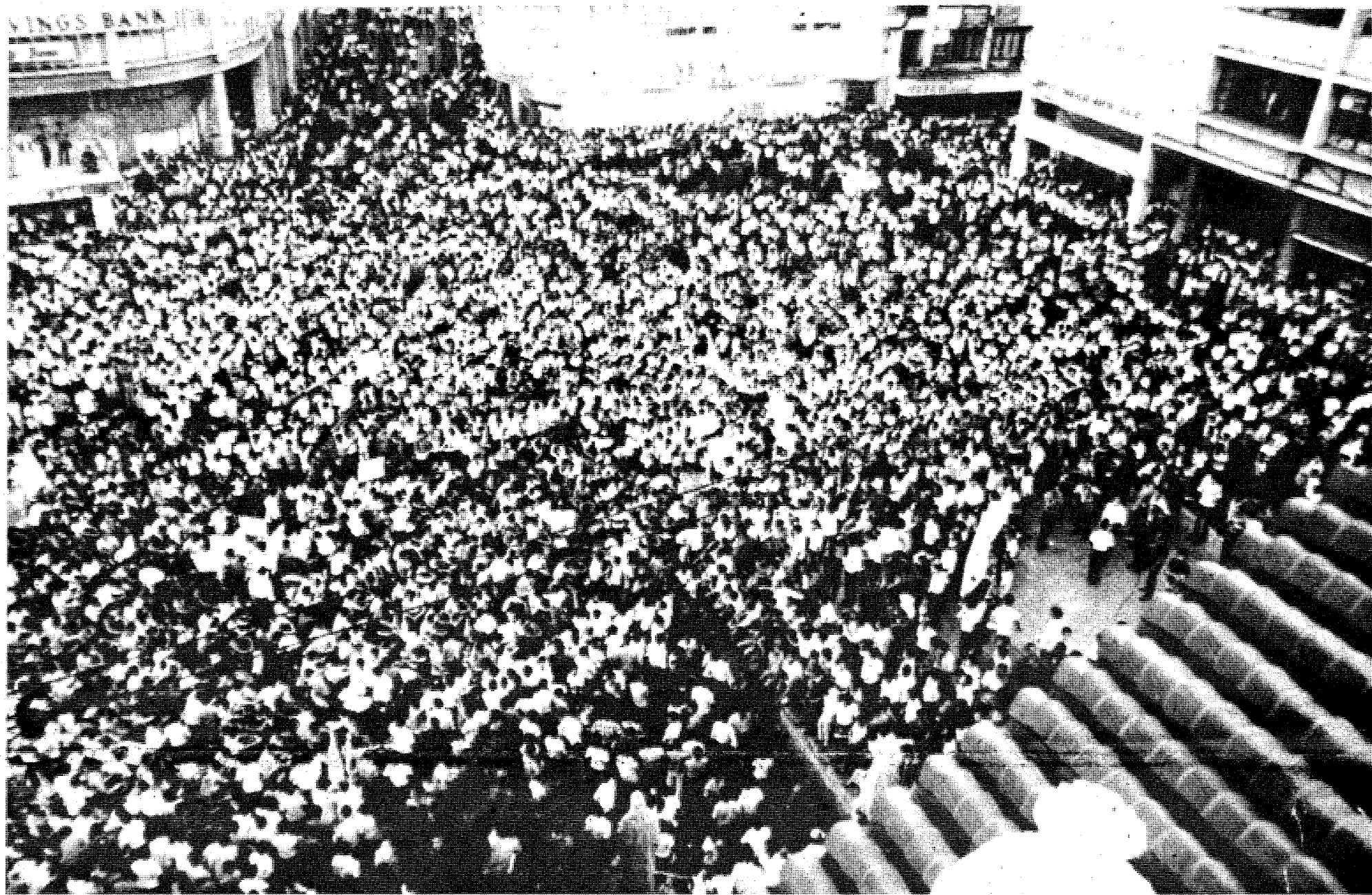


Student Movement Rekindled: 10,000 Protest Tightening State Control on Campuses



Growing student outrage at the proposed Education Act of 1980 culminated last July 29 in the largest demonstration since the declaration of martial law.

In what was actually several simultaneous demonstrations held in different parts of Metro-Manila, students, teachers and deans demanded that the entire bill under consideration by the Interim Batasang Pambansa (IBP) be scrapped. One large group coming principally from Manila's downtown "university belt" marched to the Ministry of Education where it further protested tuition fee hikes and the continued prohibition of student organizations on campus.

A second group, consisting largely of students and faculty from the University of the Philippines (U.P.) gathered at the U.P. campus to march to the IBP. The combined groups, according to *Agence France Presse*, consisted of over 10,000 people.

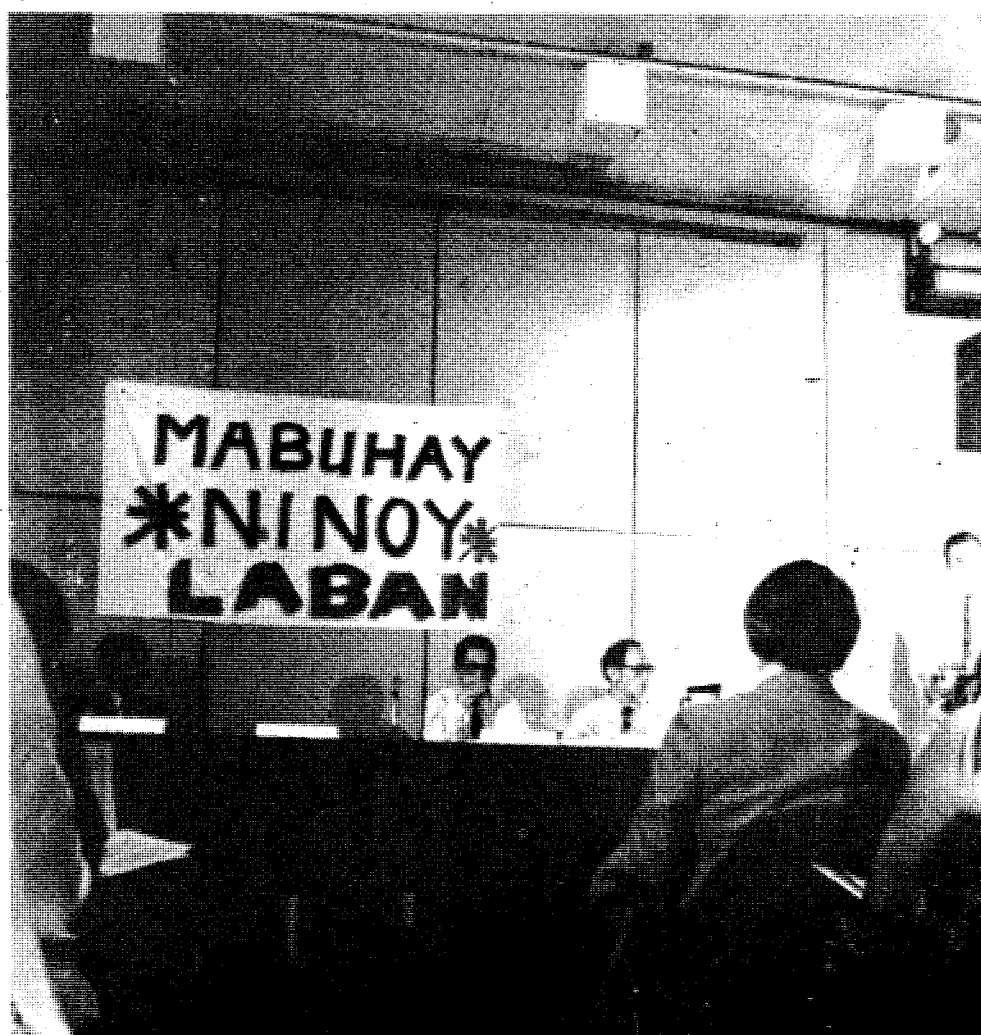
"MOST VISIBLE SHOW OF FORCE SINCE MARTIAL LAW"

While the downtown contingent managed successfully to picket the Education Ministry, the second was met by what some members of the press called "the most visible show of force"—by combined elements of the military and the police—"made by the authorities since martial law."

Demonstrators and policemen argued for four tense hours outside the U.P. campus before the bulk of the group agreed to retreat. Meanwhile some 500 managed to leap the police cordon and continue the demonstration at the IBP building.

An inter-university group had planned a protest at the Education Ministry last July 24 to launch a general boycott of classes in protest of the Education Act.

AQUINO URGES MARCOS TO STEP DOWN



Aquino gives "revealing" speech in New York.

IN THIS ISSUE

Far West Convention
Hotel Strike Ends
Fr. Ed., Sr. Marianni Speak

(See articles, pages 2 and 3)

EDITORIAL PAGE

AQUINO'S POLITICAL SOLUTION IS UNTENABLE

By AIMEE CRUZ

Some promises are definitely worth breaking. Take Aquino's promise to Marcos that he won't speak out against the regime while abroad. Now, I mean, only a real loser can keep a promise as obnoxious as this one. Thus, when the ex-senator dramatically broke his "covenant" with Marcos, the 250 people who crowded the Asia House in New York to hear his first public speech since he arrived had some reason to cheer. He essentially announced that he has not yet broken ranks with the anti-martial law movement.

This comes as somewhat of a relief since the impression he has given of himself in the last year or so is one of "moderation"; leading many people to ask whether Ninoy is still a serious opponent of the dictatorship. News reports of his praises for Imelda and cooperation with Marcos bolstered these doubts, of course.

His New York speech, however, told everyone that he is still on the movement's side of the barricade. With the eloquence he is widely known for, Ninoy dazzled his audience with an array of facts and figures, his quick humor and colorful parables. He also evoked the audience's sympathy as he described his own hardships and denounced the cruel treatment of other prisoners who, unlike him, are unknown and have no influence.

BUT WHAT IS NINOY UP TO?

Aquino's New York declaration, however, may not make Marcos all that unhappy. The reason is, Aquino is still leaving a lot of confusion in his wake by contradicting himself all over the place.

In his New York Times interview, he revealed his cooperation with Marcos—reporting to the dictator the substance of his meetings with various opposition forces where he appealed to them for moderation. In another interview he gives the impression that he is organizing urban guerrillas, using "code" words and all.

He declared that he would never negotiate with communists yet in his New York speech he expressed agreement with some principles of the National Democratic Front (of which the Communist Party is a leading party) thereby implying openness to cooperation.

