returned.

The five readily accepted the offer but Doria protested saying, "But these are insurgents!"

In response the judge told Doria, "That's what we used to call them in 1899." (See AK editorial on page 2.)

Meanwhile, the case of the Seattle AMLC delegation arrested April 13 for the same sit-in protest was dropped more than a month ago. That of the San Francisco seven AMLC delegates has been reset for hearing in September. □

tives who last April sent a letter to President Marcos protesting the gross irregularities of the April 7 elections. (See AK, May 16-31.)

Fifteen Representatives responded to the invitation, most of them critics of the regime. Without giving her a chance to make a presentation, they launched into an abrasive two-hour series of penetrating questions about torture, the relationship of the Philippine police to the military, election violations, the regime's spending priorities, the growth of the military budget, and her extreme personal wealth in the midst of an impoverished country.

The majority of the Congresspeople in attendance had come well prepared with fact-sheets and statistics supplied by the Congress Education Project of the AMLC-FFP. "They called us up for information as soon as they heard she was coming," said Severina Rivera, director of the CEP. "It was very rewarding to see our years of painstaking work pay off when they automatically sought us out as the source of the most accurate information on the Philippines."

POOR PERFORMANCE BY IMELDA

"This meeting doesn't change my views at all," said one consistently anti-martial law representative. "Mrs. Marcos did very poorly," commented Rivera. "Many of their questions definitely unnerved her. In fact, she swung a couple of formerly neutral figures against the regime."

Outside the Capitol, the demonstration continued at a lively pace in spite of the harassment of a Marcos agent who attempted to photograph everyone from within inches. "Go away! You still think you are in Manila!" the demonstrators shouted.

Charito Planas, whose role during the IBP election was to attack the First Lady, continued to do so from the Capitol steps. She roused the demonstrators and a growing group of curious spectators and tourists with a stirring speech about the injustices in the Philippines. Raul Manglapus and four other members of the Movement for a Free Philippines watched the activity from the shade of a nearby tree. □

FILIPINO COMMUNITY

KDP Speech in New York City

'We fight for the People's Interest'

At this year's Philippine National Day celebration the KDP chapter in New York presented its position on the martial law issue and the Philippine situation, as well as its views on the Filipino community's problems in the U.S. The following are excerpts from a speech by Pacita Bunag.

The Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino (KDP) is a national organization of Filipino activists who are not afraid to fight for the well-being and just interests of the Filipino people, whether in the Philippines or in the United States.

Tungkol sa Pilipinas naniniwala kami na ang ugat ng ating kahirapan ay ang kawalan ng tunay na kalayaan ng ating bansa mula sa mga dayuhan. Nais ng mga malalaking negosyong Amerikano, at gayo'y pati Hapones, na panatiliing mahirap ang Pilipinas upang tayo'y manatiling tambakan ng mga mahal na produkto samantalang kasabay nilang hinahakot ang kayamanan ng ating mga bundok, gubat, lupain at karagatan.

Milyun-milyong magsasaka ang walang sariling lupain; ang bayad sa ating mga mangagawa ay pinakamababa sa buong Asya, at ang ating mga propesyonal ay walang oportunidad at marami sa kanila'y kailangang mangibang-bayan.

Dahil sa nagsimulang tumutol ang mga mamamayan sa kaayusang ito sinulsulan si Presidente Marcos na ibaba ang batas militar kapalit ng suporta ng Estados Unidos, tulad ng military at economic aid.

Ngayon ay wala ring karapatan ang mga Pilipinong umangal sa harap ng nakaumang baril ng batas militar. Aming paniniwala na ang kasagutan sa ating kahirapan at sa armadong panunupil ni Marcos ay ang Pambansang Demokratikong Himagsikan. Ang kilusang ito ay nagnanais na makamit ang tunay na kalayaan ng Pilipinas mula sa mga dayuhang interes, ibuwag ang malalaking hasyenda at magpamahagi ng lupa sa mga magsasaka, at magtayo ng pamahalaang tunay na



K.D.P. singers at New York City's June 12 Philippine National Day event which drew over 6,000 persons. Pacita Bunag [inset] addressed the crowd in Tagalog, enumerating K.D.P.'s support for national democracy and socialism. (AK Photo)

nagsisilbi sa nakararami, hindi sa iilang mayayaman.

