

## The Alona Case:

# A RACIST FRAME-UP EXPOSED

"If it can happen to me, it can happen to you," so spoke Dr. Bienvenido Alona, the 37-year-old Filipino naval doctor who is now facing charges of criminal perjury in Ventura County, California.

Dr. Alona was addressing the general assembly of the 1979 Filipino People's Far West Convention in Sacramento. The crowd of 400 listened silently as he unfolded his story; it was a different tale of racist frame-up, yet it seemed familiar to everyone in the room who had experienced racism, both in its grossest and subtlest forms.

On August 28, 1978, Dr. Alona was the attending physician at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Fort Hueneme, when a 16-month-old child was brought in around 12 noon. Nicole Bond was suffering from first and second degree burns on her face, shoulders, a portion of the back, which the parents claimed were sunburns. After treating the child and applying medication and dressing on her burns, Dr. Alona released her. He instructed the parents to increase her liquid intake and to return her to the hospital immediately if her condition worsens.

Around 3:30 that afternoon, Dr. Alona finished his duty at the hospital and left for the day.

Later that evening, Nicole was brought back to the hospital, dehydrated and in a state of respiratory distress. She also had bruises on her abdomen which were not there that morning. She was seen and treated by several doctors in the Naval Hospital who decided to transfer her to the county hospital in Ventura. Enroute, while in the ambulance, Nicole had a cardiac arrest. Attempts were made to revive her and she was brought instead to St. John's Hospital in Oxnard City. She was pronounced dead on arrival at St. John's.

### PRESUMED GUILTY UNTIL PROVEN INNOCENT

The next day, the incident was WESTINGHOUSE SUES NRC

## Court Declares Suit Invalid

A federal judge has dismissed Westinghouse Electric Corporation's request for an order to require the federal government to issue an export license for components of a \$1.2 billion nuclear reactor near an active volcano in the Philippines.

Judge Jun Green said that U.S. District Court would not intervene in the health and safety deliberations of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Westinghouse filed a complaint Aug. 6 naming the State Department and the NRC as defendants. This action was unprecedented.

Westinghouse alleged that the government had failed to act on the export license within the maximum allowable time of 120 days under the Atomic Energy Act.

This action further makes the export of the reactor to the Philippines more difficult. □



Dr. Bienvenido Alona addresses delegates to the 1979 Far West Convention. His fight against a racist frame-up has rallied national support. (AK Photo)

highly publicized in the Ventura County media as a case of child abuse and medical negligence, naming Dr. Alona as the negligent "Filipino national physician." When he heard of the child's death, Dr. Alona could not understand how the child had died as a result of the burns he saw.

On August 29, 1978, an FBI agent came to the Naval Hospital to interview Dr. Alona. The agent asked Alona if he did not suspect that the child had been abused at the time he treated her. Dr. Alona advised him that he did not think it was child abuse at that time. After further discussion, the agent asked him again if he thought it was child abuse. Dr. Alona

responded: "At the time of treatment, the issue of child abuse did not occur to me but looking back on the situation and based on the news reports, I guess it was child abuse."

The District Attorney's Office of Ventura County was eager to prosecute Dr. Alona for gross negligence. This move was foiled only because the case was out of its jurisdiction since the incident happened on federal grounds. This, however, did not stop

the Asst. D.A., Richard Holmes, from going to the newspapers and stating that Dr. Alona was negligent in the case he rendered Nicole Bond.

### TWO SETS OF BURNINGS

The Navy conducted an independent investigation into the incident. The investigation found that there were two sets of burnings and a subsequent battering of the child

(continued on page 8)

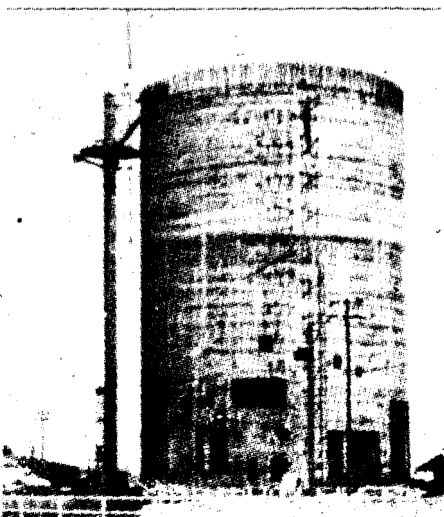
## Military Abuses Escalate In No. Luzon

The Marcos military, in a desperate bid to rout the New People's Army from its Northern Luzon strongholds, has vented its ire on innocent civilians and suspected dissident sympathizers.

Military atrocities reported from the region to the Task Force on Detainees has assumed monstrous and hideous proportions. According to accounts, the military has dropped all pretense at military professionalism and ethics, contrary to the regime's claims that these "peace and order" drives are

meant to effect "national reconciliation."

In the provinces of Kalinga, Cagayan and Isabela, indiscriminate arrests, torture, harassment, looting, and "salvaging" (unofficial executions) have been on the rise in the last six months. These incidents were sparked by a military campaign supervised by Defense Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile to "clean up" the area of dissidents. (continued on back page)



The Westinghouse reactor in Bataan province.

Ang Katipunan  
P.O. Box 23644  
Oakland, CA 94623

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 3383  
Oakland, CA

Tunggalian

## Marcos Draft, Spies— Are You Scared?

"If you can't win them, scare them." This is the policy that shapes the Marcos dictatorship's relationship with the Filipino community abroad.

Obviously this policy is not meant for the handful of well-rewarded sycophants, die-hard fascist elements and the sprinkling of probable psychological cases who are already head-over-heels in love with the Marcos regime. This policy is meant for the majority of overseas Filipinos whose sense of justice is just too stubborn that they cannot develop any lasting infatuation with the New Society." The hardships faced by relatives and friends back home keep them sober, despite heavy doses of "cultural" extravaganzas, Balikbayan tours and other heady potions proffered by Malacanang. Thus, if Filipinos abroad cannot be whipped into a mindless ecstasy over the "New Society," they simply have to be whipped, or be threatened with whipping.

Take for example the regime's announcement that immigrant Filipinos have to register for the draft in the Philippine military. Marcos and his Ministry of Defense want us to line up before the haughty functionaries of the Philippine consulates and place ourselves on call for the defense of the glorious Marcos republic. Well, this ruling might as well have come from the Ministry of Dreams and Other Fantasies. Marcos himself knows that he cannot successfully press gang immigrants into fighting the NPA and the MNLF, nor can he actually punish them for refusing the draft, and not gain international condemnation for himself in the process. The real value of this announcement is psychological. It is an attempt to inject fear into the lives of immigrants and to extend the intimidatory character of martial law to the Filipino community abroad with the aim of silencing it.

A more real threat to the democratic rights of the overseas communities is the practice of sending spies to snoop on the anti-martial law movement—a practice confirmed by FBI documents exposed in the U.S. press recently. It has more serious implications because first of all, it is easier to send spies abroad and attach them to Philippine Consulates for a "cover" than to drag Anastasio Batungbakal of North Chicago to Fort Bonifacio for evading the draft. Secondly, these agents' ability to operate is eased by the tolerance bestowed upon them by the U.S. government. Why, these modern-day Makapilis can even get the cooperation of such democratic institutions as the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Intimidation Agency! After all, Uncle Sam and Marcos have a mutual admiration club going—\$4 billion in U.S. investments plus 22 U.S. military installations and \$500 million in U.S. aid to Marcos is certainly a lot of mutual admiration. Snooping on the overseas communities shows the extent to which our "popularly-supported" dictatorship will go in its efforts to scare the community into silence.