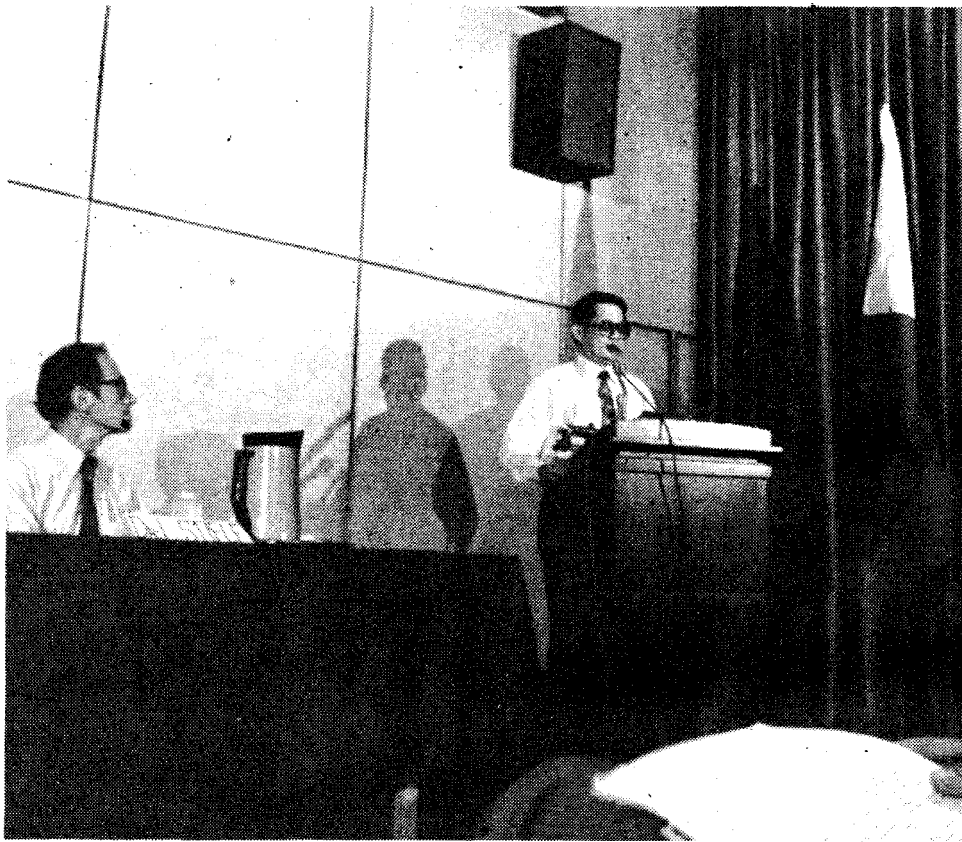
In his New York Times interview he appealed to the U.S. as an ally and friend to intervene in the Philippines lest it becomes "the basket case of Asia." Yet in his New York speech, he denounced the U.S. for its support of the regime and strongly admonished the U.S. to stay out of the Philippines' internal affairs.

This has led many of his sympathizers to ask, "What is he really saying?" His New York speech itself, while impressive in many part is overall a curious mixture of various positions, some even contradictory, thrown together, stirred up and offered as a palatable analysis. It is Ninoy's responsibility not to leave people in the dark as he is held by many as a towering symbol of resistance.

WHY IS HE SO INCONSISTENT?

The source of Aquino's inconsistency can be diagnosed by examining what is consistent in his public utterances. This mainly consists of his constant call for a coalition government with Marcos and the warning that violence and chaos will break out if Marcos does not heed this call.

Indeed, Aquino is committed to the belief that there can be an easy way out. Beneath the spectacle and drama that enveloped his speech, lies a dangerous



Aquino: Marcos' friend or foe?

proposal that all anti-martial law forces should not fail to catch: **Aquino believes that Marcos can be reasoned with to step down, strip himself of his dictatorial powers and willingly submit to become part of a "conciliation government" which would then set out to dismantle all of Marcos' repressive and oppressive martial law structures.**

In the January 10, 1980 issue of Bulletin Today, Aquino had explained that "dismantling martial law structures" means, among other things, 1) the restoration of democratic rights and freedoms, in particular the right to free elections; and 2) the invalidation of all of Marcos' martial law decrees, which would include those which have enabled Marcos to become filthy rich through fat commissions obtained by his selling-out of our country's natural resources to foreign investors; as well as those decrees which enabled him to take over hundreds of business concerns in the Philippines. Dismantling martial law structures therefore means the end of the Marcos dynasty. Aquino believes that Marcos can be persuaded to sink a dagger into his own chest.

FALLING INTO MARCOS' TRAP

Why is this idea of a conciliation government dangerous? First of all, it sows illusions among the people that it is possible, thereby disarming them politically. It serves to obscure the fascist nature of the regime and that the only way to change is through forceful overthrow. In addition, in attempting to scare Marcos with urban guerrilla warfare if he does not respond to the proposal, Aquino only succeeds in scaring his audience. By conjuring up visions of chaos, explosions, kidnappings, revolutionary upheavals where "everyone is a loser," Ninoy only manages to heighten middle class fears and prejudices. It is safe to say that more than half of his New York audience left not with a former belief that in order to build a new social order, the present one which the regime is trying desperately to preserve has got to be dismantled and destroyed. Instead they most likely left with the vain hope that Marcos would willingly agree to step down through this conciliation government so that "disorder" will be avoided. What better way to spread false hopes than through fear!

But the greatest danger in Aquino's proposal lies in the fact that it is tanta-

mount to surrender or capitulation. Aquino himself admits that there has got to be "something for Marcos," that "Marcos does not give something for nothing." In other words, for Marcos to agree to his proposal it must safeguard the dictator's basic interests. That is why it is termed a conciliation government, right?

Aquino should realize that his proposal fits right in to Marcos' strategy for disarming the traditional opposition. Which is probably why Marcos has been so gracious to him lately.

Marcos' goal is to **neutralize** the traditional opposition by convincing them to accept a limited role in government—a "sharing of power" where Marcos still reserves for himself seven-eighths of the pie. This way, an illusion of democracy and normalization can be case by the regime. Marcos has tried many ways—plebiscites, referendums, elections—and failed. It should dawn upon Aquino that in pressing other opposition forces to accept the wisdom of his conciliation proposal, he is trying to achieve success where Marcos has failed. Should Aquino

succeed, he will have succeeded only in rendering the traditional opposition even more powerless and in prolonging Marcos' rule. Aquino admitted that his own colleagues have "castigated" him for this conciliation proposal. And well, they should have. But his commitment to it is so deep he obviously has not listened to them.

No wonder, Aquino is so inconsistent. No wonder his New York speech militantly deplored the general situation in the country but noticeably veered away from sharp and direct attacks on Marcos himself. For how can you be consistently sharp with an enemy you're trying to be friends with?

Even as he threatens Marcos with violence, it is clearly meant only to cover his basically conciliatory approach. Though he emphatically denies it, Aquino's talk of violence is indeed "idle talk." It is like the victim threatening his armed mugger with force if the latter does not agree to turn himself over to the police!

PASSIVITY PROMOTED

Aquino should abandon his call for a conciliation government and all idle talk that goes with it. It serves him and the movement no good. He should also abandon the personal philosophy he seems to be subscribing to: "One can be the happiest man if he can learn to drink tea from an empty cup." Meaning, he would be happy to transcend his miseries and sufferings. This seems to be the underpinning of his willingness to transcend his animosity with Marcos "for the sake of the Republic." If the Filipino people were to follow this philosophy, be happy "drinking tea from an empty cup," one wonders how many more conciliation proposals and idle threats of violence will be voiced to the same regime 30 years from now.

Such a passive form of protest amounts to no resistance at all. No, Aquino should subscribe instead to basic political unreasonableness. You cannot reason with unreason, especially if it is armed. You have to smash it. Should he see the correctness of this view, there are many forces here willing to embark on a principled cooperation with him—against the common enemy. □

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Breaks Covenant with Marcos; Hits Martial Law:

AQUINO URGES MARCOS TO STEP DOWN

It was an occasion that could titillate any former politician's deepest desires: 250 stomped the Asia House on a miserably muggy summer evening in New York on August 4 to hear ex-Senator Benigno Aquino, Jr. in his first public appearance in the United States since he arrived last May. Bright floodlights and cameras which clicked away followed his every move as he shook hands with all those who streamed to greet him. They were all there: the former politicians and government functionaries who were all felled by Marcos' one-man rule, their families and their friends. And there were also the ordinary folks who were there simply because they were eager to hear what Aquino, known to be the "most outspoken" and "fiercest" critic of Marcos, had to say.

Former Attorney General Ramsey Clark, emcee of the evening, made the opening remarks by tracing the history of Philippine-American relations. Clark traced the U.S. record of atrocities against the Filipino people from the Philippine-American war to the present, through its support of the Marcos dictatorship.

When Aquino's turn to speak came, fiery words and blustery tirades against the Marcos regime made the evening warmer than it already was. At the outset, Aquino dramatically declared that he had "decided to break his second covenant with Marcos." [Referring to a promise he made to Marcos not to comment on Philippine partisan politics while abroad] "because of the dictates of higher national interests."

With that, Aquino began to masterfully orate on the crimes of the Marcos regime. Speaking with the eloquence he is widely known for, Aquino dazzled the audience with an array of facts and figures, his quick humor and colorful parables. He charged the Marcos regime for ravaging the Philippine economy, and denounced the hardship that the Filipino people are presently undergoing under the steepest inflation rate (26.4 percent) that they have ever known. He evoked the audience's sympathy as he described his own hardships while in prison and even went further to expose the cruel treatment of those "prisoners with no influence" who, unlike



him, have been subjected to inhuman and degrading punishment by the Marcos military.

Aquino's verbal verve and sharp censure certainly aroused everyone's deepest hatred for the Marcos regime. Yet despite the heated passion which permeated the room, many left with a chilling and confused thought: "Why does he virulently condemn the Marcos regime and yet propose conciliation?"

MUDDLED STAND

Indeed the evening proved to be confusing as the audience strained to understand Aquino's solutions to the present order. While acknowledging the violence and cost in human life that martial law has stood for, he at the same time admonished his colleagues in the opposition to desist from resorting to violence,

proposing instead a "peaceful transition" plan. This plan calls for Marcos to step down over a three-year period of "peaceful political normalization." References to the urban insurrectionary plans of his colleagues were only made to underscore his pleadings to Marcos to relax his rule.

The cynicism and mixed feelings of the audience was reflected in the applause rendered Aquino on three separate occasions. Aquino struck a popular chord only when he appeared to take an anti-U.S. stand and a non-sectarian position towards the revolutionary movement in the Philippines. Towards the U.S., Aquino quipped: "If you can't help us, don't hurt us"; towards the Communist Party of the Philippines, "It should be legalized" and towards the NPA, "They are more pat-

riot than the Armed Forces of the Philippines; patriotic but misguided."

The crowd's thirst for clarification was not satisfied during the question and answer period, facilitated by Movement for Free Philippines (MFP) general secretary Heherson Alvarez. During the open forum, the written questions submitted in advance were answered selectively. Questions requesting further elaboration on the senator's peaceful transition proposal, were conspicuously ignored.

Summing up the sentiments of many, one Anti-Martial Law Alliance (N.Y.) spokesperson said: "Why after eight years of martial law and imprisonment should Aquino turn to Marcos and not the Filipino people for the answer?" □

ang KATIPUNAN

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VICTORY FOR DEMOCRATIC, PROGRESSIVE FORCES
New Elections Ordered For FACL



ang KATIPUNAN

VOLUME VII, Number 10
Published by the Union of Democratic Filipinos (NDFP)
June 1-15, 1980

KALINGA LEADER MURDERED BY MARCOS MILITARY

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PHILIPPINE NEWS

Buod ng mga Balita

SAMAR PRIEST CLEARED

Delayed reports reveal that the case against Fr. Restituto M. Cardenas for illegal printing, possession, and distribution of subversive propaganda has been dropped. The decision was contained in a resolution dated March 11, 1980 by the 3rd Asst. City Fiscal of Tacloban City, Jose F. Sano and approved by City Fiscal, Francisco C. Pedrosa.

Cardenas was arrested and charged with the crimes over a year ago at a time when the fighting between New People's Army forces and the Philippine military had escalated to a new high.