Tinatangkilik namin at nananawagan kami sa inyo na tangkilikin ang nagsasagawa ng himagsikang ito—ang National Democratic Front. Ang NDF ay binubuo ng lahat ng makabayang puwersa na lumalaban ngayon sa diktadurang Marcos, at sa kanyang mga dayuhan. Ang NDF ay binubuo ng mga manggagawa, magsasaka, estudyante, makabayang negosyante, madre, pare at ng New People's Army. Kung tayo'y tutulong, madadali ang paglaya ng ating bayan at makakamit rin ang inaasamasam na kaunlaran.

Most of us came to the U.S. to seek better opportunities that we could not find in our homeland under its present conditions.

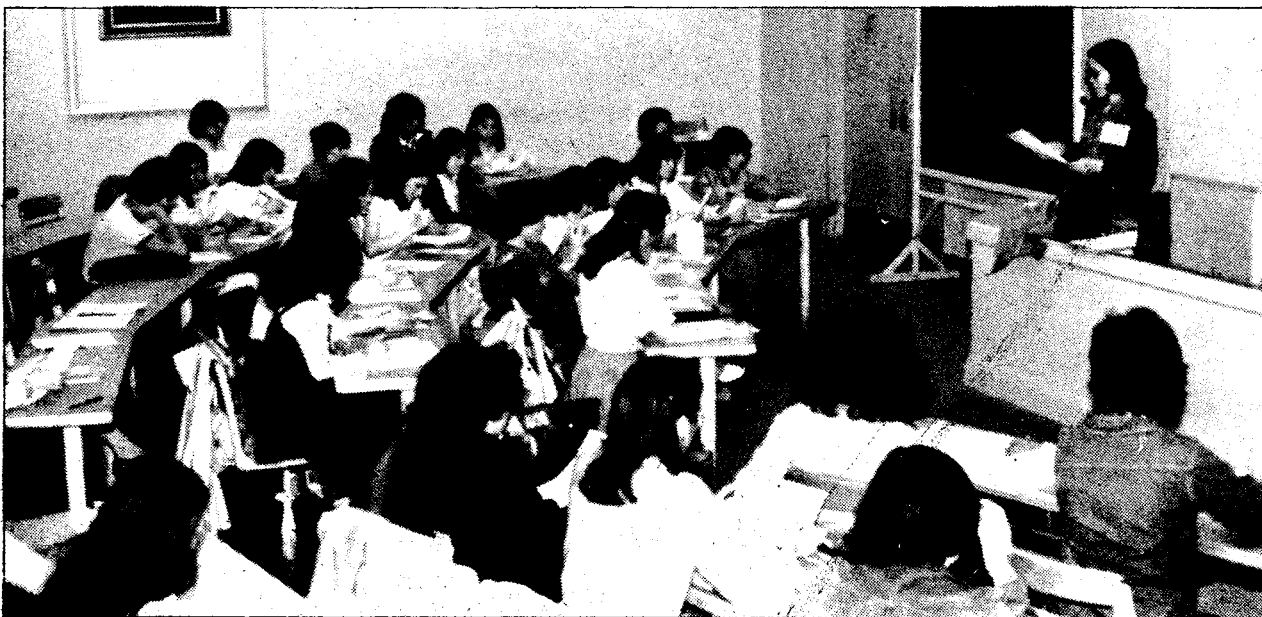
Filipinos in this country have made great contributions . . . in the agricultural farms, can-

neries, hospitals, offices and shops everywhere. Yet we know that for most of us, life is still a constant struggle.

As foreign-born and non-white, we are also worried by inflation, lay-offs and other economic insecurities that come with a system where the profits of big business come first before the needs of the working people who are the majority in American society.

That is why you will find our organization active in many efforts that seek to organize the Filipino community and uphold our democratic rights. That is why we also believe that we should begin to unite with other working people of this country because real equality and real economic security can only come about when the majority of the American people gain control of their government of the people, by the people, and for the people. □

UNEQUAL CHANCE ON LICENSURE EXAM FOR FNG'S CHICAGO LICENSURE FRAUD EXPOSED



Many foreign nurse graduates face discriminatory exams and are victimized by employers and con artists who exploit their unstable immigration status. Above, the 2nd Conference of the National Alliance for Fair Licensure discuss problems of the FNGs.