Upon further examination, this obsession with silencing the community abroad reveals just who is afraid of whom.

Marcos has to scare us because he is aware of our potential threat to his rule. A vocal community that exposes the bankruptcy and ruthlessness of his regime to the international public is as dangerous as a loaded M-16, or as deadly as arsenic in his customary sopas de pollo. A silenced community, on the other hand, will be utilized to the hilt as "proof" that there is no opposition to Marcos' rule, therefore, there is only "overwhelming support."

Viewing things in this light, the Filipino community abroad can acquire a sense of its own importance in the movement to overthrow the dictatorship. The demonstrations, leaflets, forums and teach-ins held by the anti-martial law movement cannot be deprecated cynically as "useless" exercises. Marcos does not, he takes them seriously. They are thorns in his side because they tell the broader public that there is opposition to his regime among Filipinos abroad. The more Filipinos participate in these anti-martial law activities, the more influential our community becomes in shaping international public opinion against the regime. A Marcos regime as isolated internationally as the Shah of Iran or Anastasio Somoza becomes a more vulnerable target for freedom fighters at home.

Marcos' attempt to spread fear in the community therefore, is an indication that he himself is running scared. Yes, he is deathly afraid of the people. This is why he declared martial law in the first place. This is why he has to billet oversized battalions of goons in Malacanang. This is why he has to extend a cordon of fear 10,000 miles away. He is afraid of Mang Pedro of Santa Mesa; he is also afraid of Mr. Pete Patibong of Alameda County. The only way to beat back his scare tactics is to scare him back: Be open with our opposition, show no respect for his bullying.

To his plan of conscripting immigrants into his army we can say "Draft dead!" so to speak. That's easy enough. However, dealing with his spies from the consulate is admittedly a harder endeavor as they do pose a possible threat to people's security. Their work can only be rendered ineffective if thousands more moved forward into open opposition to the dictatorship. Let them keep tabs on thousands. Let them try to retaliate against thousands of us here. It will at least be a scandalous undertaking wherein Marcos will have a lot more to lose.

But to beat him back in this manner, people will have to grapple with their own fears and decide that the risks are a worthwhile price to pay for our people's liberation. □

## MFP Conference Held

Around 100 delegates representing the so-called "democratic opposition" in the U.S. and the Philippines, gathered in San Francisco, from Aug. 31 - Sept. 2 to attend the Movement for a Free Philippines 6th Annual Conference.

Highlights of the conference included:

— A draft to adopt a more "revolutionary" posture by considering violent forms to overthrow the Marcos conjugal dictatorship. The MFP hopes to undertake this by sending arms to a yet

unorganized army.

— A vote of confidence in the MFP's leadership, notably Raul Manglapus and former Constitutional Convention delegate Heherson Alvarez as president and secretary-general respectively. Other MFP officials were elected as well.

— Reaffirmation of the MFP's strategy to re-shape U.S. foreign policy towards the Marcos regime.

— A special message from imprisoned Senator Benigno Aquino calling on convention delegates to unite.

"Unity" was the theme for this year's meeting and was the subject of the organization newsletter, *Alab*, editorial call to convention goers. This was in apparent reference to the reservations expressed by the conservative of the already conservative organization, to exhaust peaceful means first before resorting to violent methods. Also there was a move to replace Raul Manglapus with Heherson Alvarez as MFP president. The draft was immediately quelled by the leadership. □

## "No Big Deal"

By WILLY BRIONES

As an average hard working immigrant, deeply concerned about the plight of our people in the Philippines, the thought of attending the 6th Annual Convention of the Movement for a Free Philippines, held great appeal.

Although I must admit that I have hardly felt MFP's presence and effectivity in the Bay Area, the organization's supposedly international reputation, its grandiose plans and its declared shift to a more "revolutionary posture," roused my curiosity and expectations.

As a patriot I therefore felt it my duty to attend the convention of an organization which profess to fight for the restoration of democracy. And as an overseas Filipino, I must confess succumbing to the vulnerabilities roused by pre-convention rumors that "the U.S. is growing weary of Marcos," "he has a few years left," and "Manila, here we come" type of talk.

But that was all the 6th Annual MFP Convention was all about—big talk!

Moreover, it was an exercise in pretensions, incompetence and intrigues in the "best" tradition of Filipino politicians.

### BEHIND THE GLITTER . . .

That the convention promised nothing more than hot air, was evident on the first day or shall we say, officially the second day of the confab.

As I made my way into the convention on September 1, murmuring apologies that I missed the first session on August 31, I was immediately reassured that I missed nothing. The delegates, I was told, were just arriving. It seemed everybody decided to skip the first day.

Anyway, this initial disappointment was temporarily appeased by the atmosphere of excitement later in the day. The fiery admonitions of a letter from Aquino, the great MFP hero; and MFP president Manglapus' keynote address, sent the convention goers into fits of euphoria and chants of "Laban, laban, laban!" (Fight, fight, fight.) And with the presence of all the big names in Philippine politics—the Lopez clan, an Aquino here, a Tanada there, the Climacos, old man Quintero, a Kalaw, Justice Barera, the Osmenas, an Araneta, not to mention 45 delegates from different countries—the convention had the markings of a Plaza Miranda miting de avance.

One name that was notably missing in the galaxy of MFP stars was Alex Esclamado, whose

absence gives credence to rumors that all is not well between him and the Lopezes. The Lopez money, if you didn't know, is one of the major moving force aboard behind the MFP.

The nostalgia of pre-martial law Philippines was climaxed by cries of "Manila Hotel in 1980!"—an admittedly appealing but hollow promise. I am willing to bet my bottom dollar, after experiencing or shall I say tolerating an MFP conference, that the closest they would get to the homeland is the Guam Holiday Inn.

As the euphoria gave way to the more sober task of assessing the past year's gains, boredom and bickering quickly set in. There were simply no gains or achievements to report. Of course, Manglapus had to boast of his new credentials as co-chairman of the Third Democratic International, among other things. Oh yes, there was some "progress"—the promised radio station in 1976 is now ready to be set up in some third country close to the Philippines. The delay was blamed on the defeat of Tun Mustapha of Sabah. But other sources say the radio equipment is obsolete. Secretary General Heherson Alvarez also gave a membership report which he placed at 5,000 including anonymous members. One surprised participant said, "No, maybe 2,000-3,000." But from my count, I would estimate it closer to 102, this including the children who tagged along with their parents.

With so little achievements to report, the convention quickly skipped into making next year's plans.

And the plans are:

1. An army will be organized to violently overthrow the regime. Who was going to do this organizing was not named but supposedly some generals will go about this task.

2. Each member is to pledge the dollar equivalent of one M-16 rifle.

How feasible these ambitious plans were was immediately called into question by the subsequent discussion of MFP membership dues. Three hours was devoted to discussing dues—should this be \$1, 10 or 20 annually? If only MFP members could raise money as fast as they can talk. Unfortunately, at this rate, they would be lucky to buy one M-16 by the year's end.

The important part of the convention, a political assessment of the Philippine situation, was a virtual free for all. There was no set agenda that Alvarez and

Osmena had to scurry from one workshop to another, performing an obvious rescue operation. Resolutions were not even discussed and one workshop chairperson brushed off suggestions with "Present it to the plenary session."

But most shocking was the surprisingly shallow assessment of present-day Philippine realities. The recently concluded U.S.-R.P. Bases Agreement was summarized as a Marcos victory in blackmailing the U.S. It does not take an idiot to realize that the U.S. has billions at stake in the Philippines and will protect these with military bases guaranteed by a bilateral agreement with or without Marcos.