Sano stated that, after a careful study of the affidavits and the documents, *Events* and *Reprints*, both church publications, he did not see why the documents could be considered subversive. They merely reported alleged abuses of the members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. The fiscal further noted that these pamphlets do not incite the people to violence or to disregard, ridicule, defy, or ignore any lawful order of the government.

Fr. Cardenas has returned to his parish in Northern Samar. □

(Adapted from NASSA News)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY?

It was July 2 and praise wafted through the air. Flag-raising ceremonies, tree-planting ceremonies, an open house at the zoo were the order of the day. The streets of Metro-Manila shone with an extra dose of polish. Twelve-page special supplements studded the daily papers gushing with admiration and singing her praises. It was Imelda's birthday and the whole world was expected to take note.

There was merely one hitch in the grandly planned series of events provided by the jeepney drivers of Metro-Manila. As their particular birthday homage, the Federation of Jeep Operators and Drivers Associations had promised to offer free rides between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and noon. But not all the jeepney drivers were quite as wild about their enforced birthday present as might be expected. A full 50 percent of the drivers either refused to drive for free or simply stayed home.

The result? Thousands of workers and students were stranded, unable to find rides, throughout Manila.

Some observers attributed the situation to hard times and the high cost of fuel. Others suggested that perhaps Imelda isn't quite as well-loved by her subjects as she would like to believe. □

CRONIES CLASH—HIS AND HERS

Once again in the crony-dominated Philippine industrial world, the cronies have clashed. This time it is the powerful CDCP (Construction Development Corporation of the Philippines) conglomerate headed by Marcos-boy Rodolfo Cuenca vs. Herdis, Inc., the 30-odd companies that form the empire of Imelda's cousin, Herminio Disini.

At stake was a juicy contract to undertake the first of five coal-fired, million-ton capacity, export-oriented cement plants as part of the Board of Investments new cement industry rationalization program. Cuenca's company, Negros Cement will carry through the project. Herdis' Semirara Cement, along with four other proponents, will have to wait until the Cuenca plant is on stream before coming back with a new bid. □

First Filipino Copper Smelter to be Constructed

Plans to construct the first copper smelting plant in the Philippines, one of the few copper producing countries in the world, seem to have finally materialized.

The Philippine Associated Smelting and Refining Co. (PASAR), a consortium of the Philippine government and seven private copper mining companies, has been negotiating to secure one-third of the funds from foreign countries. Japan's Marubeni Corporation, Sumitomo Corporation, and C. Itoh are likely to join the project.

The PASAR project has been wracked by difficulties since the very outset. Massive protests of local citizens of San Juan, Batangas, concerned about the pollution problem that the plant could create called a halt to the project in its initial stages several years ago. The regime then announced a shift of site to Leyte, Mrs. Imelda Marcos' birthplace and a regime stronghold. After a number of false starts, recent reports indicate, Leyte's first major industrial installation—and dangerous source of pollution—is finally underway. □

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ELITE OPPOSITION ATTEMPTS
THIRD FORCE COALITION

Lorenzo Tanada



Eva Estrada Kalaw



Diosdado Macapagal

Elite oppositionists, in yet another effort to provide a "genuine" alternative to the martial law government of Ferdinand Marcos, recently laid out the foundations of a broad coalition to undertake this task.

A reaction to the growing left influence on the resistance movement, this alliance consists of: the Nacionalista Party under the Laurel family; the Liberal Party of former senators Gerardo Roxas and Jovito Salonga; the National Union for Liberation under former congressman Rogaciano Mercado; the National Union for Democracy and Freedom under former president Diosdado Macapagal; Mindanao Alliance led by IBP Assemblyman Reuben Canoy and Misamis Oriental Governor Honoban Adaza; Cebu's Pusyon Bisaya, and Bicol Saro. This third attempt at forging the "third force" includes a number of formations which are in themselves supposed coalitions (i.e., NUL, NUDF).

The coalition is expected to be formalized this month with the signing of a document called a "national concord for freedom." Salvador Laurel, a leading advocate of this merger, along with brother Jose, former speaker in the pre-martial law Congress, are organizing the "biggest gathering of opposition leaders" set for August 19th. This date marks the 102nd anniversary of Manuel L. Quezon,

symbol of Philippine pre-independence struggle against colonialism.

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

This as-yet unnamed group issued a general declaration of principles included in the document based on three main points:

- "Immediate and absolute termination of the present dictatorship.
- "Restoration of real democracy and re-establishment of the democratic system of government,
- "Establishment of a national community which would place the highest value on national independence and human dignity and human rights, on social justice and development of a self-reliant economy."

The coalition also pledged to "resolutely oppose the cultural, economic and military domination of our nation by any foreign power."

COLLECTIVE LEADERSHIP

The question of leadership of this merging coalition has been apparently set aside. Some still look on Aquino. Others do not see an immediate need for one-man leadership and are considering a collective leadership while firming up the coalition's framework.

"During this transition period,

a new leader will be born, and he may not even be the one among us," said former senator Eva Estrada Kalaw.

The LABAN Party, under the leadership of former Senator Lorenzo Tañada, are not easily convinced of the new Laurel decision to "go all out against Marcos."

ELITE OPPOSITION'S HEIGHTENED VISIBILITY

The new coalition plans explain the heightened visibility in recent months of Kalaw, the Laurels, Macapagal, and others. Many have publicly participated in recent anti-government rallies (June 12, July 4) which were formerly the preserve of the left and its sympathizers.

As these old-style politicians return to campaign-style politics, observers note a distinct left tinge in their points of unity.

"The presence of the left and the popularity of the anti-imperialist position has driven even normally conservative politicians to take a seemingly anti-interventionist pose," noted one observer.

Openness to the participation of the Moro National Liberation Front was noted, although there are serious doubts about this as the MNLF recently re-affirmed its secessionist stance and its determination to halt all negotiations. □

CHDF Unit Joins MNLF

BASILAN—An 11-man Integrated Civilian Home Defense Force (ICHDF) recently surrendered to the Zone Commander of the Basilan Revolutionary Committee. In joining the MNLF fold, the all-Yakan ICHDF turned over their 11 guns and one 81mm mortar to the BRC.

BELIEF IN THE CAUSE OF REVOLUTION

Asked on why they joined the MNLF, the leader of the group replied: "We now believe in the cause of revolution." "For us to stay further under the employ of the government would do us more harm than not," he stressed.

"In all instances we are being used as sacrificial pawns pitted against our own people. And in



cases where we enforce our rights for having discovered the government's evil ends towards

the Muslim populace, death is resulted to silence us. And this is demonstrated in the Philippine Army's massacre of 12 of our former comrades in Matangal, Lamitan on June 9, 1980," the ICHDF leader explained.

MORE SURRENDEREES JOIN STRUGGLE

Meanwhile, about 300 ICHDF earlier surrendered to Commander Julkarnain Faikh, Vice-Chairman for Military Affairs of this province. In a military communique, Faikh indicates that these former government forces are but an initial number of would-be surrenderees. More have already signified their intention to join the struggle for total independence as the duplicity of the Marcos regime is no longer bearable. □

(Adapted from BMNews)

Regime Launches Whitewash of Macli-ing Case:

KALINGAS RALLY— RE-ASSERT OPPOSITION

As the Marcos regime last month launched a white-wash campaign regarding the murder of Kalinga leader Macli-ing Dulag, Kalingas, Bontocs and lowland supporters of their five-year struggle held their largest rally to date opposing the Chico River Dam Project.

Four hundred supporters from Metro-Manila journeyed 270 miles last July 19 to join the Kalingas at a massive rally in Tinglayan, Kalinga - Apayao. Here they watched the Kalingas sign a petition in blood demanding a complete end to the dam project which promises to inundate their rice terraces and end their way of life.

Joining the lowlanders were former Senators Jose Diokno and Lorenzo Tañada. Diokno addressed the group pleading, "Let us do everything to avoid bloodshed. But if after everything is done, then you have the right to self-defense. It is not only moral but a legal right."

SPURRED BY MACLI-ING'S DEATH

But the day belonged to the Kalingas, many of whom clearly felt that the time to "avoid bloodshed" in opposing the dams, which are designed to provide power for lowland haciendas, had come to an end. A number of leaders called for an end to all talks and urged the people to "do what is being done in Mindanao."

An obvious spur to the militant gathering was the outrage which quickly spread throughout the Cordillera over the murder of Macli-ing last April 24. Macli-ing, barrio captain of Bugnay village and leading figure in the *budong* (peace pact) which unites the Kalinga tribes against the dams, was shot 10 times through the door of his hut late that night by fatigue-clad men as he tried to persuade them to return in the morning. The same group then proceeded to the hut of Pedro Dungoc, whom they wounded in the arm and left for dead.

The military was known to dislike the two men for Dulag and Dungoc had jointly filed a complaint against them after Dungoc was severely beaten. Only the week before, soldiers had come to Bugnay looking for the two who were out of the village at the time.

"NOT AN OPPOSITIONIST"

Thus both Kalingas and their supporters were dumbstruck when the Marcos regime launched a campaign to disassociate Macli-ing's death from his years in the forefront of the dam struggle. At a hearing into the matter called by the Ministry of Defense in response to the outrage over his death, government figures asserted that the incident was related to inter-tribal conflicts.

In their effort to defuse newly mounting tension over the dam issue, the government called Kalinga-Apayao Governor Amado Almazan who asserted to everyone's shock, "There was



Macli-ing Dulag's family dig his grave.

(Alihani)

no occasion when Dulag opposed the construction because he was not an oppositionist." Almazan added that, in 10 years of personal friendship, never did he hear Dulag speak against the construction of the Chico project.

GOVERNMENT FANS DISPUTE

Attempting to present a convincing case, Almazan referred to disputes between Macli-ing's village of Bugnay and the neighboring Sadanga tribe. In this light, he cited the murder of Macli-ing's son by the Sandagas several years ago.

What Almazan failed to mention, however, was the role of the Philippine government, through the efforts of the Presidential Assistant on National Minorities (PANAMIN) in aggravating tribal conflicts to break up opposition to the dam. Nor did he cite Macli-ing's efforts as *pangat*, peace pact enforcer, in convincing fellow tribesmen to desist from the customary practice of revenging a slain fellow villager in the broader interest of maintaining unity against the dams.

INTIMIDATING THE PRESS

Aside from the thinly-veiled whitewash effort, the trial served a secondary purpose as well. Marcos had initially reacted with

outrage at the press' "one-sided" reporting of the Macli-ing murder. The soldiers' side, he insisted, should have been printed as well as the tribal people's. (See AK, Vol. VI, No. 13) The hearing provided ample opportunity for intimidating the press.

One magazine reporter, Ma. Ceres Doyo, was bullied by Deputy Defense Minister Carmelo Z. Barbero over her failure to contact the National Power Corporation, the agency in charge of building the dams, for their interpretation of the event. "It would have been easy for you to lift the telephone to check the facts you gathered," insisted Barbero. "It is your duty to print both sides."

REWRITING HISTORY

Though Barbero was quick to point out that Ms. Doyo herself was not under investigation, the implications were clear enough. The commission announced that it would call in several members of the local and foreign media who had written on the event. All served to underscore the government's threatening attitude toward those who dare expose the rotter underbelly of the New Society and grim determination to persist to ludicrous extremes in rewriting the history of one of the genuine heroes of contemporary Philippine history. □



Macli-ing's death heightened the opposition against the Chico River Dam Project.