By **EDDIE ESCULTURA**
AK Correspondent

CHICAGO—For foreign nurse graduates under an H-1 visa, their future status in this country hinges on whether or not they can pass the state licensing exam.

The tests, which are biased against the foreign nurse, incur a high rate of failure among the FNGs. Frustration, demoralization and insecurity haunt many foreign nurses whose status in the U.S. can only be secured by passing the State Board Test Pool Examination (SBTPE).

While many are exploited as low paid nurses aides until they pass the SBTPE, Filipino FNGs have also become victims of an unscrupulous

scheme to further exploit their unstable status for profit.

This was the case with Sally Opolencia, a Filipina nurse who failed her first attempt to pass the state exam. She and a friend were preparing for their second try of the licensure exam when they engaged the "help" of Leo Dumanlang.

Dumanlang offered to provide the two with test questions he "assured" would appear in the exam. He even guaranteed both nurses that their test papers would be taken care of by his "inside" contact in the Department of Registration and Education in Springfield. For a fat fee of \$1,500 paid in installments, the two took the bait.

With renewed confidence because of Dumanlang's "review materials," Sally and her friend took the SBTPE. Much to their chagrin only three

test questions from Dumanlang's materials appeared among the over 100 exam questions in the SBTPE.

Frustration set in when the two nurses received the test result—failure once more. They were angry because not only could they not get their money back. They had been fooled by their own *kababayan*.

Sally and her friend are among perhaps hundreds of other FNGs under H-1 who had fallen victims to the hands of small community thieves. Another similar case involved two Filipina nurses who work at Garfield Community Hospital in the near southwest of Chicago. After being victimized, the nurses reported the case to the police and the FBI, leading to a probe of a probable licensure exam fraud ring.

The ring also operates outside of Illinois. The operation thrives on the unlicensed sector of the FNGs who work as nurse aides, a source of cheap laborers in hospitals and nursing homes.

When asked for comments about the expose, Mayee Asidao, a registered nurse, said, "If what happened is a shame in the nursing profession, it is even a bigger scandal in the FNG population. As a result there is distrust and more discrediting attacks against FNGs."

Asidao is the coordinator of the local chapter of the National Alliance for Fair Licensure for FNGs. The NAFL-FNG is a group of licensed and unlicensed nurses and community individuals who have done extensive research on licensure problems. They have raised doubts on the validity of the SBTPE and exposed the discriminatory factors in the licensing procedure and exam.

Said Asidao, "If there was equal chance for FNGs to pass the examination, those desperate to pass it to stabilize their status in the U.S. would never have taken false assistance from the Dumanlangs of our community." □

(NAFL-FNG Photo)

Commentary:

Services and Jobs Needed, Not Cuts



Alameda county residents rally against Jarvis-Gann cuts after the bill's passage in June. Hardest hit by pending budget slashes are the poor, minorities and the elderly. (Neal Cassidy)

By Sherry Hirota

In the aftermath of the passage of Proposition 13, Californians are being told that the crisis has been averted. Governor Brown has claimed that "it is not so bad, all we have to do is lower our expectations and learn to live with it." The "we" of course refers not to the corporate interests who are the main beneficiaries of Proposition 13 but the working people.

The cutbacks and layoffs of Proposition 13 have already caused a crisis in the lives of many Filipinos and other working people. Closure of childcare centers, cancellation of summer school, cuts in health, education and social services, and wage and welfare freezes have severely aggravated their daily struggle for survival.

Yet the crisis has only just begun. The impact of the \$7 billion loss in property tax revenues will be much worse next year when the State surplus is smaller and inflation greater. What we are experiencing now is only a little taste of what cutbacks are in store. New legislation to further limit government spending is currently being proposed in Sacramento.

The fact is that we can't live with Proposition 13. We must not be fooled into accepting any cutbacks or layoffs just because they are easier to take in installments.

Public services are sorely in need of expansion, not cutbacks. No matter how the politicians try to obscure it, Proposition 13 is an attack on the right of workers to the essentials of life—health care, quality education, and

decent wages.

Any acceptance of the Jarvis-Gann cuts only dampens the fighting spirit of the people who have fought and won many gains to protect such human rights in the past. Instead, we must protest every cutback and every layoff. In doing so, we must not let ourselves be divided and "prioritized."