Furthermore, in an exercise in delusion, the MFP asserted that revolution in the Philippines was impossible without the assistance from North Korea or China. This was an obvious attempt to calm the nerves of members alarmed at the rate of growth of revolutionary forces in the country. While some speakers acknowledged the reality of "communist insurgency" they made it quite clear that should a revolution take place, the "democratic opposition" shall fight the communists.

By the last leg of the meeting, one irate member aptly captured the entire proceedings with the comment: "We've been talking about the same thing for the last six years—we must act now!" "Act now," I thought to myself, "—leave the MFP. The chances are you will be talking about the same old things for the next ten years and definitely not in the Manila Hotel."

Patriotic fighters? The organization that will topple Marcos? The exiles who would direct a phantom army by remote control?

No, the MFP has yet to outgrow its political naivete, polish its organizational skills like learning how to run a conference, and rid itself of bombast and bragadocio (kayabangan).

Then maybe people will begin to believe them when they talk of "re-shaping U.S. foreign policy," staging a coup d'etat or even raising money for one M-16.

But this seems a formidable task when one examines the membership of the MFP—disgruntled and disposed elite in exile and their former sycophants. Perhaps their biggest mistake was forgetting to bring their aides and technocrats with them. To do their thinking and dirty work. They would have stood a better chance of holding a halfway decent conference. □

# FFP Responds To Distortions

In the August 19-25, 1979 issue of the Philippine News, ex-FFP member Daniel Boone Schirmer attempted to justify the departure of a few members of FFP headed by himself and Severina Rivera-Drew from the organization. The National Council of the FFP responded to the charges of Schirmer and Rivera-Drew in the following August 25-31 issue of the News. However, Philippine News omitted the major points of the FFP response, thus distorting the FFP position. The National Council has requested that Ang Katipunan reprint the full reply. In the interest of truth and justice we are printing it with some minor revisions below. The italicized sections were omitted by the Philippine News.

## WHO ARE THE REAL FRIENDS OF THE FILIPINO PEOPLE?

Boone Schirmer and Severina Rivera-Drew's "inside story" on why they departed from the Friends of the Filipino People (FFP) contained few surprises for us. It was the usual litany of untruths and half-truths which our friends have become quite adept at purveying over the last few weeks. The script is familiar: the portrayal of Rivera-Drew as a "brilliant lobbyist" hounded by the "fiendish Reds." Needless to say, Schirmer's inside story as all the ingredients, not of real life, but of a Grade B McCarthyite thriller circa 1952.

It is significant that the story came out as a *Philippine News* special. This merely confirmed what many had been warning of all along: that a political alliance has been sealed between our "progressive" friends and our resident professional anti-Communist Alex Esclamado. A curious alliance born out of mutual desperation. For Alex Esclamado, desperate in his search for more ammunition to shore up his faltering attack on the progressive wing of the Filipino community, the Schirmer-Rivera-Drew piece was a godsend. For Rivera-Drew and Schirmer, Esclamado is a piece of driftwood to which they are now frantically clinging in the floundering effort to save their political careers. Needless to say, it is pathetic and pitiful spectacle, this alignment of our ex-progressives with a rabid red-baiter whose only interest is to attack and discredit the progressive movement.

We maintain that the problems with Rivera-Drew and Schirmer should have been settled within the organization. However, they consciously spurned their differences outside, through public memoranda and other vehicles. In the process, they have managed to sow intrigue and confusion within the anti-martial law movement and play into the hands of both the Marcos dictatorship and the anti-Marcos reactionaries. Now that the line has been clearly drawn between those who will resolutely work to end U.S. intervention in the Philippines, on the one hand, and those who will sabotage the progressive movement by intriguing and splitting, on the other hand, FFP is compelled to set the record straight.

Severina-Drew and Boone Schirmer left FFP for three major reasons: 1) Rivera-Drew refused to give an accounting of the organization's money; 2) She refused to be subjected to the democratic rules of the organization; 3) Both Schirmer and Rivera-Drew defied the democratic process of decision-making in FFP.

**THE \$60,000 QUESTION.** It is not only normal practice in organizations to ask for an accounting of organiza-

tional funds. It is necessary. Periodic organization surveillance over the use of huge amounts of money remains the best check on profligate spending, unnecessary expenses, faulty accounting, and corruption. The staff request for Rivera-Drew to account for the \$60,000 received by FFP since 1978 was not only normal, it was necessary and urgent — especially in view of a possible audit by the IRS and the need to submit a long postponed financial report to church funding agencies.

Rivera-Drew's response to this request — screaming "red persecution" and trying to get the staff fired — was abnormal. It is precisely this sort of frenzied Nixonian response that would encourage people to think that some irregularity is being concealed.

Confronted with these facts by the national staff Rivera-Drew tried to cover up by saying that the books were in great disorder. And the response of the National Staff was a request to get the books in order and submit a detailed accounting of funds. This exercise nevertheless revealed three amazing facts: 1) This was the first time the organization realized that it had received \$60,000; 2) That in a movement where practically everyone works for nothing, receives survival wages or goes into debt, Severina Rivera-Drew was paying herself annually without the consent of the organization \$10,000; and 3) That she pre-paid herself a whole year's "salary" in early 1978 — a very unusual and questionable practice.

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**FFP IS NOT A ONE-PERSON CIRCUS.**

**IT IS NOT A PETTY DESPOTISM . . . FFP IS A DEMOCRATIC, NATIONAL ORGANIZATION.**

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The FFP books were indeed in great disorder, as even Rivera-Drew grudgingly admitted. Our question is — did this come about by design or by natural incompetence? It is a question that must be posed because, being a movement of ordinary people, the anti-martial law movement needs all the financial support it can gather to bring about the end of U.S. involvement in the Philippines.

Let us be firm on this point: The \$60,000 was the money of the organization. It was given by church and other groups to finance human rights work, congressional work and Philippine support work. Severina Rivera-Drew may have left the FFP to escape giving a financial report, but she continues to be accountable for the use of these funds to the anti-martial law movement on a whole. Thus our question to Rivera-Drew remains valid and urgent: Where did the \$60,000 go? And the answer, dear friend, can no longer be deflected by distortions, intrigues and red-baiting.

**PETTY DESPOTISM VERSUS DEMOCRATIC CONTROL.** Rivera-Drew's petulant refusal to submit a financial report was part of a larger problem; her resistance to any sort of organizational check on her decisions and behavior. FFP is not a one-person circus. It is not a petty despotism. FFP is not a Mafia where self-serving decisions are made in secret. FFP is a democratic, national organization whose members are expected to abide by collective rule. Severina Rivera-Drew's arbitrary and vindictive behavior toward FFP members had become such a serious problem that it threatened to destroy not only the morale of the national office, but its very existence. It is indeed a measure of the dishonesty of this person that

every single national coordinator since the FFP was founded in 1973 had either been forced out by Rivera-Drew or resigned in protest at her arbitrary and vindictive ways.

The last straw for the organization was the angry departure of the FFP Congressional Researcher in March 1979 after being verbally assaulted by Rivera-Drew. The National Staff sought to get the deteriorating situation in hand by holding a democratic discussion of Rivera-Drew's behavior toward her colleagues and imposing democratic controls on it. Even Boone Schirmer, in previous discussions with the staff and the standing committee, had recognized the gravity of the situation and had urged checks on Severina's behavior. It is indeed a measure of this person that, after having encouraged collective controls on Rivera-Drew's behavior, Schirmer turns completely around and denounces the effort to impose such checks as "a move to drive Severina Rivera-Drew out of FFP!"