(Alihani)

In Praise of IMELDA

By VICTORIA LUNA

This column would like to pause a moment to offer up its undying gratitude to Imelda Romualdez Marcos, comic heroine of the New Society. For if Imelda did not exist, we would surely have had to invent her. Thank-you, dear Imelda, for always being there when we need you, always providing grist for our mill. A belated bit of birthday tribute (see story on page 4).

And this time, folks, she really deserves it for Imelda once again has thought the unthinkable and launched the undoable. We thought we'd heard it all with the Bridge of Love, the instant white sand beach at her Leyte hideaway, the near-overnight construction of the Philippine International Convention Center, the Kasaysayan ng Lahi organized for the Miss Universe pageant, green-painted lawns for major events during the dry season, the museum devoted exclusively to her dresses.

But we were merely skimming the surface, for Imelda is a bottomless pit of ideas verging on the incredible, not to say the mad. And of course there is always logic—of a sort—behind her every move.

A MANILA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Naturally, if you are going to launch a film festival in Manila to rival the hallowed tradition well-entrenched at Cannes, you are up against some fairly impressive odds. To say nothing of the comparison between European and Philippine film industries, the basic problem is overcoming the romantic allure of the French Riviera where lithe and glorious film queens can stroll upon white sand beaches against the azure glow of the Mediterranean waves.

"No problem!" pledged Minister of Tourism Jose Aspiras, Imelda's front-man in the festival department, in Cannes last May. "We'll build a beach for you."

And so the rush is on to create a white sand beach along Manila Bay in the heart of downtown Manila. At a cost of \$4 million, almost a full mile of reclaimed land behind another of Imelda's pet projects, the Cultural Center of the Philippines, is to be converted into beach. This very month, tons of rock and sand will be dumped along the shoreline. A mile-and-a-half breakwater will begin to snake out into the bay to tame the waves.

A high wall along Roxas Boulevard was initially planned to keep the bathers out of the water. Because, after all, Manila Bay is seriously polluted. The movie queens who care to take a refreshing dip after their leisurely bake on the new white sands could find themselves seriously ill—and that would be lousy for P.R.

RESCUING THE MANILA SUNSET

So the question is now whether instant white sands fringing a brownish swell combined with the often somewhat less than tantalizing odor of Manila Bay can provide a strong enough magnet to pull European filmdom away from pristine sands and the clear brilliant blue of Cannes—at least during the off-season. The festival is thoughtfully planned for January to liven up an otherwise dull season for European sun-worshippers.

At least, as an additional drawing card, they will still have the famed Manila sunset, which was recently rescued from near-oblivion by thoughtful Manila residents. You see, the wall which was being constructed to protect swimmers from death by pollution was sure to have blocked out the famous view—one of Manila's genuine natural beauties. Notified of this by city residents, Imelda immediately ordered the wall reduced to one-third its planned height.

Is it worth \$4 million to build a beach in Manila Bay? "We're doing it for the money," replies Aspiras sensibly. Aspiras should certainly know. After all, he had a hand in the vast expenditures on hotel building in 1975 (in time for the IMF-World Bank Conference) which resulted in huge losses and restructured loans and made it all the more necessary to drum up the tourist industry.

THE LEANING TOWER OF QUEZON CITY

But trust Imelda to always have a little extra something up her butterfly sleeve. This time, friends, it's a real whopper. If white sands along brown and rancid swells are not enough, Imelda, who has been doing a bit of travelling in Europe lately, has a sure thing. Throughout her many travels, she was particularly struck by the charming Italian town of Pisa. Its quaint leaning tower, a medieval architectural bumble turned into a good thing, she noticed, was a sure-fire tourist attraction. Why not, she figured, build a leaning tower for the tourists back home? The lady is thus considering a multi-million peso leaning tower to be built in Quezon City.

"Why not," suggested a helpful AK staffer, "simply set off a small explosion at the base of the Quezon Memorial? Viola! Instant Leaning Tower of Quezon City!" But that, after all, would send poor Quezon spinning in his grave and violate just one more trace of remaining national integrity—whatever hasn't been violated by the Marcoses already. Anyway, it's not a particularly interesting tower to begin with. No doubt Imelda can come up with something ever so much classier.

Imelda, Imelda, as we scan the barren landscape of the New Society for a drop of humor, we can always count on you, in the midst of hunger, malnutrition, search and destroy missions and genocidal wars, to make us crack a smile. Of course, you take it all dead seriously which makes it all the more delightful. Have no fear, Imelda, you will go down in history—right in the pages of Ripley's *Believe It or Not*. □

Marcos Projects Deficit, More Borrowing

The Philippine economy is in the throes of one of its deepest crises since the declaration of martial law in 1972. Philippine imports are expected to exceed exports by as much as \$2 billion this year. Economists predict that the economy will grow less than 4 percent. The foreign debt is now approaching \$12 billion. Consumer prices are rising at well over 20 percent for the second year in a row.

In his budget speech and economic report to the National Assembly late last July, Marcos spoke about the economic achievements of his regime, as if the economy were booming. He said that the government would follow the policy of "steering away from facile and illusory solutions . . . to embrace instead strategies and programs that will confront the basic problems." In fact the specific policies he outlined for 1981 are mere elaborations on the basic economic strategy that he inaugurated with the declaration of martial law.

INCREASED BORROWING

One of these policies is that of increasing dependence on domestic and foreign borrowing. For 1981 Marcos proposes a \$7.3 billion budget, \$1.7 billion more than this year's projected expenditures. Since 1981 government revenues are expected to total only \$6



billion, some \$1.3 billion will have to be borrowed, more than twice the amount borrowed in 1979.

Marcos also promised "to simplify and rationalize the tax system" so that middle- and lower-income people "don't pay the same high rates . . . as the owners

of such big corporations such as Ayala and San Miguel." Marcos, however, did not specify how this would be done. The only concrete policies he outlined will in fact have the opposite effect. He promised, for example, that he would lower the rate of taxation for the highest in-

come bracket from 70 to 60 percent. He also said that the capital gains tax on stock market transactions would not be re-imposed.

NEW WORLD BANK LOAN

A few days before Marcos' speech, the World Bank announced the approval of a \$200 million loan to the regime designed to "restructure its industrial sector." Another \$200 million in each of the next two years has also been promised in principle. These loans are part of a new World Bank policy of assisting countries with balance-of-payments difficulties by encouraging the development of export-oriented industries.

In much the same way as Marcos' overall economic strategy, however, this latest World Bank loan is likely to affect the Philippine economy in ways opposite to its projected goals. One requirement attached to the loan is tariff reform. Peak tariffs will be cut 50 percent on almost all imports with special attention given to such major industrial sectors as textiles, pulp and paper, and automotive products. Since tariffs are one of the few remaining tools available to the regime for controlling imports, their relaxation is expected to generate a new spurt in imports. In the process, the country's balance of payments problems will increase. □

Imelda's World Bank Appearance Protested

Washington, D.C. members and supporters of the D.C. Alliance Against Martial Law and Friends of the Filipino People picketed the World Bank building twice on Aug. 5 where a \$140 million multi-purpose loan was being signed between the Philippine martial law government and bank officials.

Responding to a report received that Imelda Marcos was coming to the World Bank to sign the loan agreement, members of the AMLA and FFP organized a picket the following morning at 11:00 a.m. and leafletted all four major entrances of the World Bank/IMF complex a few blocks from the White House.

In an apparent attempt to avoid any confrontation with the picketers, the morning appointment was later rescheduled for 5:00 o'clock that evening. Undaunted by these maneuvers to derail the picket, an AMLA/FFP contingent went back that evening to confront Mrs.

Marcos. Joined by other anti-martial law supporters and sympathizers in the city, the picket became increasingly militant as a crowd of curious onlookers and tourists swelled in front of the building.

When Imelda Marcos finally emerged at 5:30, she was visibly shaken by the militant chanting that greeted her. Flanked by her retinue of press aides, attendants and bodyguards, the First Lady hastily walked to her waiting limousine and sped off into Washington's rush hour traffic.

The World Bank is one of the major backers of the Marcos martial law regime. Ever since the imposition of martial law the Bank has funnelled almost three billion dollars in the attempt to shore up a government that has consistently violated its people's human rights.

World Bank employees sympathetic to the anti-martial law protest action nodded in agreement when Stephanie

Brown, FFP National Coordinator, said that many World Bank projects "have had disastrous consequences on the Filipino people and merely served to increase the repressive capacity of the dictatorship."

Jon Melegrito, coordinator of the D.C. Alliance, noted that the Bank is in fact funding Imelda Marcos' "urban upgrading" and "beautification" projects, which are nothing but efforts to displace the urban poor in favor of multinational firms.

Citing the fact that the Bank has recently poured \$50 million into Samar in the guise of "rural infrastructure assistance," Walden Bello of the International Association of Filipino Patriots added that in reality, "the loan is intended to increase the capacity of the dictatorship to quell the rapidly growing rural resistance in the major Philippine island." Bello also pointed out that the

Chico River Dam complex in Northern Luzon which threatens to displace about 100,000 tribal Filipinos, is another example of the Bank's anti-people character. This project, still to be funded, is supported by the Bank in the name of "energy development".

During the morning picket, a number of bank employees approached the demonstrators and asked for more leaflets to be distributed inside the building. One passerby commented loudly to a picket sign which said "Imelda Marcos is a Fascist" by shouting back, "So is he!" [referring to Mr. Marcos].

The late afternoon picket, on the other hand, was more militant and closely surveilled by the Philippine consulate's security entourage which took over the whole block of the building complex. Commuters plodding through rush hour traffic waxed indignant at the D.C. police. When told by a policeman that Imelda Marcos was inside the building, one motorist cheered on the picketeers to carry on.

In a vain attempt to save the First Lady from further embarrassment, one consulate official tried to engage one AMLA leafletter in some conversation designed to preempt any further political actions. "Perhaps we should try to be more constructive in our criticisms," he started.

At this point, Mrs. Marcos was about to come out of the building. As soon as she emerged, she was roundly greeted with a militant chanting of "Marcos, Hitler, Diktador, Tuta!" in staccato. Flustered, the well-dressed jet-setter tried to keep her composure. Given her well-known notoriety for shopping binges in the most expensive stores, it was not difficult for the crowd of Bank employees, commuters, and onlookers who waited around to catch a glimpse of the First Lady, to see where the money was coming from and where it was going.

Buoyed by the effectiveness of the protest action, given the short notice, an AMLA protestor exulted: "There was only a handful of us but we certainly made our presence known, and she knows it!" □

10,000 Protest . . .

Due to heavy rains from Typhoon Nintang, however, only the 10 bus loads from U.P. were able to get through.

In spite of their hopes for a dialogue with Ministry officials, the students were given seven minutes to disperse. Even before the period was up, they were rushed and forced to disperse by truncheon-wielding police.

INDIGNATION RALLY

The following day, U.P. students responded with an indignation rally denouncing the "brutality and incompetence" of police and Metro-Manila aides during the demonstration. Among other things, they demanded:

- an investigation of those responsible for the handling of the demonstration,
- democratic consultations through a liaison body on basic problems of Philippine education,
- release of all detained student leaders and revocation of all Arrest,

Search and Seizure Orders (ASSO's).

President Marcos reacted by threatening to close down universities as he did upon the declaration of martial law.