The crisis can only be reversed if the \$5 billion windfall that big corporations and large landlords received under Proposition 13 is recouped. This means fighting for real tax reform where the burden is taken off the workers and the loopholes for big business are closed. It means a tax system that is based on the ability to pay. Those who have money should pay more. The first step is to amend Proposition 13 to provide tax relief for residential property only.

It also means demanding government accountability to reorder government spending priorities with human needs coming first. The Federal Transfer Amendment which takes money out of the military budget and puts it into health, education and welfare is a good example of this demand.

Plans are already beginning to unfold in Labor-Community Coalitions throughout the state to take up such a campaign over the next two years. We must join together with all those who stand for social justice to defend and expand our democratic rights and build a powerful movement to see this fight through. □

KDP Targetted

L.A. Police Spying Exposed

LOS ANGELES—About 200 activist groups have been targets of spying by the L.A. Police Department Intelligence Division.

According to the L.A. Times report July 19, a news conference July 18 called by the Citizens Commission on Police Repression released copies of what is believed to be the official police list of the spied-upon organizations.

The long list includes the American Civil Liberties Union, church-related groups and community-oriented organizations.

The list also includes the Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino (KDP) which the report refers to as a "militant Philippine organization." (See Editorial on page 2.)

Melinda Paras of the KDP National Executive Board commented, "It is not surprising. We're pretty outraged over this 'Watergate-style harassment' of our community."

The KDP is a Filipino community group reputed for its anti-martial law views and its involvement in the fight for democratic rights of Filipinos in the U.S.

Paras added, "we feel our work in the community is legitimate and important."

Of the 200 groups placed under closer police surveillance through 1975, twenty-two had been deleted. The rest, however, are believed to be "spied" upon up to the present.

In an effort to stop this "dirty business" by the LAPD, the Citizens Commission rallied the organizations involved to demand an "end to police spying." Already, some members of the Commission have expressed willingness to testify against LAPD's intelligence gathering before the Police, Fire and Public Safety Committee.

Meanwhile, City Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky has urged the City Council to pass the Freedom of Information Act that would allow citizens free access to their police files. This would also allow individuals or groups to see how much intelligence (minimal or substantial) the police have gathered on them.

When asked for comments on the matter, Police Chief Daryl Gates said, "I don't know what police spying is, adding that the number of groups and individuals the LAPD intelligence is surveilling has been cut down "considerably." Chief Gates also strongly opposed Yaroslavsky's Freedom of Information Act, saying that the act is too costly for taxpayers to consider. □

FWC '78 To Be Held At UCLA

LOS ANGELES—Perhaps no other event draws in hundreds of Filipinos in the West Coast other than the Filipino Far West Convention.

Begun in 1971 in Seattle, the FWC has since then transformed into a major forum for sharing the rich, varied experiences of the West Coast Filipino community around issues such as labor, housing, medical profession, culture, education, and in the sectors of the youth and senior citizens.

The FWC is not just another annual event in the Filipino community. It holds special significance as it addresses the issues of discrimination and other problems confronting the Filipino community here in the U.S.

This year's convention will be held at the University of California-L.A. from Sept. 1-3 under the sponsorship of the Asian American Studies Center.

Under the banner "Unite and Fight for Our Rights" the convention acknowledges the "community's growing recognition of the need to defend

out democratic rights and fight for those denied to us." The theme reflects the need to "forge unity among Filipinos under a common goal and direction."

"With the convention only a month away, preparation work has stepped up. We have participated in many local events like the Philippine National Day here and the Filipino-American Day in Wilmington to reach as many people as possible, to encourage them to attend the convention," said Jaime Geaga, convention coordinator.

As part of the publicity effort, the FWC Publicity/Outreach Committee has launched mobile speaking teams both here and in the South Bay. This committee has expressed optimism that with the number of contacts already made, the turnout for the upcoming convention will be high.

The Finance Committee continues to seek sponsors for the event and hold fundraisers to generate money for convention expenses. Recently, a fundraising dance that attracted some 300 people was held at the California State Long Beach Student

Union. A majority of those who attended were students and youths.

Like last year's convention in San Diego which drew 500 people, workshops include Labor/Employment, Art and Culture, Students, Education, Senior Citizens, Youth, Medical Workers, The Philippines Today, and Housing.

According to Geaga, everyone who will be participating is encouraged to send their registration now. "This will assist the Planning Committee to meet other convention needs and the Site/Logistics Committee to make early arrangements of transportation pick-ups of delegations."