The charge is ridiculous, and Boone knows it. But it is repeated, shriller each time, because the poor man hates to admit the bitter truth: that he has again been personally intimidated by Rivera-Drew to take the wrong side of the issue. That he has again, abjectly, placed Rivera-Drew's personal convenience above the interests of the organization. This desertion of principled positions to appease Rivera-Drew had happened so often in the past that it had become a standing

joke in the organization.

**THE POLITICAL ISSUES.** While they are clearly secondary, there were, in fact, political issues that triggered the departure of Schirmer and Rivera-Drew.

There was, for one, the great frustration at the grassroots over the fact that chapters were being treated by Rivera-Drew and Schirmer as no more than letter-writing networks with no other tasks than to send letters and telegrams to Congress.

There was strong grassroots protest at certain illusions about Congress being spread by the Congress Education Project. People resented the fact that they were continually being forced to tell their network that "the next Congressional amendment will definitely end U.S. support for Marcos," then left with no explanation when the "decisive" amendment failed.

Within the Congress Education Project itself, there was serious opposition to Rivera-Drew's willingness to compromise the principles of the anti-martial law movement for evanescent short-term "gains." There was, for instance, her notorious proposal to get the FFP and the Anti-Martial Law Coalition (AMLC) to push for Congressional moves to transfer the bases from the Philippines to Japan or Micronesia. This was too much. To quote Steve Wake, Rivera-Drew's former co-worker, "The bases must be withdrawn from the Philippines — period. FFP can never support an effort to get them out by foisting them on other, unsuspecting people who already have their own share of problems created by the United States."

These were serious criticisms, and there were others: Drew's incorrigible

grandstanding, which went to the point of her trying to paint Congressional defeats as victories and thus confusing people. To take a classic example: Rivera-Drew sought to trumpet as a "great triumph" last spring's feeble effort by an Appropriations Subcommittee to reduce Carter's aid to Marcos knowing full well that the subcommittee's approved aid package to Marcos was about a hundred percent over last year's level, and that the full Appropriations Committee was going to restore the already slight subcommittee reductions! Only timely opposition by the national staff prevented what would have been fatal mass confusion.

And there was the rather offensive tendency to treat CEP volunteers as no more than messenger boys to Capitol Hill or housemaids babysitting for the children!

The National Staff tried its best to reflect these criticisms by introducing democratic discussion and debate at the National Office. And what did it get in response to this effort to be sensitive to grassroots opinion? A highly conspiratorial attempt by Schirmer and Rivera-Drew to cut off debate by attempting to fire the National Staff — on the grounds that discussion was "disruptive" and that the staff "wanted to shut down the Congress Education Project"!

This was naked power play, pure and simple, by two authoritarian personalities who had become accustomed to treating FFP as a private preserve and political playground. Fortunately, three members of the Standing Committee had the presence of mind and courage to oppose such an unprincipled attempt to violate the integrity of the organization!

FFP, INC. Upon the failure of their "attempted coup," Schirmer and Rivera-Drew led a tiny splinter out of the organization. In a pathetic attempt to bestow some legitimacy on their actions, they have cooked up the Grade B drama of a "KDP conspiracy" to take over FFP, as well as put forward a number of weird claims like denying that Kathy Keller of Seattle was ever a member of the Standing Committee and asserting that the oldest, time-honored FFP governing body, the National Council, had ceased to exist! Most interesting, however, is the claim of this small clique of embittered people to represent FFP by virtue of their possession of its "incorporation papers." It is noteworthy that these papers, which were executed without the knowledge of the organization by Schirmer and the Drew couple, list FFP as an organization "with no members." Armed with these papers, our friends snatched FFP money from the bank, threatened to call the Washington, D.C. police to prevent the National Staff from using the National Office, and warned the organization of a court suit if it did not surrender its name to them.

**WHAT'S IN A NAME?** Over the years, FFP has acquired the reputation of being in the forefront of the struggle against U.S. intervention in the Philippines. This justified renown is the result of countless hours of hard work by FFP grassroots activists and the National Staff. FFP people have been in the thick of demonstrations, consular sit-ins, petition campaigns, educational forums, and congressional lobbying. We cherish our hard-won reputation. And this is why neither incorporation papers, a court action, the Washington police, or even jail will convince us to yield our name to these extortionists. For many people,

*continued on page 9*

## PHILIPPINE NEWS

BUOD NG MGA BALITA  
BUOD NG MGA BALITANPA "ARTISTAS"  
ENTERTAIN SAMARENOS

The outlawed New People's Army (NPA) has become so cocky and contemptuous of government troops in Samar, Eastern Visayas, that it now sends troupes of "artistas" to entertain villagers there.

According to the Far Eastern Economic Review, groups of NPA acrobats, jugglers and other entertainers regularly visit barrios to put on shows. This, notwithstanding the recent saturation of the island with government troops bent on combatting the communist presence.

Many of the performers are girls — the NPA is also known to have well-organized female medical teams who tend not only wounded colleagues but sick villagers as well.

Enemies of the people such as rapists, informers, murderers, thieves, and cattle rustlers have not found respite, despite the Marcos military's presence. Punishment by execution if necessary, and public trials are still being carried out by the NPA. □

INTERNATIONAL UNION  
HIT AS ANTI-ASIAN

The Asian Seafarers Association of which the Philippines is a member, has assailed recent policies by the International Transport Federation (ITF) as "protectionist" and discriminatory against Asian seamen. The ITF, the largest seamen's union was hit for initiating strikes particularly in European ports to force vessels flying "flags of convenience" to register in the countries of their real owners. Such a measure would ensure "flag of convenience" ships to comply with the ITF's wages and working conditions standards. It would also prevent the exploitation of predominantly Asian seamen who are used as scabs and cheap labor and allow for them to be unionized.

The Asian Seafarers Association, which is more interested in the foreign exchange remittances of its nationals, claims that the ITF has no right to dictate the level of wages and salaries that Asian seamen should receive owing to the "difference in social and economic conditions obtaining in the two continents." In other words, Asian seamen belonging to the underdeveloped world, deserve less in terms of wages and working conditions.

Reacting to the ITF actions, National Seamen Board officials, lamented the potential loss of \$100 million yearly in the form of wage remittances from Filipino seamen.

The ITF, while no great defender of Filipino seamen has at least made attempts to alleviate their conditions. These efforts have repeatedly been blocked by the Philippine government which has recalled and punished Filipino seamen who have displayed interest in unionization. □

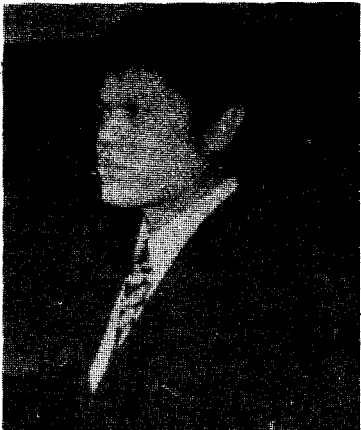
CANOY URGES:  
DISSOLVE IBP

The immediate dissolution of the Interim Batasan Pambansa (IBP) for being a puppet parliament has been urged by an oppositionist member. In a resolution submitted to the IBP, Assemblyman Reuben Canoy of Region X, Northern Mindanao, branded the Batasan as a "bankrupt and ineffective body which continues to be directly controlled by Malacanang." The dissolution of the parliament, Canoy said will result in a huge savings of at least P50 million annually, which could be spent on hospitals and medical services, schools and other projects urgently needed in the poor areas of the country."

While Pres. Marcos continues to exercise his legislative powers contrary to his promise that he would transfer this to the IBP once constituted, the IBP has been denied full involvement in the planning and policy-making process of the government.