The students, however, were undaunted. Not only did they proceed with the July 29 action, a group of 30 student leaders representing eight major universities met with Manila Vice-Governor Ismael Mathay that same week for the first multi-university dialogue at the Philippine Heart Center. Here they demanded the restoration of student councils, student publications and academic freedom. They complained of overcrowded classrooms and an educational system governed by the profit motive. They further protested low teachers' salaries, blacklisting of students critical of school administrations and tuition fee hikes.

IMPRESSIVE COMEBACK

The heart of the matter in all of the varied events remained academic freedom. It was the threat of heightened

government control over schools, both public and private, through the proposed act that spurred many to take the bold actions of the last few weeks. Even U.P. President Emmanuel Soriano petitioned Education Minister O.D. Corpus for an amendment to the act that would allow U.P. to continue functioning under its own charter.

The entire display of student militance represented a particularly impressive comeback following a recent crackdown. At least seven student leaders, some from the National League of Filipino Students, were arrested prior to June 12 to head off massive demonstrations planned for Metro-Manila that day. Others were picked up in succeeding waves of arrests, including the editor of the U.P. Collegian.

But the arrests seem barely to dent the students' ability to organize. A mere two months after the crackdown, the Metro-Manila student sector had blazed back to life and held its biggest demonstration since September 1972. □

RESISTANCE ABROAD

Christian Activist Honored in Washington:

FR. ED MEETS WITH HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS

By WALDEN BELLO

Fr. Edicio de la Torre, the controversial political prisoner released last April by the Marcos dictatorship, was the honored guest at a reception at the James Madison Room of the U.S. Capitol on April 31. Co-hosting the reception were Sen. Carl Levin (Dem-Michigan), Rep. Edward Bonker (Dem-Washington), and the United Church of Christ (UCC) Board of Homeland Ministries.

CELEBRATION

Guests at the celebration of de la Torre's release included Sen. Jacob Javits (Rep-New York), Dr. Howard Spragg and Mr. Arthur Keys of the UCC Board of Homeland Ministries, and Rev. Robert Drinan (Dem-CT). The estimated 200 guests that attended the affair represented church groups, human rights organizations, and the Philippine solidarity movement.

"We have very few real successes in this business," noted Sen. Levin, who spearheaded the effort to release de la Torre in the U.S. Congress. "It gives all of us a great feeling when we have a live product of our common efforts right here with us."

MULTIPLE PATERNITY

In his response to Levin's introduction, de la Torre remarked, "There is a



Fr. Ed. de la Torre

saying that failure is an orphan while success has a thousand parents. I think that it is safe to say that, in this case, paternity was multiple." He continued, "Being released leaves you with ambivalent feelings. The process is very arbitrary. I feel that I should have been released ahead of others. And I also feel that others should have been released

ahead of me. But there is no doubt that it feels great being out." He ended with an appeal to everyone in the room to work immediately on behalf of another political prisoner, Sixto Carlos, by requesting the Marcos government to transfer the latter from solitary confinement at Fort Bonifacio to Bicutan detention center, where conditions would be less intolerable for Carlos' serious heart problem.

FIVE YEARS OF DETENTION

When he was released in April, de la Torre had been in jail for five years and four months. Charged with conspiracy to commit rebellion and subversion, the former chairman of the Preparatory Committee for a National Democratic Front (NDF) was confined at the Bicutan Detention Center. Prior to his arrest in Manila in Dec. 1974, he had achieved the reputation of being the leading representative of the progressive Christian movement in the Philippines. An avowed national democrat, he had been instrumental in bringing Christian activists into the fold of the anti-imperialist and anti-oligarchical National Democratic Movement, which was principally secular and leftist in origins and inspiration.

His release came as a result of massive international pressure, especially from church and human rights groups. Seeking to clean up his image prior to coming to

Honolulu on a semi-official visit, Marcos released him, but on the condition that de la Torre go into exile overseas.

The reception for Fr. de la Torre was one of a number of events for him in a very brief swing from the East Coast that was co-ordinated by the United Church of Christ Board of Homeland Ministries, Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP), International Association of Filipino Patriots (IAFP), and the Friends of the Filipino People (FFP) headed by Stephanie Brown.

DEVELOPMENT OF CHRISTIAN LEFT

For various audiences, de la Torre traced the development of the progressive wing of the Catholic Church from its initial groping steps in the late sixties to its present identification with the national democratic struggle in the Philippines. Recalling the first stage of the movement, he remarked, "We came out with a theology of land and a theology of work. These were ways of expressing in palatable institutional language the basic political and economic realities of the country. We had to justify involvement in the world to the church, rather than justifying the church to the world. We were up against an orientation that regarded activist political work as somewhat 'unchristian' unless we could justify it theologically."

DIALOGUE WITH MARXISTS

The second stage in the development of the progressive Christian movement was characterized as a dialogue between Christians and Marxists, which took place in the years immediately before martial law. "I remember that Christians would hesitate to use some of the terms put forward by Marxists to describe the problems faced by the Filipino people, like the word 'imperialism,'" he noted. "But some of us responded that the word imperialism is a scientific description of reality—like tuberculosis. We can popularize it as TB, but that does not do away with the scientific validity of the term. And as in the case with tuberculosis, we can more accurately diagnose the symptoms of imperialism in the Philippines if we study its effects on other, earlier victims."

CHRISTIANS FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION

De la Torre's efforts helped bring about the formation of Christians for National Liberation (CNL), which now forms the Christian component of the National Democratic Front. "This grouping," asserted de la Torre, "accepts all 10 points of the National Democratic Program, including the expulsion of imperialism, nationalization of the strategic heights of the economy, land reform, and the creation of a genuinely nationalist and popular culture. He predicted that the CNL will draw close to 10 percent of church people in the Philippines in the next few years.

The importance of the CNL in popularizing and broadening the front was illustrated by de la Torre in the following way: "When we go to demonstrations, we wear our cassocks and thus bring with us not only ourselves as individuals but our institutional roles. Yes, we will institutionalize for the left what has traditionally been institutionalized for the right, so that in the end, with cassocks on both sides, people will be liberated from the symbol. They will realize that what is important is not the cassock, but whether one is on the right, on the side of reaction, or on the left, on the side of progress and equality." □

Sr. Marianni Exposes Human Rights Atrocities



By WALDEN BELLO
Congress Task Force

Sister Marianni Dimaranan, head of Task Force for Detainees (TFD), brought the plight of Filipino political prisoners and victims of military repression to receptive audiences in Washington, D.C., July 23-25. Her itinerary included talks before church and human rights groups and a forum for the Washington, D.C. Filipino community.

Internationally respected for the accuracy of her reports, Sr. Marianni focused on the issue of "salvaging," or unofficial execution of political dissenters, citing several chilling examples of this atrocity from various regions in the Philippines. She recounted, for instance, the cold-blooded murder of Macliing Dulag, the most prominent leader of the Kalinga resistance to the building of the Chico River Dam in Montanosa, by a government security squad on April 24. Another particularly gruesome incident

involved the arrest of two church leaders in Mindanao, one of whom had recently acted as Christ in a passion play, and the discovery of their bodies in a shallow grave a few days later.

"The Philippines is one of the world's leaders in the number of political 'disappearances' in 1979," Sr. Marianni asserted. "Given this, I cannot understand why the State Department report cited an improvement in the human rights situation in 1979." She also was fairly critical of Patricia Derian, Asst. Secretary for Humanitarian Affairs, who had claimed before Congress that reports of disappearances in the Philippines were "unconfirmed" because there were no witnesses. "When the military wants to execute somebody," she commented, with a trace of a smile, "you can be sure that the last thing they'll want is a witness."

The relationship between U.S. assistance and repression was underscored, especially for American au-

diences, by the activist nun. "It is your government's guns and aid that gives the regime the capacity to oppress people. You have to pressure your government to reduce, if not cut off aid to Marcos. All we want is to be left alone. All we desire is that the United States respect the interests of the Filipino people."

The Task Force for Detainees is the main agency investigating human rights violations in the Philippines. Its reports have become the data base for various international organizations, including Amnesty International, International Commission of Jurists, and the Human Rights Section of the U.S. State Department. Hooked up to religious peace-and-action groups throughout the country, TFD attempts to maintain close surveillance over the activities of the Philippine military and police forces.

Sr. Marianni's trip to Washington and New York came at the tail-end of a month-long tour of the United States and Canada to raise funds for TFD. □

FILIPINO COMMUNITY NEWS

Rank and File Protest Arbitrary Decision:

NURSES CONVENTION CANCELLED

By EDDIE ESCULTURA
AK Correspondent

CHICAGO—After months of preparation, the Philippine Nurses Association of Chicago's annual convention scheduled for August 4-5 at the University of Illinois Circle Campus has been cancelled.

In a statement made to the chairperson of the program committee, PNAC President Marie Couper, explained that the Executive Board called off the convention because of the "vagueness" of its theme and an alleged false advertisement about it.

This year's theme was to have been "The Political Impact of Nursing in the Eighties." The alleged false advertisement was the announcement that Mayor Jane Byrne and Governor James Thompson were among the invited speakers although they have not yet made definite commitments. The decision to cancel was made on the advise of the Consultants Council. The Consultants Council is not an elected body and hence has no authority to make decisions for the PNAC.

Last July 18, Couper hastily called an Executive Board meeting with only four of its 14 members being present—Dulce Stahl, Lita Manela, Marie Couper, and Emma Nemivant. Technically, these did not constitute a quorum which, to be democratic, requires a simple majority. Two members of the Consultants Council were also present at the meeting. They were Conchita Manalo and James Kennedy.

Some members of the Board were not

Executive Board was not properly convened—no quorum, not all members were informed—and the program committee was not even consulted before the decision was made. They charged the action of being divisive for it ignored the efforts of so many members already working hard for a good convention.

Some PNAC members speculate that the real reasons for the cancellation were not those stated by Couper. There might have been some apprehensions on the part of the leadership about not having anything significant to show for the year beyond some occasional press releases to claim credit for certain gains made by nurses and the National Alliance for Fair Licensure around the problems of licensure and immigration. Another reason might have been the fact that for the first time this year, many new people such as Cora Pura and Aida Gaffud were actively taking part in the preparation. In contrast, many big names which figured prominently in the past were conspicuously out of any major role around the convention.

Furthermore, certain personalities who have nothing to do with the PNAC but who figured in the PNAC limelight over the years would have had no role in the aborted PNAC convention. Included in this category is Consul General Rodolfo Sanchez who would not even sign a petition to prevent the deportation of H-H-1 nurses but who manages to seize the limelight at PNAC activities. Finally, to draw the participation of the rank and file PNAC members, this year's program committee decreased the registration fee from last year's \$40 to \$10 this year.



Observers therefore felt that the program committee's departure from certain traditions as well as the leadership's lack of accomplishment, which would have been evaluated at the convention, triggered the decision to call off the event.

The effect of this action has been demoralization not only within the program committee but also among the rank and file members. The program committee whose members are Emily Han, Cora Pura, Aida Gaffud, Mayee Asidao, and Bayani Legaspi demanded a meeting with the Executive Board immediately to discuss the matter.

THE ROOT OF THE PNAC PROBLEM

There seems to be two main ingredients behind this PNAC fiasco. One is the clash between, on the one hand, the new rank and file members asserting their democratic role in the organization and on the other, the established leadership which has for years hugged the limelight. The latter saw their influence waning in this aborted convention, even failing to get certain preferred personalities projected prominently as in the past.