The Planning Committee has issued a call for active participation from more people to assist in the convention work. Those who wish to volunteer should contact:

Publicity/Outreach: Rafael Orphilla (213) 825-6768

Program: Jaime Geaga (213) 613-1520

Finance: Marilou Perez (213) 834-2722

Site and Logistics: Vicki Perez (213) 837-5457

CLIP & MAIL TO PFWC

REGISTRATION FORM

Filipino People's Far West Convention
 University of California, Asian American Studies Center
 3232 Campbell Hall, Los Angeles, California 90024
 Below is my filled-out Registration Form, and enclosed is my check for \$ _____
 I look forward to the success of the 1978 PFWC.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____
 Phone _____
 Organization _____

Workshop Preference: 1st Choice _____
 2nd Choice _____

Registration Fee:
 Overnight — \$25
 includes: Friday and Saturday night sleeping accommodations; 7 meals; convention materials and passes to all convention events.

Commuters — \$15.00
 includes: 5 meals; convention materials and passes to all convention events.

Senior Citizens — Overnight: \$15.00 Commuters: \$5.00
 includes all of the above.

Means of arrival: please check only if you need to be picked up:
 bus train air

Airport/Terminal _____
 Airline _____ Flight no. _____
 Date & Time of arrival _____

Make checks payable to: PFWC / For more information:
 Los Angeles: 213/613-1520; West L.A. 213/825-3974; So. Bay 213/ 834-2722, 714/521-9340

40 Fires Set

Urban Renewal Behind Manila Fires



Cutted remains of Tondo. The tragedy has been traced to a rash of "urban renewal" fires linked to the Zonal Improvement Program scheme. (AK Photo)

For more than five months, low and middle income residential districts in Metro-Manila have been under threat of arson-inspired fires.

The threat stems from an estimated 40 fires which have struck different parts of the city more than that occurred in the entire five year period preceding 1978. The Marcos-controlled media and various government agencies have attributed the fires to careless children playing with matches, faulty electrical wiring, a gas tank explosion and "terrorist arsonists."

Were it not for a suspicious chain of events pointing to a government "hatchet job," the public would have believed the official explanations. But in a bid to blame the fires on some mysterious culprit, the government has instead pointed the accusing finger at itself.

First, the fires almost always struck depressed residential districts in Makati, Caloocan, Pasig and Manila proper—the exception being some commercial downtown establishments. What is common about these sites is that these were owned or occupied by anti-Marcos figures and the urban poor whose opposition to the government's redevelopment scheme has stood in the way of its implementation. The commercial establishments singled out were owned by the vocal anti-Marcos Roces family.

Second, residents in the afflicted areas noted the blatant apathy of the firemen who often times arrived on the scene hours later and without firefighting equipment. Some even idly stood by, oblivious to the growing flames and the people's pleas for assistance. Most revealing was the police inaction in investigating the fires. In Barrio Obrero for example, three suspects were

caught by angry residents and turned over to the police. Days later, the suspects, who were actually caught redhanded, were released without single entry on the police blotter.

VICTIMS OF "URBAN RENEWAL"

Once the pattern became clear, observers began to look at the government's squatter relocation program for an explanation. Reporters of the BMP, an underground resistance publication, discovered that the scorched areas corresponded to areas marked for "urban renewal" by the Zonal Improvement Program (ZIP).

ZIP is the joint Metro Manila Commission, National Housing Authority and Human Settlements Commission Plan to classify Manila into commercial, industrial, residential, and public lands and to impose a more "rational" land use pattern in the city. This plan was approved for implementation in Letter of Instruction No. 555 on July 11, 1977 by Pres. Marcos.

Because of widespread opposition to these scheme by the urban poor, the worst affected of Manila residents, the government apparently found a more lasting solution to the "squatter problem."