An atmosphere of fear and intimidation is also present in the halls of the Batasan according to Canoy, "with military intelligence monitoring the actions and statements of IBP members."

Acting on advance information supplied by intelligence agents, he added, Mr. Marcos has been known to order the withdrawal of bills and resolutions designed to democratize the government or by issuing a pre-emptive decree on the same subject. (Adapted from Philippine Times)

Squabble Over Pope's Visit  
Reflects Deeper Conflict

Imelda meets Pope last February.

(Manila Journal)

The projected visit to the Philippines by Pope John Paul II, slated for late November or early December, has already grown into a political squabble of significant dimensions.

The conflict was not altogether unexpected for the Pope's decision to visit occurs at a time when relations between church and state are at an all-time low. Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile recently launched a bitter attack on the "Christian left." In turn, Jaime Cardinal Sin, the nation's foremost prelate and a known political moderate, launched his own counter-offensive, defending the clergy, demanding an end to martial law and asking President Ferdinand E. Marcos to step down from office. (See AK, Vol. VI, No. 13.)

## WHOSE INVITATION?

The current question concerns precisely whose invitation the Pope accepted when he agreed to the visit. First Lady Imelda R. Marcos, invited His Holiness during her much publicized audience im-

mediately following the coronation last year. She reiterated her invitation on a second visit to the Vatican last February.

Meanwhile the Catholic Bishops' Council of the Philippines (CBCP), under the leadership of Cardinal Sin, extended its own invitation. "We cannot assure you of the reception which Mexico and Poland had given you but we can assure you that our affections are no less," said Sin.

The first announcement of the impending visit came from Cardinal Sin who released a letter accepting the CBCP invitation to the Manila media. That evening, local television news broadcast the information that Pope John Paul II had accepted the invitation of the CBCP.

The following morning, however, the *Times Journal*, owned by the First Lady's brother, Benjamin "Kokoy" Romualdez, announced, "Pope John Paul II has accepted the invitation of the First Lady, Mrs. Imelda Ro-

mualdez Marcos, to visit the Philippines."

The seemingly petty squabble obscures serious issues which lie behind the Pope's visit. John Paul II, the first Pope from an Eastern European country, is known for his anti-communism. While visiting Mexico last year, he made comments which some have interpreted to mean that the clergy should stay out of "temporal matters" — a euphemism for radical politics.

The Philippine clergy, on the other hand, has become increasingly politicized since the declaration of martial law. Some priests and nuns have joined the New People's Army. Others, as members of the Christians for National Liberation, are staunch supporters of the National Democratic Front. Many more have made service to the Filipino people an integral part of their vocation.

## A POTENTIAL COUP?

The Marcoses are clearly threatened by the radicalized clergy. For them, it would represent a major coup if the Pope, while visiting Manila, should extend his Mexico comments and attempt to discourage the growing trend.

But the radicalization process may have proceeded too quickly and too thoroughly for the Marcos scenario to work. Sin himself may well realize that a statement from the Pope discouraging "temporal" involvement might backfire, alienating a significant portion of the clergy from the Church. □

Japanese Activists Denounce  
Sex-Package Tours

Activist women in Japan are denouncing "sex package tours" peddled by major airline carriers with the full cooperation of tourist industries in Manila, Seoul, Taipei, and Bangkok. The Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) has spearheaded a campaign to chastise the men who succumb to these package tours.

So far, the attempt has been effective in gaining the attention of the media, particularly of the press. Henry Scott Stokes of the *New York Times* in a recent article, exposed the way the operation works and who profits from "sex imperialism," as one activist puts it.

GOVERNMENT DIPS  
INTO PROFITS

President and Mrs. Marcos, among other Asian State leaders, were charged by a WCTU spokesperson for sanctioning this brand of "tour-

ism" — "prostitution by another name; to build their exchequers."

Although prostitution is technically illegal in the Philippines, no attempt is made to hide the operations. Travel agents, government, businesses, and the police have a stake in this profitable racket. The only party that does not profit much from this is the prostitute herself, driven to this exploitation by dire poverty.

Although Japanese men are not the only clientele of Manila brothels, they are most conspicuous in their pursuits. They often come in busloads, stop by a club, and personally hand-pick their bed partners for the night. Sometimes they have "ordered" the women in advance by choosing them from picture books in Japan. The Minister of Tourism notes that Japanese men are the biggest spenders among foreign visitors to the country.

## SCANDAL EXPOSED

Last year alone, 172,000 Japanese tourists, over 80 percent of them men, poured into Manila after being offered \$300-\$400 package deals by travel agents.

Two months ago a leading Japanese newspaper reported a scene in a Manila hotel wherein Casio Computer, a Japanese electronics company held a banquet attended by 200 dealers.

As elderly and women guests retired, leaving the male majority behind, a huge screen parted and 200 "hostesses" stepped forward, each pinned with a number. The dealers eagerly pointed at the numbers of the women they wanted for partners that night. The story stirred such a scandal in Japan that the embarrassed Casio Computer Company apologized to the WCTU. □

# The Philippine Military Torturers

## Profiles In Treachery, Part 2



Last issue we printed Part I of this series. The material was provided by Edgar Jopson who extracted it while undergoing interrogation himself — Editor.

"The end justifies the means."

"Our end is to make suspected subversives admit their crime and pinpoint their associates."

These words describe the way Col. Ishmael Rodrigo of the RSU-4 views the torture he engages in. Col. Rodrigo, 54 years old, was born and raised in San Juan, Rizal. Col. Rodrigo's neighbors during his childhood days were Americans, an association he never dropped.

During and after the war, Rodrigo served with the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). This took him to Cabanatuan City where he helped suppress the Central Luzon peasants, then to Korea to help the U.S. suppress the Koreans and their Chinese allies.

His continued service in the AFP earned him the rank of captain at the time of his resignation in 1967. According to him, he resigned from the AFP at the time because he was fed up with the corruption in the military, the low pay and the unjust system of pro-

ters away while waiting for the signal to surround Sison's house.

Capt. Aguinaldo related that Rodrigo's role in the capture of Sison was to point a gun at Sison, who was handcuffed and locked in a room. His famous words, "Don't move or I'll shoot you between the eyes."

### POCKETING FUNDS AND WOMANIZING

For Sison's capture, Rodrigo was commended and promoted to full colonel. Starting 1978 however, he got into trouble with Capt. Aguinaldo and his staff. The latter charged him with pocketing intelligence funds, including allowances due his agents, womanizing in office, and saying crazy things when drunk.

Beginning January 1979, Rodrigo was not given any definite unit to lead although he was still officially in charge of the Production and Research Department of C2. On June 1, 1979, he replaced Col. Miguel Aure as head of the infamous 5th CSU. Because of its reputation for brutality, the unit was subsequently disguised as RSU-4. His agents claim he got the job because of the strong recommendation of Gen. Ramos.

Col. Rodrigo was credited with Edgar Jopson's capture and that of 16 others. He was also credited for the arrest of labor lawyer, Atty. Ernesto Arellano, alleged head of a group of lawyers sympathetic to the movement.

Col. Rodrigo was very excited over Jopson's arrest. He desperately wanted to erase the 5th CSU stigma exposed by hundreds of political detainees earlier. He wanted to extract tactical and strategic information through the psy-war method. To him, hunting down suspected subversives and extracting information from them was some sort of a sport.

After the third day of interrogation, he told Jopson, "We want to use persuasion but of course if this fails, we use the iron fist." The right hand does not know what the left hand is doing. You see, good Communists are dead Communists." "You never trust Muslims also. Only dead Muslims are good Muslims." That same evening, the torture sessions were intensified.