Another ingredient is the clash between the old, undemocratic traditional leadership and the clamor by the rank and file members to make the PNAC a

relevant and working organization. It would have been impossible to hide the bankruptcy of this traditional leadership at the convention. It has been a year now since the last PNAC elections but the incumbent officers have not come up with concrete plans and simply could not show any solid achievements. Yet the nursing sector which the PNAC is supposed to serve is confronted with a myriad of problems and the leadership has not been able to go beyond press releases in dealing with these problems.

To make matters worse, the present leadership did not handle these clashes in orientations with maturity and broadness of mind. It could have called for an open discussion to sort out the problems and democratically come up with remedies, even if short term, to save the convention. Instead, it chose to handle the problem in a divisive way by ignoring the efforts of many who had already worked hard for a successful convention.

Asidao, member of the program committee believes that "These problems will eventually be resolved only when the old traditional leadership gives way to the democratic aspirations of the rank and file members who want the PNAC to be open, relevant and attuned to the basic needs of the sector it is supposed to serve." "In other words," she added, "the PNAC is ripe for new leadership." □



informed of the meeting. For instance, Aida Gaffud of the program committee did not know about it while Cora Pura of the same committee who declined to come to the meeting was contacted by Marie Couper and informed that the meeting was about publicity for the event. There was no indication that a major decision was to be made. Later in the evening Emily Han of the Program Committee received a call from Marie Couper informing her of the decision to call off the convention.

The cancellation outraged the members of the program committee which had already done extensive preparation for the annual event. A panel of reactors or resource people had been chosen and the program committee had been scheduled to speak in a local TV about the convention. Promotional leaflets had been distributed widely.

Members of the program committee were appalled at the undemocratic manner by which the decision was made. The



4-H Trainees End "Training" Frustrated and Dissatisfied

HONOLULU—On Aug. 2, almost half of the Philippine agricultural trainees in Hawaii returned home—the "end" of their one-year participation in the controversial 4-H program.

Some left still frustrated by their experience and anxious about the program's future. They are particularly concerned about a "new" agreement recently negotiated between the Philippine Agricultural Training Council (PATC), and the University of Hawaii, which is responsible for the U.S. end of the program.

The night before the trainees left Kula on the island of Maui, many stayed up late composing a letter to respond to a recent article in the *Maui News*. The article, based on an interview with one host farmer and his trainees, "sugar-coated" the trainee experience. It gave the impression that the trainees were very happy—that only a few misfits were dissatisfied with the program.

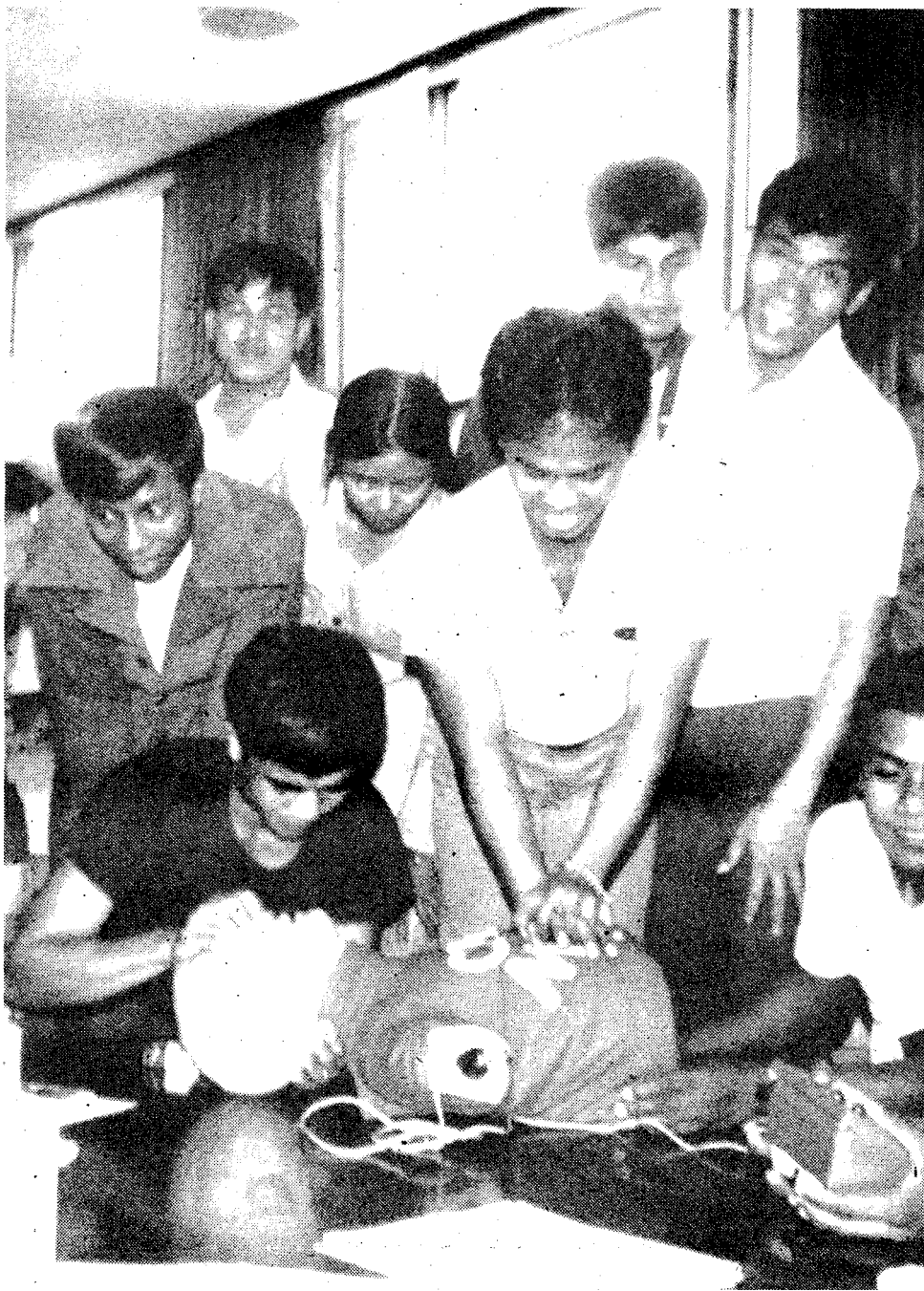
The trainees are part of a group of 25 top agricultural students. Last December they made public their complaints of being used as cheap labor, of verbal and physical abuse, and of being denied their basic rights.

Their plight aroused the sympathy and active support of the Hawaii Filipino community. The Hawaii Task Force for the Defense of Filipino Immigrant Rights extensively criticized the program and denounced the old contractual agreement. The issue gained further exposure when trainees were featured speakers at a Task Force conference in February.

While the University made several promises to improve the program, very little appears to have been accomplished during this last program year.

Leo Kitkitoy, who acted as trainee spokesman during the one-year program, said as he left Hawaii that they "have not learned marketing or distribution as promised in the training program. We already knew how to haul rocks, to plant, to harvest."

The program does not have a devel-



4-H trainees learn cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

oped curriculum. Host farmers are not even carefully screened to determine if they can provide the advanced agricultural training needed by the students.

Because they must often work long

hours, are paid only \$2.90 an hour, and receive little or no training, the students have concluded that they are just being used as cheap labor. (All program expenses: student travel, room, board, U.H

lectures are deducted from the students' salaries.)

Kitkitoy said he was also upset about the extension of the program. Apparently, trainees and their host farmers were asked if they wanted to stay beyond the July 31 program completion date until new trainees arrived in a couple of months. Over half decided to stay, mainly to earn a little more before returning home. Kitkitoy said, however, that the extension is mainly to benefit the farmers, who could pay the students below the minimum wage, and not have to promise them any training.

In June, Dr. George Nakasato, who heads the training program for the U.H., visited the Philippines to work out some revisions in the agreement with the PATC. Neither the trainees nor the Filipino community has yet seen this new agreement. Nakasato has, however, told the Hawaii Task Force he is open to the group reviewing the changes made.

Nakasato confirmed that in this next program year, trainees will also be sent to California. The Philippine Ministry of Agriculture, which oversees the PATC through the National 4-H Foundation in the Philippines, has said it wants livestock production included in the training.

Because this area is limited in Hawaii, arrangements were made to extend the program to the mainland. This will be the first time Philippine trainees will be assigned to the mainland U.S. since 1978. The PATC suspended the program there when trainees raised program abuses similar to those voiced in Hawaii.

The Task Force, trainees, and other community members are concerned with many areas of the program—wages, administration/accounting, trainee rights, curriculum, and accountability. According to Kitkitoy, the program is good but should be reformed. He said the criticisms of the program should not be taken so defensively by program officials and farmers, as they are intended to improve the program for everyone. □

In Hawaii:

Task Force Monitors Bilingual Education Practice

HONOLULU—The Hawaii Task Force for the Defense of Filipino Immigrant Rights has decided to monitor bilingual education practice in Hawaii. The Task Force is one of many groups concerned that the state is not providing for the needs of thousands of immigrant, bilingual students.

According to state estimates, there are some 6,500 non-English speaking (NES) and limited English speaking (LES) students in primary and secondary public schools in Hawaii. About 40 percent or more of these students are Filipino, and this number increases every month.

The state has failed to implement or broaden its bilingual education programs—resulting in discrimination against immigrant school children. (According to some estimates, the mother tongue of over 40 percent of the state's residents is a language other than English.)

The Department of Education (DOE) here has been criticized by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) and has been threatened with the loss of federal funds because of its poor record. However, this has amounted to little more than a "slap on the hand," and funds have not stopped despite continued discriminatory practices.

In a February, 1980, letter to State School Superintendent Charles Clark, HEW said the DOE "denied equal educational opportunity to national origin minority children."

The year before, DOE was told the State would not receive federal funds under the Emergency School Aid Act (ESAA) because of its violations.

DOE asked for a "waiver," agreeing to correct its violations of the eligibility requirements for the funds (which include non-discrimination because of race, color, creed, or national origin). The waiver was granted, and the DOE got its funds. Then, in a review of the program earlier this year, HEW found that DOE again failed to meet the minimum bilingual commitments made when the waiver was given.

DOE was then criticized for 1) not giving enough time for English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction for NES/LES students; 2) not providing enough time for native language instruction/tutoring; 3) not providing any native language assistance for almost 900 NES/LES students; and 4) not hiring bilingual staff to provide transitional bilingual services.

Obviously, federal "threats" to stop needed funding have little impact on Hawaii's DOE.

In the meantime, immigrant school

cannot receive an "equal education." They cannot fully understand their teachers, books, and cannot speak or write English well enough for good or passing grades.

In a typical controversy earlier this year, 42 of 75 students at a plantation community school received notices they may not pass to the next grade because of poor reading skills. The students were mainly Filipino immigrants. Most students passed, but only after the issue was publicized, and the school was forced to take remedial action, including hiring bilingual aides.

The lack of bilingual education programs has also contributed to other problems. Some immigrant students, unable to pass tests in English, have been put in "special classes" for the mentally retarded or slow learners.

Some education specialists believe that immigrant students, frustrated by a new environment and difficulty in school, may begin to miss classes or drop out of high school. The overall absentee and drop-out rates among Filipino students in Hawaii is relatively high in comparison to other ethnic groups.