Now that the disastrous fires have wrecked the lives of many, ZIP seems to have moved to the next stage of implementation—squatter-proofing the city. At present armed men are posted over the scorched areas of Tondo and Makati to ensure that the urban poor do not erect shanties. And in Barrio Kapisigan the only "charity" offered by the military to the fire victims, is a free one way ticket back to their home provinces. □

Profits over Housing
Downtowner
Residents Threatened

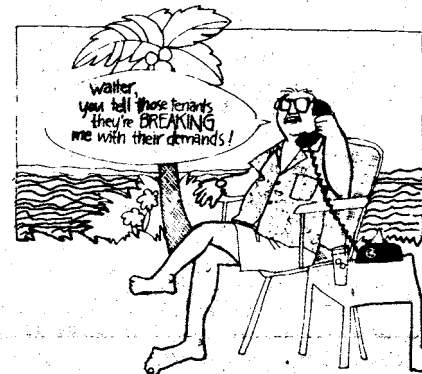
By ELAINE KO
AK Correspondent

SEATTLE—For the owners of the Downtowner Apartments, redevelopment of their housing complex may be the most profitable business venture they can get into. But for the 200 tenants of this federally-subsidized housing, conversion of their "homes" into a tourist hotel means forced eviction and according to one resident, "Certainly an injustice worth fighting against."

The Downtowner Apartments is a low-income housing owned by Martin and Howard Seelig. For eight years now, the owners have been getting subsidies in monthly payments from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The owners also have a twenty-year contract with HUD to provide low-income housing, a contract which can be broken if HUD Secretary Patricia Harris approves it.

But the building's tenants who are mostly Filipinos, Chinese, and Blacks, vowed in a June 26 meeting that they would fight against any attempts to breach the contract. Already, petitions approving the possible eviction and the redevelopment plan have gathered 100 signatures. The issue has also drawn strong support from community organizations and concerned individuals.

Meanwhile, local HUD officials, attempting to shift the responsibility to the local government,



said that "if City Mayor Charles Royer opposes these plans, then we will follow suit."

The Downtowner Apartments is located in an area that has been mapped for redevelopment. Aiming to draw in more profits, redevelopment by big business, private interests and tourism has caused mass evictions of residents in the area.

In the International District which is included in the plan, hundreds of residents have been displaced since redevelopment started in 1970. The remaining old low-income hotels and apartment buildings in the District face demolition or conversion into luxury hotels if redevelopment projects are not stopped.

Just a few blocks north of the District stand towering bank buildings, hotels, offices, and newly-converted condominiums. These structures have mushroomed over the last ten years, replacing old housing units for low-income people.

Meanwhile, it was reported that HUD Sec. Harris recently succeeded in pushing Congress to grant subsidies for building more tourist hotels. Congress reportedly will allocate some \$400 million for this project.

Said a supporter of the Downtowner's tenants, "Ironically, this project fits perfectly with the owner's plans for the Downtowner."

Downtowner tenants, however, feel that HUD Sec. Harris' action represents the side she has taken—that is of the big business interests. □

BMLO Fails...

continued from front page

the Philippine government, in the U.S."

Marcos' response at the time was that "all other avenues" should be exhausted first, before resorting to negotiations.

Recent developments reveal that the letter to Marcos, his response, and the aborted Congressionally-sponsored conference are all part of the master plan devised by Development alternatives, Inc. (DAI), sister corporation of DSC, and its client, the Philippine government.

BMLO:
'Undercut the MNLF'

"The BMLO," according to the DAI report, "has presented a program that is far more moderate than that of the MNLF. The BMLO program is anti-communist and essentially conservative, which is more consistent with the traditional culture to which this group must appeal. Should the BMLO receive the active support of Saudi Arabia, it could rapidly emerge as the most effective and powerful of the liberation groups, undercutting the MNLF position both in the Southern Philippines and in the international forums."

On cooperation with MADC: "The MADC has asked . . . DSC to establish an organization in Zamboanga City . . . and to set up a structure that will integrate its staff with the MADC. The MADC has agreed that this integrated staff will consist of their own personnel and U.S. personnel from the DSC organization . . ."

On winding down the war and neutralizing external sources: ". . . if international pressure on the Philippines is minimal [the U.S. Congress, the U.N., the Islamic Conference, and oil embargo] . . . then in purely military terms the AFP (Armed Forces of the Philippines) will probably bring the hostilities to a quick end (three to six months)." □

THE MASTER PLAN

A confidential report entitled *Problems and Prospects of Economic Development in the Southern Philippines*, produced by DAI in November, 1977, and recently acquired by Ang Katipunan, lays out a detailed plan for ending the war in the South and opening the region up for penetration by foreign capital.

The report enthusiastically targets the BMLO for its tremendous potential as an "essentially conservative" organization to undercut the MNLF both in terms of local and international support. It also pinpoints Admiral Espaldon as "the most significant government force in the Southern Philippines at present and for the foreseeable future." The DAI reveals that DSC has already started to work for Espaldon through the Mindanao Area Development Council (MADC), a regional development agency under military leadership.