Next day, when Jopson protested against the torture, Col. Rodrigo asserted that he was unaware of it. Besides, he was not around if it did occur. He added, "You see it could have been worse, there are techniques perfected by our counterparts in the U.S. and Europe." □

motions.

### WORKING FOR U.S. INTELLIGENCE

After that, he immediately landed a job as a project director for Frisco San Juan's Eastern Construction Company (ECC). ECC was an intelligence outfit serving the U.S. Armed Forces. It was a suspected CIA front. After a year or two, he transferred directly under the U.S. Army Green Berets' outfit as an intelligence officer with the rank of Colonel. He served in Vietnam until the end of 1972.

During his stint in Vietnam, he met William Colby, CIA head. He likewise took some time off to further his knowledge of U.S. intelligence "tradecraft." He went to intelligence school in the U.S.

Shortly after the declaration of martial law, coincidentally or by design, Gen. Fidel Ramos, a long time personal friend, invited Rodrigo back to the AFP. Rodrigo accepted the offer. At the time of the project to capture Jose Ma. Sison, he had become Officer-in-Charge (OIC) of the special detachment of the C-2 (Intelligence) assigned to such big projects.

One day before the capture of Sison, Rodrigo rushed to San Fernando, La Union to take part in the historic capture. He spent the evening in a disco house, some 100 me-

# Malacanang Zarzuela

## TODAY CAVITE, TOMORROW THE WORLD!

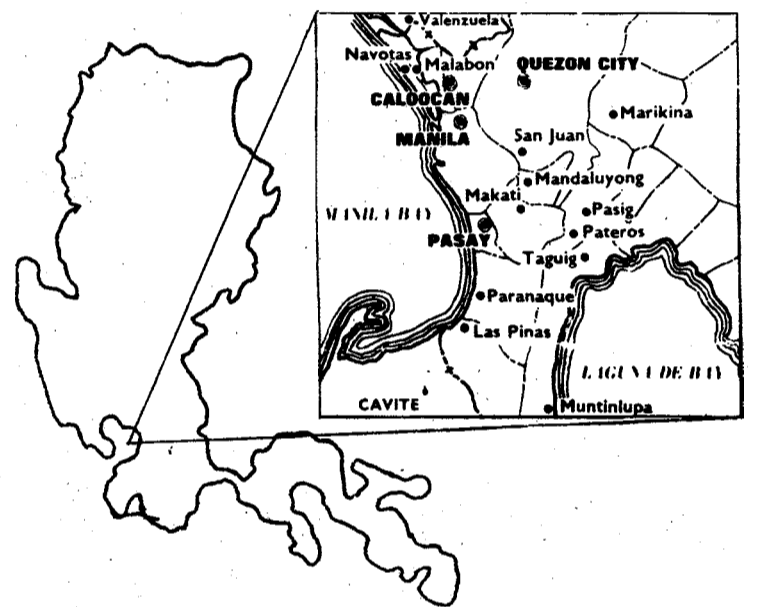
By VICTORIA LUNA

The anonymous drumbeaters who work double-time to help Imelda Romualdez Marcos realize her dreams of splendor are back on the job working on one of their most difficult assignments to date. We all remember back in 1976 when the First Lady donned her second hat as Governor of Metro-Manila. At the time she proclaimed her visionary plan to see Metro-Manila someday stretch from the Pacific Ocean to the South China Sea embracing Rizal, Cavite, Laguna, and Quezon.

Enlarging her domain a hundredfold was a little difficult, however, for the lady to pull off, doer though she is, simply by persuasion or by decree of her beloved spouse. But once again the drumbeaters have come to her aid. Those same "anonymous voices" who urged her to take up the KBL banner, who campaigned for the First Lady/Governor as Deputy Prime Minister (and then discreetly dropped the proposal when they saw just how "popular" it was) are back at work.

### THE TAIL WAGS THE DOG

"Various [nameless] sectors in the community" of Cavite province have proposed that making their province part of Metro-Manila would resolve its unnamed "leadership crisis." How this would be done, aside from enlarging the domain of the Metro-Manila Governor ten times or more, is discreetly left to the imagination. But the "various sectors" seem determined to see the tail of Metro-Manila wagging the dog of their beloved province.



Cavite today, Luzon tomorrow?

They have gone so far as to propose a referendum. And we all know what that means.

Today Cavite, tomorrow Laguna — and Rizal — and Quezon! And why stop there? Why not integrate all of Luzon into the largest metropolis on the face of the earth? What a tourist attraction that would be!

### SOLVING THE POPULATION PROBLEM

Imelda is nothing in her visions if not total. Thus managing Metro-Manila means managing all of Luzon. So being Minister of Human Settlements means caring for her subjects, oops! charges, Ooops! countrymen, from womb to tomb. The New Society, she recently announced, has programs not only for the child, "but a total program for the human being from womb to tomb."

The logic of this statement is indeed overwhelming, though it is not the same logic Mrs. Marcos used when presenting the concept recently at the Nutrition Center. Consider. The lifespan of the average Filipino has never been much to brag about. Fifty-five years perhaps at most, not a terribly long trek from womb to tomb.

But what is happening under the New Society? Thanks to the policies of Ferdinand Marcos, malnutrition; anemia, protein-, calorie- and vitamin-deficiency are at an all-time high. It's inescapable. In no time, the New Society will have shortened the average lifespan to 45, then, who knows maybe 35?

In no time at all, it will indeed become possible to take care of the Filipino from womb to tomb. And at the same time, the regime will have dealt that nasty "population problem" a stunning and victorious blow.

### MOST DARING POLICY TO DATE

Meanwhile, late reports reveal that Ferdinand Marcos has embarked upon his most daring domestic policy to date. In a single stunning blow, he has banished all of the highly popular T.V. robot shows from the nation's airwaves.

The reason cited by the bold Marcos was that the shows had provoked numerous complaints about increasing the violent behavior among children (something that also tends to occur under conditions of acute frustration, such as unrequited hunger).

But followers of the Philippine scene know the real reason. Those T.V. shows glorifying all-powerful mechanical monsters operated by an alien force, exposed the number one robot of the land, that fiendishly clever product of the combined brainpower of U.S. imperialist interests, comprador and feudal powers. Who is this ingenious product, this instrument operated by aliens via remote control to serve their own devilish ends? Why none other than Ferdinand himself. The show simply had to go lest too many more folk caught on to their not-so-heavily veiled message. □

## 500 MILE ISLAND:

### The Philippine Nuclear Reactor Deal

A comprehensive critique of the imperialist scheme to peddle and dump nuclear technology to the Third World.

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# IMF: Controlling The Philippine Economy

When the Asian Wall Street Journal August 15 published a full-page story on the role of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in the Philippines, its intention was certainly not to expose the inequity of that role. If anything, the article is meant to justify and mitigate criticism of the IMF's failures. But a publication such as the Journal can only go so far in hiding economic realities without leading its businessmen readers astray. The IMF article, therefore, provides a wealth of information which reveals IMF control over, and ultimate responsibility for the disastrous economic policies of the Marcos regime.

The Journal story is simple enough. It shows how, in 1976, the Marcos regime committed itself to three years of "close economic supervision" by the IMF in exchange for a \$280 million loan from the IMF's Extended Fund Facility (EFF). Today, as the Journal itself puts it: "... the nation's economy is back in trouble. It is running another heavy deficit. Inflation, which the government is now projecting at 20 percent for the year, is running at three times the 1975 rate. Growth is slowing. Moreover, ... the Philippines missed virtually all the economic goals that its officials and those of the IMF set for the country."