Ilokano is listed as a "critical language group" in all seven school districts in the state. Tagalog is also considered "critical" in four districts on the main island of Oahu, and Cebuano in two districts.

But Filipinos are not the only ones to suffer the effects of national discrimination. The Honolulu school district lists a total of 11 critical language groups: Cantonese, Cebuano, Ilokano, Japanese, Korean, Lao, Mandarin, Samoan, Tagalog, Tongan, and Vietnamese.

Because of the seriousness of the problem, the Legal Aid Society is also monitoring the situation, along with the Inter-Agency Council for Immigrant Services. Legal Aid has obtained, through the Freedom of Information Act, copies of correspondence between the DOE and the HEW.

Some observers say they feel the DOE has asked for community input only as a "token gesture." The community seems generally unaware of DOE's "non-compliance" with federal guidelines; and, despite HEW criticisms, new DOE bilingual program proposals still fail to address pressing and serious bilingual education needs.

The Hawaii Task Force intends to speak with state bilingual specialists, including several Filipinos, before deciding on a course of action. According to the Task Force, which has a subcommittee on bilingual problems, the group hopes "to bring the issue to the community, and organize pressure on the state to implement and expand its bilingual programs." □

DOMESTIC/INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Broken Promise Decryd:

People's Convention Presses Grassroots Demands

As the Democratic Party prepared to open its national convention in New York's Madison Square Garden, a grassroots people's convention convened in the economically devastated South Bronx area, denouncing the "broken promises" of successive Democratic administrations in the White House.

Amid the rubble of burned out tenement buildings and empty lots, a tent city was erected to house the representatives from numerous community, labor and minority struggles. It was just three years ago in October 1977 that President Carter stood in the same area promising to revitalize the poverty-stricken area.

"Welcome to the Grand Canyon," announced Jose Rivera, a convention organizer, as he waved his arm out towards the rubble-filled lot. "Our Grand Canyon was created by one Democratic administration after another," said Rivera who scored the successive administrations of New York's Mayors Robert Wagner, John Lindsay, Abraham Beane and Edward Koch.

Numerous signs in the neighborhood mocked the present administration as convention delegates met to discuss numerous grassroots issues. "Pennsylvania Avenue", "Constitution Avenue", and "Independence Avenue" replaced the surrounding street signs and underscored the general "broken promises" theme of the convention.

"Four years ago they made a lot of promises," charged convention organizers. "Full employment, rebuild the cities, cut the military budget, peace abroad, and the peanut farmer from Georgia swearing 'I'll never tell a lie!'"

"And what did we get? Hospitals closed down, public schools in ruins, firehouses shut, other basic services cut, people driven out of their homes by the thousands, and a racist, union-busting mayor who only carries out the policies of the real estate interests, the bankers and big businessmen of the Financial Control Board.

"They say there's no money for decent services and liveable wages. They say we



Meeting in the devastated South Bronx area of New York City, the People's Convention scored the Democratic Party's inaction and years of broken promises. (UPI Photo)

just have to accept a lower standard of living—But then they cut taxes for the rich and big corporations and throw away additional billions of dollars on weapons of mass destruction."

The Coalition for a People's Alternative in 1980, organizers of the convention, called for a mass demonstration at the opening of the Democratic Party convention on August 10, and issued the

following demands:

- Funds to rebuild our cities, not for war and support of dictatorships abroad.
- More affirmative action, not less—an end to all forms of discrimination based on race, national origin, sex and sexual orientation.
- Real public control over the banks, utilities, and transnational corporations that export jobs, create ruinous inflation

and manipulate spineless politicians.

"We say enough is enough," announced the Coalition. "We're tired of the same old Democratic and Republican broken promises and lies."

Joining the Coalition's call were over 100 groups and individuals from across the country, representing labor, religious, minority, women's, anti-nuclear, and antimilitarist groups. □

KKK Verdicts Spark Chattanooga Riots

The July 23 acquittal of two Ku Klux Klansmen in the shooting of four black women sparked three nights of rioting in the black community of Chattanooga, TN.

Like the McDuffie verdict earlier in Miami, the Chattanooga acquittals were rendered by an all-white jury. One Klansman who admitted firing the shots which injured the women, was found guilty of assault and fined \$225 and given two workhouse sentences of nine months each and another of two months.

Two other Klansmen, charged with four counts of assault with intent to commit murder that resulted in bodily injury, were acquitted of all charges. The black women who were felled by shotgun blasts were walking away from a local tavern when the gunfire cut them down.

Outraged over the verdicts and the light sentences, Chattanooga's black community erupted in spontaneous protests, with the police and local authorities coming under attack. Twenty-six people were arrested for curfew violations. The predominantly black Alton Park section was the scene of intense police actions to quell the uprisings.

The economically depressed conditions in Chattanooga's black community set the tense conditions which the Klan acquittal ignited. However, nationwide,



the growing tolerance of Klan activities has reached alarming proportions.

CALIFORNIANS BACK KLAN CANDIDATE

In Southern California, Klan leader Tom Metzger won the June Democratic primary for the 43rd Congressional District. While Democratic Party leaders called his election a freak accident, a *Los Angeles Times* report found widespread support for Metzger's white supremacist views.

According to the *Times* account, the vast majority of the 32,344 whites who voted for the Klansman "do not like equal opportunity employment and bilingual education and their taxes going for welfare," and "Cubans and Filipinos and boat people coming here and costing us jobs," and some do not like the way American Indians "get anything they want," likewise Iranians. And there are people like Jake Turnipseed who voted for Metzger because "I hate niggers too."

Metzger, the Grand Dragon who sports a .45 pistol and espouses a racist ideology which sees non-whites as "sub-human" predicts that "in the next battle your skin will be your uniform." His black-shirted followers—whom Metzger calls "the 21st century Klansman"—conduct a "border watch" to keep Mexican "illegals" out of the country and have formed the KBI, the Klan Bureau of Investigation, to monitor KKK foes.

Racism and scapegoating played a major role in the Klansman's June 4 victory. The economic and social problems in the 43rd District were easily and conveniently blamed on immigrants and non-whites. For many who voted for Metzger, the Klansman "makes sense—we're all sick and tired of busing 'em in

and teaching [them] how to speak English."

TERRORIST ARMED UPRISING PLANNED

Metzger's "new Klan" does not confine itself to abolishing legislation supportive of affirmative action, desegregation and equal opportunities. Like other Klan sects, the white supremacist organization is essentially a terrorist gang and forsee an eventual race-war to exterminate non-white peoples.

In the South, the Texas Emergency Reserve conducts military training on a 50-acre ranch, complete with armored personnel carriers, automatic weapons, and uniforms. An estimated 500 Klansmen have gone through the training, with the ultimate vision of installing a racist government in the U.S. Guerrilla warfare, military drills and tactical maneuvers are stressed in the training.

While the Texas Reservists may seem to be an extreme variety of Klansmen, they epitomize the racist thinking which is a cornerstone of the Klan. Like their forefathers, who used to ride on horseback terrorizing and murdering innocent blacks, the "New Klan" rides on armored carriers and embrace the same dreams as their founders. □

U.S. Affirms Palestinian Rights:

Israeli Vote Heightens Mideast Tension

Provoking increased tensions in the Mideast, the Israeli Knesset voted July 30 to claim all of Jerusalem—including sections of the city captured in the 1967 war—as the capital of Israel.

The brazen action established a formal claim over all of the holy city, including East Jerusalem, formerly held by Jordan. While the eastern section of the city was annexed militarily after the 1967 war, the new law imposed a more strengthen Israeli claim over the occupied city.

The move by the Knesset followed an overwhelming United Nations vote which called on Israel to withdraw from all Arab territories occupied since 1967. In addition, the resolution supported the rights of West Bank Arabs by calling for these territories to be handed over to the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The emergency session of the General Assembly passed the resolution by an overwhelming 112 to 7 vote, supporting the right of Palestinians to an "independent sovereign state." Such national rights of Palestinians were recently addressed by U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, who acknowledged the Palestinian "right to self-determination, including statehood" at an Arab League dinner.

November 15 was set as the deadline stipulated by the resolution for the immediate and total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories. Economic sanctions are threatened against Israel, yet it is unlikely that the U.N. Security Council will address the General Assembly resolution since the U.S. has consistently exercised its veto over similar issues in the past.

BEGIN MOVES OFFICES TO OCCUPIED TERRITORY

Adding injury to insult, Prime Minister Menachem Begin also announced his intentions to move his offices to East Jerusalem and began bulldozing Arab lands to build his new offices.

The controversial move, which will force visiting heads of state to meet with the Prime Minister on lands recognized by the U.N. as legally Arab yet occupied by Israel. Such a move is seen as not only a slap in the face to the U.N., but a dangerous hardening of a reactionary claim by Israel to Palestinian lands.

For the Sheik Jarrah area of East



The Israeli Knesset votes in the Jerusalem bill. Map (right) shows territory expropriated by Israel. (TIME Photo)

Jerusalem, the Begin move means further Arab displacement and expropriation by the occupying Israeli government. Abu Taa, an 80-year-old Arab grandmother three times displaced by Israeli occupation, again found her lands threatened by Begin's latest move.

After the Prime Minister's announcement, her front yard was demolished by bulldozers which began paving a parking lot for Begin's new offices and his staff of 250. The stone wall surrounding her house, as well as fruit trees in her yard, were summarily torn down. When the Arab woman approached the bulldozer operator with tears in her eyes asking him to stop, the driver replied that not only would the trees go, but the house would be destroyed as well.

Abu Taa, who earlier lost nine acres of land so Israel could build a new Housing Ministry, said "the house is all I have left...I won't give it up. I want to die in this house."

MOUNTING ATTACKS AGAINST PALESTINIANS

Israel's move consolidating its claim over East Jerusalem comes in the wake of mounting reactionary attacks against Palestinian Arabs. Last June 2, three Palestinian mayors in the West Bank were victims of separate terrorist car-bombing attacks which seriously maimed the mayors of Ramallah and Nablus.

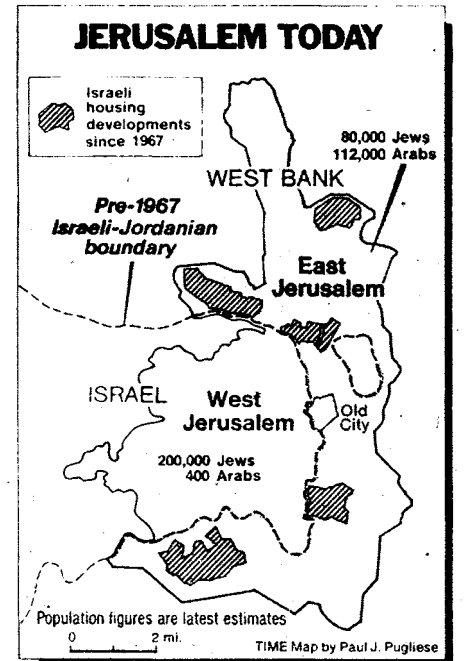
While the Israeli government officially criticized the atrocities, in which the

victims lost their legs and suffered serious internal injuries, Begin intervened in the subsequent investigations to effectively give the terrorists government protection.

Recently the head of Israel's security services, which was the agency given the responsibility for investigating the bombings, was pressured into resignation because he insisted on pursuing the investigation into nationalist groups with sympathies close to Begin. The Prime Minister interceded in the investigation and stopped it when leads pointed to the involvement of the ultra-nationalist Gush Emunim movement and members of the Beth El settlement in the occupied West Bank. So far, no arrests have been made in the bombings.