WINDING DOWN THE WAR

The DSC-DAI scenario for winding down the war consists of exacerbating whatever problems the MNLF currently faces and hitting them with an all-out military assault prior to opening negotiations, presumably with the BMLO. This explains Marcos' instruction to exhaust "all other avenues" first. At the same time, DAI hopes to neutralize any external pressures that might be brought to bear against the Philippine government in stepping up the war. Thus the effort to neutralize Congress by pressing it to legitimize and support the BMLO.

The importance of ending the war, from the DAI point of view is to stabilize the region for "development." "Development" means, in no uncertain terms, foreign exploitation of the area's natural resources which the report enumerates in detail.

U.S. UP TO ITS NECK

Clearly the name of the game is counter-insurgency and economic exploitation, with the U.S. government involved up to its neck in every aspect. These range from "development" projects to soliciting investments in Mindanao from Arab countries, to selling the BMLO to the U.S. Congress and international groups.

Last week's attempt to use Congress to legitimize this made-in-Malacanang rebel group was aborted. But given the extent of U.S. involvement, it is inevitable that DAI, DSC, the State Department and, almost unquestionably, the CIA will try again. □

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DOMESTIC / INTERNATIONAL

Largest March for Women's Rights

100,000 March for ERA



On June 9, the largest women's rights demonstration in history marched on Washington, D.C., in support of the Equal Rights Amendment. (UPI)

By JEANETTE LAZAM

On July 9, 100,000 people demonstrated in Washington, D.C., demanding congressional action to extend the deadline for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA).

As the largest parade of women's rights supporters in history, the demonstration included women, men, labor, minorities, gays and clergy. The huge assembly marched down Constitution Avenue to the Capitol, where a rally sponsored by the National Organization of Women (NOW) was held.

In dozens of short speeches, numerous speakers demanded that Congress extend the ERA ratification deadline, so that states would have seven years to endorse the constitutional amendment.

Kathy Durham of Youth Against War and Fascism noted the importance of passing the ERA. "The ERA lays the groundwork as a basis in law to fight for equality for women, as the Civil Rights Act did for Blacks," she said.

ERA IN JEOPARDY

ERA supporters concede that they will not be able to get the required 38 states to ratify the amendment before the congressional mandated deadline expires March 22, 1979. At present, 35 state legislatures have voted to endorse the ERA, but since 1976, only Indiana has voted for ratification. Within this most recent period, three

states have reversed previous ratification votes, seriously affecting the drive.

CONGRESSIONAL ACTION EXPECTED

However, round one in the fight to extend the deadline resulted in a partial victory on June 5, when the House judiciary subcommittee voted 4-3 for a seven year extension.

The bill to extend the deadline is now before the full House Judiciary Committee, which must also approve the bill for discussion by the full House. A vote is expected in about a month.

"Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

In addition to the possibility that the legislation may not make it through the committee, anti-ERA forces such as the Committee to Stop the ERA, headed up by Phyllis Schlafly are expected to attempt to attach a rider to the bill that would allow states which have already approved the ERA to rescind their ratification.

Despite such attempts by Schlafly and other anti-ERA forces, ERA supporters feel very confident that the seven year extension will be won. At the July 9 rally, Rep. Elizabeth Holtzman (D-N.Y.) told the throng of ERA demonstrators: "We need an extension of time to fight the lies about the ERA," she said. "Time is on our side and we will win." □

Lifting of U.N. Sanctions Sought

Rightists Move to Back Smith Gov't

Efforts are underway in the U.S. Congress to legitimize the Ian Smith "internal settlement" for Zimbabwe by lifting U.S. support for existing United Nations economic sanctions against the white-minority ruled country.

The move, spear-headed by conservative California Senator S.I. Hayakawa, was recently able to introduce two measures on the floor of the Senate calling for the formal lifting of U.S. support for the trade and economic embargo.

While many U.S.-based corporations are presently able to circumvent the embargo through the Byrd amendment, such action by Washington would provide increased economic aid to the ailing Smith regime. More importantly, open U.S. support for Smith's "transitional government" would provide much needed political support for an internationally isolated regime which is desperately trying to maintain a facade of legitimacy and respectability.