According to the Journal, these goals were: 1) To keep inflation within seven percent a year, 2) To reform the tax system and raise the level of tax receipts to 16 percent of the GNP, 3) To put a ceiling on both domestic and international borrowing, 4) To move away from Philippine dependence on traditional commodity exports such as sugar and to create new industries, and finally, 5) To make the economy grow at a rate of at least seven percent a year in real terms (adjusted for inflation).

None of these goals have been achieved. Although the government says inflation averaged 7.2 percent and real growth 6.3 percent during the past three years, these figures, according to the Journal, "are believed by many independent economists to be inaccurate measures that tend to make performance look better than it really is." Tax reform did not fare any better. By 1978, tax receipts remained at 13.9 percent of GNP, way off the 16 percent mark. Most new taxes, moreover, were indirect taxes that primarily hit the poor and middle income groups; "the personal income tax base and the corporate tax base continued to be affected by various deductions and exemptions."

High rates of growth in non-traditional export industries such as electronics and garments have exacerbated the country's balance of trade difficulties, projected this year to be in deficit by as much as two billion dollars. Although these industries are labor intensive, they still depend on heavy imports of fabrics and electronic components. "Moreover," the Journal notes, "overall manufacturing, projected to take on an increasing role in domestic production, actually saw its share of output fall slightly to 18.6 percent in 1978 from 19.4 percent in 1975."

Finally, IMF controls have not prevented the Philippine foreign debt from rising to its astronomical present level of \$8.7 billion. Private companies, with the encouragement of the government, have devised various ways of contracting loans that contravene IMF ceilings. Only last week, President Marcos criticized the private sector for being "timid" in using credit for expansion. Domestic credit has multiplied 3.5 times since martial law in 1972 just slightly behind the foreign debt which has multiplied more than four times over.

One would think that these developments would call for a re-evaluation of Philippine economic policies, and of the EFF program itself since as Finance Minister Cesar Virata himself puts it, "We were one of the first guinea pigs." But no; according to the Journal, "The odd thing about the IMF evaluation of these developments is that it judges the Philippine performance "satisfactory" instead of disappointing. . . . The IMF doesn't feel [these developments] mean the program was a failure. It argues that



More foreign loans prolongs poverty of the people.

the current problems—stemming from new oil price hikes and other international uncertainties this year—would have been much worse hadn't the nation undertaken the special program."

## THE REAL GOALS OF THE IMF

The Journal should not find it "odd" that the IMF is not disappointed with the failure of the Marcos regime to achieve its tax reform, anti-inflation and growth goals. An analysis of the role of the IMF in the Philippines going back in time further than the last three year period would reveal that the real goals of the IMF in the Philippines are not those that have been identified as the goals of the EFF program. These underlying IMF goals—the perpetuation and consolidation of the neocolonial dependence of the Philippines on the U.S. and other developed capitalist economies—are in fact the very goals that promote inflation, regressive taxation policies, and slow and distorted economic growth.

What then are these IMF goals? They are: 1) The promotion of unrestricted imports of goods and services from the developed capitalist countries, and 2) Unrestricted entry and the best possible conditions for foreign investment including unlimited profit remittances. These are goals of such programs as the EFF program. Thus, although the IMF is supposed to be promoting balance of payment stability, unrestricted imports and unlimited profit remittances generate powerful pressures on Philippine foreign exchange resources and keep the country's balance of payments chronically in deficit.

In order to finance these deficits—to pay for continuing high levels of imports plus the requirements of foreign investors—the IMF has promoted the tremendous expansion of the Philippines' foreign debt. It might seem as if this point is contradicted by the well-publicized ceilings on foreign borrowing imposed by the IMF in the last few years. But in fact these ceilings were quite high (just under \$1 billion for 1978), and the IMF has allowed the Central Bank to "go around" these limits through various complicated arrangements.

There are also indications that these restrictions formed part of U.S. government pressure on the Marcos regime to make concessions on the U.S. bases issue. Now that the bases issue is settled, the Marcos regime is once again borrowing heavily abroad. Recent reports from Manila show that the Marcos regime is about to launch a major effort to acquire much larger amounts of foreign loans in the

coming period. Although these reports say that the regime still has to secure IMF approval for this borrowing push, it is unlikely that it would come out publicly with this plan as it has in the past week without prior indication of IMF approval.

## INFLATION

The tremendous inflow of foreign loans in the past several years has been one of the forces fueling inflation. A large proportion of these loans have been used to finance infrastructure construction which encourages foreign investment but generates inflation because it does not result in short turn increases in production. Combined with the constant and heavy IMF pressure against price controls, it is understandable therefore why inflation this year is now past the 20 percent mark. These policies, not oil price increases, are the main factors behind inflation in the Philippines.

IMF-encouraged policies to control inflation—restrictions on domestic credit and on budgetary expansion—have had limited anti-inflationary impact and have other adverse effects. Thus, periodic Central Bank attempts to restrict local credit have had little impact on inflation but have decreased the competitive edge of Filipino businessmen vis-a-vis foreign investors who are not as dependent on local credit sources. Restrictions on budgetary expansion have worked primarily against much-needed salary increases for public employees such as teachers and in cuts in services and subsidies.

Finally, no discussion of inflation in the Philippines can be completed without reference to two IMF-imposed devaluations to the Philippine peso. In 1962, a 50 percent devaluation of the peso resulted not only in severe inflation but also in the end of a decade of rapid industrialization. One observer noted, after another IMF-imposed devaluation in 1970 that "... Philippine inflation was reported to be the highest in Asia and third highest in the world, and in 1971 the rate of inflation reached 20 percent."

## THE IMF AND THE U.S.

Far from encouraging development, the history of IMF involvement in the Philippines shows that its main function is that of watching after the interests of the U.S. and other advanced capitalist countries in the Philippines. The IMF is particularly well-suited to fulfill this function because it is a multi-national body and can mitigate the political impact of direct American pressure. After the U.S. was forced to give up its direct control over Philippine monetary policy with the conclusion of the

Laurel-Langley Agreement in 1954, the IMF has largely taken over the role of policing Philippine fiscal and monetary policy.

Although U.S. officials piously protest that they have no control over IMF policy towards the Philippines, most observers privately admit that the IMF serves as one of the primary levers of U.S. economic control over the Philippines. This is hard to document because IMF transactions with the Philippines are either confidential or couched in offer deliberately misleading technical jargon. One documented case of U.S. manipulation of IMF policy occurred in 1958 when the U.S. pressured the IMF to refuse to grant a loan to the Philippines unless it devalued the peso. This was rejected by then Central Bank Governor Miguel Cuaderno who wrote of the episode in his memoirs. It was not until 1962 that the U.S. finally succeeded in forcing devaluation. But as economist Cheryl Payer put it, this episode is important because it "exposes the myth that the Fund's decisions are always made on the loftiest technical grounds and clearly exposes the long-suspected influence wielded by its largest member, the United States."

It was also Payer who summarized the impact of IMF policies best. "With every cycle of 'crisis' and 'rescue' [by the IMF], however, the Philippines becomes more indebted to foreign creditors, less able to manage its own resources, more inflationary, and more prone to renewed crisis. It is a vicious cycle indeed."

The Philippines this year is in the midst of a particularly deep crisis. The Marcos regime has recently indicated that it will resort to its standard response to economic crisis—more foreign loans. What price will the IMF exact for its permission to increase the rate of Philippine borrowing? Will the 1980s in the Philippines be inaugurated with a devaluation as the 1970s were? □

## MOVING?

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## THE RESISTANCE ABROAD

### AMLC Calls For National Protests

# PROTEST THE 7TH YEAR OF MARTIAL LAW

The Anti-Martial Law Coalition (AMLC) will spearhead a nation-wide protest against the 7th anniversary of the Marcos Dictatorship. These militant protest actions, to be held in 13 major cities in the U.S. and Canada, will come in the form of rallies in public parks; motorcades in Filipino neighborhoods; pickets in front of Philippine Consulates and pro-Marcos institutions and educational forums in the community. The AMLC is focusing this years protest on the blatant repression going on throughout the Philippines and the renewed U.S. support for the dictatorship.