In addition to the tacit support given to the terrorist activities of anti-Palestinian groups, the Begin government has suppressed the political movement of West Bank Palestinians. Invoking a seldom-used law dating back to the 1920-48 British Mandate in Palestine, the Israeli military ordered members of an influential Palestinian political group to restrict their movements, objectively forbidding them to meet.

The National Guidance Committee, comprised of West Bank Palestinian political leaders, was formed in April of 1979 to oppose the Camp David Accords of 1978 which tried to impose a U.S.-Israel-Egyptian settlement of the occupied lands. Comprised of influential



Palestinian mayors, newspaper editors, religious leaders and professionals, the committee recently recalled a general strike in the occupied areas to protest Israeli attacks and provocations.

Only with the intervention of Israel's military was the strike forcibly broken, as troops forced merchants and shopkeepers to open their stores. Yet the political movement of the Committee towards the left threatened the Begin government enough to impose the ban on future meetings of the Committee.

Another indication of an increasingly hardline Israeli stance towards Palestinians was the recent deaths of two Arabs in Israel's Nafha Prison. The two Palestinians, one in his twenties and the other in his thirties, were participating in a hunger strike among the jail's 50 inmates denouncing overcrowding, poor food and lack of medical care and exercise.

Attorneys for the men charged that during the protest, Israeli guards beat then murdered the two by forcing salt water into their lungs. The government claims that the guards were trying to force feed the strikers, and that the solution forced into the prisoner's stomachs was regurgitated then taken into their own lungs, thereby causing their own deaths. Again, an Israeli Commission was appointed to investigate the deaths, yet the practice of such inquiries in the past has only served to validate the government's version. □

"Cocaine Coup":

Rightist Generals Seize Bolivia

In a cynical and brutal coup, rightist army generals in Bolivia seized power from the civilian government on July 17, imposing a harsh military dictatorship through the arrest, jailing and murder of hundreds of Bolivian citizens.

The fascist move led by army commander Luis Garcia Meza undercut the transfer of power to the popularly elected government of Siles Zuazo. Zuazo, backed by a coalition of three left and progressive parties, received a plurality of the vote in the June 29 election and was scheduled to be confirmed by Bolivia's parliament as president on Aug. 4.

Gen. Meza, however, raising the specter of a communist take-over, deposed the interim government of Lidia Gueiler. Declaring his intentions to prevent Bolivia from becoming another Nicaragua or Cuba, Meza conducted a thorough suppression of all sectors of Bolivian society which might threaten his rightist rule.

Sweeping through La Paz, Bolivian

troops systematically arrested politicians, trade unionists and journalists. All communication and transportation facilities were seized, newspapers were closed and even the Catholic radio station was shut down.

Meza's troops subsequently attacked the working class districts in the mining towns where rebellious tin miners staged a strike in protest of the army takeover. A strict censorship prevented details from being known, yet hundreds were said to have been killed or wounded when troops fired on strikers and forced their way into homes to get the miners back to work.

Like his fascist counterparts in neighboring Chile and Argentina, Meza vowed that "the armed forces could stay (in power) five, ten or twenty years to rid the country of the Marxist cancer."

ARGENTINA AIDS COUP

Helping in the slaughter of Bolivian workers and peasants was the rightist regime in Argentina. Journalists detain-

ed by authorities in Bolivia reported that their interrogators spoke with Argentine accents. In addition, troops suppressing striking miners carried Argentine-made ammunition and C rations.

Such involvement of the right-wing Argentine government reflects the intervention of reactionary regimes in Latin America to aid the overthrow of popular regimes in neighboring countries. In Bolivia, Argentina helped aid the small oligarchy which has profited not only from the exploitation of miners and peasants, but increasingly from the international trade in cocaine. The role played in Bolivia by the traders in the illicit drug has caused many observers to call the July 17 take-over the "cocaine coup."

This illegal traffic in cocaine has been estimated to bring profits from \$500 to \$700 million annually, almost equal to the total value of all Bolivian exports. Suppression of the trade was initiated by the Gueiler government and an air-

plane loaded with 1,540 pounds of pure cocaine worth millions was seized earlier this year.

The plane was owned by Norberto Salomón, a former chief aid to Gen. Hugo Banzer, a past Bolivian president. Other members of the military were linked to the drug traffic, and the government of Siles Zuazo was expected to continue the drug suppression campaign, a campaign which would further expose the role of Bolivia's military in the trade.

Thus far, only the rightist regimes of Paraguay, Brazil, Argentina and Taiwan have extended the military junta recognition. The Andean Pact nations (Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru) pressed a resolution in the Organization of American States (OAS) to "deplore the military coup which had suspended indefinitely the process of establishing democracy" in Bolivia. The resolution was supported by 15 members of the OAS on July 25. □

Salvatori, Lapiang Malaya:

PEASANT REBELLION: A RICH TRADITION IN PHILIPPINE HISTORY

"Ideologically confused and poorly organized, they were blindly groping for solutions to real and grave socio-economic problems. However ridiculous some of their beliefs and practices might have been, despite the limitations of their leaders, these movements deserve serious attention because of their capacity to enlist the devoted support of the masses and because their goals, however inadequately formulated, were reflections of popular grievances and aspirations."

With these words, foremost Philippine historian Renato Constantino stressed the importance of examining closely the phenomenon of cult movements which have been a distinct form of resistance in the Philippines for many years.

The continued existence of cult movements in the Philippines, evident in the recent prominence of the Salvatori group in Negros (see AK, Vol. VI, No. 13), signals that basic conditions of poverty and suppression still cause groups of a quasi-religious character to emerge—and that their effectiveness in changing the conditions against which they rebel has not altered.

Philippine history is studded with rebellions of this sort. Within recent times, the year 1967 witnessed members of a group called Lapiang Malaya, described as a band of religious fanatics by the government, massacred in Pasay City by the military. Thirty-two members died while on a mission to besiege Malacanang Palace, provoking a wave of outrage to sweep the media and progressive movement over the gross inequality between sect members and the Philippine military which coldly gunned them down.

APO IPE

Cult movements have historically emerged during periods of acute oppression. Their heyday was the period of the American conquest of the Philippines. Many groups were remnants of the *Katipunan*, or the revolutionary army that fought against Spain. The groups gathered the bulk of their members from the peasantry.

One of the earliest groups remembered was started by Ruperto Rios, a *Katipunan* officer who launched his own guerrilla army in the mountains of Taya-bas. He gave his followers high-sounding names and named himself "son of god."

A colorful and effective leader who has come down in history as a Robin Hood of the peasants, was Felipe Salvador or "Apo Ipe" as he is known to his followers. He started as a *Katipunero* in Baliwag, Bataan, then went to the mountains and formed an independent group after Emilio Aguinaldo, then head of the revolutionary government, surrendered

to the Americans. His group adopted religious overtones and took the name Santa Iglesia (Holy Church).

ELOQUENCE AND MYSTIC APPEAL

Apo Ipe had a unique approach to recruitment of followers and acquisition of contributions. He and followers would enter a town dressed in long red robes, sporting long hair. A combination of his eloquence, mystic appeal, a basic promise of land and—most of all—respect for the people, drew him supporters. Apo Ipe led his army against government troops in massive numbers, however inadequately armed. Their sheer numbers alarmed better-armed government troops. A campaign to suppress the Santa Iglesia movement was launched full force in all areas where the organization was active. Apo Ipe managed to evade capture for four years after his group experienced setbacks. Finally he was captured and sentenced to death.

A sister organization to Santa Iglesia was the Guardia Honor, later called the Colorums. The Colorums had several units in various parts of the country. Their particular devotion was not only to certain saints, but also to Jose Rizal.

The Babaylanes of Negros, the Pulajanes of Cebu and Leyte, and Dios-Dios of Samar formed and became significant resistance forces against the Americans. In Samar, the movement had virtual control of the countryside and tied government military troops down in several areas.

GENUINE DEMANDS

All cult movements had several common features. Leaders of these movements were considered endowed with supernatural powers. Many of them held fast to the use of *anting-anting* (amulets supposed to immunize the fighting member from harm). They believed that *anting-antings* could protect them from bullets or gunpowder. If they do die because of fatal shots, they believed that their *anting-anting* guaranteed resurrection.

These beliefs sustained a fierce and determined fighting spirit born of desperation, which ended in futility. For the peasants it was their way of confronting odds that were unequal from the start given their lack of firearms and military knowhow.

For the demands of these various groups reflected the concrete material conditions of an oppressed peasantry. It was this act which lent the various leaders their tremendous appeal. Indeed, these movements harnessed the popular demands of the people for independence, land reform, and an end to military suppression.



Valentin de los Santos, Lapiang Malaya cult leader.

(Manila Times)

DOOMED TO FAILURE

Though the spirit of resistance of these groups was unquestionable and their demands were just, each was doomed to failure from the outset. Massive losses of members dependent upon supernatural powers in confrontations with the state was the norm.

The strong religious character of the various movements combined with their dependence on charismatic leaders made them highly vulnerable. In almost all cases, organizations were decimated as soon as their leaders surrendered or were captured. The movements were thus incapable of building from the ground up—a faction which might lead to strong, self-reliant organizations capable of surviving reverses despite the loss of leaders.

TRAPPED BY LIMITATIONS OF OWN EXPERIENCE

Key to the weakness of these genuine people's movements was the worldview which guided and sustained them. The peasantry was trapped by the limitations of its own experience into an aspiration which essentially looked backward rather than forward. Running through the various rebellions flaring up in the different parts of the country was the same theme: a desire to return to a mythologized golden era when all were equal, when each owned his own land, when there were no colonizers.

Of course no such era had ever existed. But, bound to the soil, in a cyclical existence of ploughing, planting, weeding, harvesting, and ploughing again, the peasantry saw life and their own history as a continuous cycle. They were thus unable to conceive of a breakthrough to a higher stage of existence as the solution to their plight. They could only seek to return once more to their beginnings.

SPONTANEOUS REBELLION VS. SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTION

The Filipino people today possess the resources for a more scientific approach to revolution as opposed to the spontaneous rebellions of the past. Guided by the proletarian ideology of Marxism-Leninism—to which the peasants of the past had no access—a full million peasants today are actively engaged in the protracted people's war being fought by the New People's Army. Eight million more express their openness and support.

The people's war being fought jointly by peasants, workers and progressive city-dwellers all over the archipelago is based on a sound appraisal of the people's strengths and weakness and an understanding of the forces that are essential to a well-planned revolution. Today's revolutionaries no longer strive to return to a past which is no more than a purified version of the present. They seek to achieve justice for the Filipino people by breaking through to a higher level of social organization—National Democracy and, ultimately, socialism.

TIME IS RIPE

But what of movements like the Salvatori which continue to crop up in spite of the changed historical circumstances? What do they mean?

The Salvatori and groups like them reveal that the progressive character of the old remains active among the Filipino peasantry. They indicate that acute hardship and oppression, aggravated by the imposition of martial law, makes the peasantry long for justice and equality now more than ever. The Salvatori reveal that the time is ripe; that the vast majority of the Filipino peasantry awaits the proletarian ideology which can finally guide it to success in its age-old quest for a just society. □



Anting-anting undershirt failed to provide immunity against bullets.

(Manila Times)

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