Hayakawa recently concluded his own fact-finding mission to Zimbabwe, during which he met with representatives of the transitional government. The Zimbabwean Patriotic Front, comprised of the two guerrilla movements opposed to the Smith regime, has denounced the transitional government and increased its armed attacks against Salisbury.

The senator's move to back Smith has the growing support of a number of conservative U.S. Senators. Nevertheless, the two Hayakawa resolutions were defeated, a sign of Congressional support for the Carter administration's efforts to take a less aggressive stand in its support of the Smith regime.

More importantly was the pressure exerted by African leaders which issued stern warnings to the U.S. against the lifting of the sanctions. At the 15th annual meeting of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in Khartoum, Sudan, African leaders said that any breach of the 1964 U.N. sanctions would be regarded as "an unfriendly act," and "a particular affront to the dignity and aspirations of the African people."

SENATE COMPROMISE ON SPACE TRADE BAN

The Senate, by a 59-36 margin, voted to approve a compromise amendment sponsored by Clifford Case and Jacob Javits, Republican Senators from New York.

The amendment, while maintaining the trade sanctions, would only do so until a new government has been installed, chosen by free elections in which all population groups are allowed to participate freely. President Carter then has the power to determine whether or not the present government has committed itself "to participate in and negotiate in good faith" the terms of the majority rule and protection of minority rights.

The amendment, while still carrying out the embargo against Rhodesia is loosely worded and allows President Carter a free hand in interpreting the composition if the new government to the needs of U.S. interests. □

nation to give up colonial control of people."

PENDING ANTI-INDIAN LEGISLATION

The Longest Walk, rooted in the U.S. government's history of anti-Indian attacks which saw traditional homelands stolen and tribes decimated, focused attention on a wide array of repressive legislation aimed at further eroding the remaining rights of Native Americans.

House bill HR 13329, sponsored by Rep. John Cunningham (R-Wash.), would close the Bureau of Indian Affairs, abrogate nearly 400 treaties between Indians and the U.S. government, and take away all hunting, fishing and water rights. This bill, misnamed the Native American Equal Opportunities Act of 1977, is viewed as especially dangerous and is seen as the result of the racist Interstate Congress for Equal Rights and Responsibilities, a group committed to defend "the civil rights of non-Indian peoples."

Other anti-Indian bills currently pending before Congress would remove all tribal jurisdiction over non-Indians and limit tribal jurisdiction over tribe members, abolish all aboriginal water use rights for Indians; stop the catching and selling of steelhead trout; close all titles and interest in land and water rights of the Maine tribes of Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Indians; and extinguish all titles to land and water in New York State for Oneida, St. Regis Mohawk, Onandago, and Seneca tribes. □

Indians Demand Rights

Longest Walk Enters Washington, D.C.



Native Americans culminated their 3,000 mile Longest Walk in the nation's capitol, demanding an end to anti-Indian legislation. Actor Marlon Brando addressed the Longest Walk and its supporters at a July 15 rally, attacking the U.S. government's anti-Indian policies. (UPI)

After five months of a cross-country trek through snow, rain and the heat of interstate highways and desert roads, the Longest Walk entered the nation's capitol July 15.

Over 2,000 Native Americans and their supporters made the final leg of the historic march under the sun of a Washington summer, gathering in Malcolm X Park to rally for their demands for rights and justice.

"We have not come to smoke the peace pipe with the Great White Father," Bill Means, a leader of the Walk and a Sioux Indian told the crowd. "Neither are we a bunch of angry Indians with our tomahawks out. We have come to educate Americans that we are a group of people who desire our rights."

The Longest Walk, which began Feb. 11 from Alcatraz Island, was held to call attention to pending congressional legislation which seriously

threatens the rights of existing Native American tribes. Jointly sponsored by the North California American Indian Movement (AIM) and the National Indian Coalition, the Walk was named after the many forced marches of Indian people by the U.S. government which forced this country's indigenous people into squalid and barren reservations.

At the Washington, D.C. rally, hundreds of Indian supporters, from diverse backgrounds and nationalities, enthusiastically greeted the Longest Walk participants. In addition to speeches and traditional Indian cultural performances, Indian rights supporters, such as actor Marlon Brando and comedian/activist Dick Gregory also addressed the crowd.

"I was astounded," said Brando, "that the President of the United States would have the nerve to talk about human rights when we are the last