AMLC national coordinator, Rene Cruz, issued a statement saying that "The past year of Martial Law has been marked by a growing economic crisis that has led to widespread discontent. To appease the people, Marcos has tried all sorts of deceptive tactics such as 'normalization,' the semblance of democratic process and the partial lifting of curfew." The AMLC statement went on to say that "The people can no longer be deceived by such tactics, so that the dictatorship has had to resort to the use of force. Marcos himself has had to issue such ridiculous statements such as 'Anyone who complains against high prices shall be considered subversive.'"

Cruz noted that: "There has been an increase in military atrocities in the past year which range from indiscriminate arrests to outright killing or salvaging of suspected subversives. Oversized battalions of the Philippine Army have been sent to such provinces as Cagayan, Samar and Mindanao in an attempt to quell the resistance movements in the areas . . . Marcos' ability to conduct these campaigns of repression comes

#### SEATTLE

Sept. 21 — There will be a picket in front of the Philippine Consulate followed by a short rally at Hing Hay Park. The picket shall begin at 3 p.m.

Sept. 23 — An educational forum will be held at the Community Center at 2 p.m. For more information on all activities, contact (206) 723-6626.

#### HAWAII

Sept. 22 — A motorcade around the Kalihi Neighborhood followed by a press conference. The motorcade shall begin at 8:30 a.m. A community meeting shall be held at the Kalihi Waeni School at 7 p.m. For more information contact (808) 841-6429.

#### NEW YORK

Sept. 8-9 — Motorcade around Woodside neighborhood.

Sept. 15-16 — Motorcade around Elmhurst neighborhood.

Sept. 21 — Picket in front of the Philippine Consulate at 4 p.m.

Sept. 22 — Community meeting to be held at the United Nations Church Center on 777 U.S. Plaza New York, New York from 1-4 p.m. For information call (212)

639-2026.

#### WASHINGTON

Sept. 21 — Picket at Philippine Consulate at noontime followed by a march to the White House.

Sept. 22 — Community meeting at 4 p.m. at Dr. Quiambao's Clinic on 52 Talbert Rd., Oxonhill, Maryland. For more information, call (301) 933-5239.

#### LOS ANGELES

Sept. 20 — Picket at the Philippine Consulate on Burger and Wilshire.

Sept. 22 — Rally at 2 p.m. at Echo Park. For more information, call (213) 687-3578.

#### SAN DIEGO

Sept. 22 — Motorcade around Sonada Homes followed by a reception/community forum. For details contact (714) 474-5751 or 477-5225.

#### SACRAMENTO

Sept. 21 — Picket at the Offices of Bataan News on 2747 Fruitridge Ave. from 12-1. An educational forum will be held at the Weitzenberg Center on 5522 Sayferth Way from 6-9:30. For information call (916) 428-4415.

#### SAN FRANCISCO

Sept. 21 — Picket in front of the Philippine Consulate from 4-6 p.m.

Sept. 22 — A motorcade around South of Market will start at 9 a.m. and culminate in a rally on Russ and Minna at 1:30. There will be fundraising booths for political prisoners at the site. For information call (415) 239-5449.

#### CHICAGO

Sept. 21 — Picket will be held at the Philippine Consulate on 13 North Michigan at 4 p.m.

Sept. 22 — An educational forum will be held at Clarendon Park District Hall at 4501 No. Clarendon Ave. beginning at 6 p.m. For more information call (392) 989-4566 or 334-3658.

#### PHILADELPHIA

A community meeting is being planned in this city. For information call (215) 727-1428.

#### MONTREAL

Sept. 22 — Community meeting shall be held. For information call (514) 271-4856 or 931-3937.

#### TORONTO

Sept. 22 — Community meeting shall be held. For details call (416) 366-0170.

#### VANCOUVER

A motorcade and community gathering is being planned for Sept. 22. For details call (604) 325-0408.

as a result of the continued and gross violations of human rights. The latest and most blatant display of such support is the \$500 million aid extended to Marcos over the next five years in accordance with the U.S.-RP bases agreement. This support is not intended to alleviate the problems of the Filipino people, its goal is to secure

the stability of U.S. investments in the country at all costs!"

Cruz indicated that this year's protests shall be more militant than in the past. Particular attention shall be given to exposing and denouncing U.S. connivance with the dictatorship. The AMLC calls on all freedom-loving Filipinos to take part in the September

22 protests. The AMLC statement adds, "We should denounce with a stronger voice the U.S. support for Marcos and expose how this escalating support can lead to another Vietnam style intervention that would be costly not only to the Filipino people, but to the American people as well." □

## Congress Task Force Launched



Stephanie Brown, Steve Wake and Walden Bello.

"If Congress insists on propping up Marcos with one hundred million dollars annually, they should also know what he does with it. Our main task is to pass that information on to them and the U.S. public, and protest this bloody giveaway by all means possible." With these words, Steve Wake, staffer for the Anti-Martial Law Coalition-Friends of the Filipino People Congressional Task Force (CTF) outlined the work of the new project.

For the present time, the CTF plans to focus on the dramatic increase in Marcos' "counterinsurgency" operations since the January signing of the amended U.S.-Philippine Military Bases Agreement. Poverty stricken Samar will receive special attention as it is bearing the brunt of the U.S. government decision to supply Marcos with \$500 million in security assistance over the next five years as part of the bases agreement. Marcos has amassed over 10,000 troops armed

with the latest U.S. weapons on the island of 1.1 million in order to launch what has been billed by the Manila press as his "make or break" campaign against the Sandinista-like New People's Army.

The formation of the CTF was necessitated by the withdrawal of the AMLC and the FFP from the now-defunct Congress Education Project (CEP). "The grassroots chapters of the FFP and AMLC were never able to keep the CEP responsible to the organizations that sponsored it," according to AMLC Coordinator Rene Cruz. FFP National Coordinator Stephanie Brown has expressed her confidence that the new staff will be able to "keep their bearings and their close ties to the grassroots in the high pressure environment of Capitol Hill."

The CTF also claims to bring a "new orientation" to the Congress work of the AMLC and FFP. Walden Bello, CTF staffer explains: "We have

The Conference for a Nuclear-Free Victoria June 24 strongly urged the Australian government to prevent future sales of uranium to the Philippines. "The sale of uranium to the Philippines," the resolution said, "constitutes collusion with what can only be described as a repressive military dictatorship." The conference, attended by some 500 people, is part of an effort to prevent the

entered a new period in Congress where the chances of passing concrete aid cuts on human rights grounds are practically nil. We have decided to re-adjust to the new climate by setting more realistic goals — such as using Congress as a platform from which our positions and analyses may be voiced by the relatively few congresspersons sympathetic to our cause. We will urge these congressional allies to not only address the Congress, but to also concentrate on informing the general public through public speeches, hearings and press conferences. Though we along cannot reverse the current rightward trend in Congress, we can still work toward advancing our long-term objective of bringing the U.S. public to oppose U.S. interference in Philippine affairs. After all, it was the U.S. people — not the Congress — that spearheaded the domestic opposition to the last U.S. war in Southeast Asia." □

construction of nuclear plants in Victoria, one of the most populous states in Australia.

The recent visit of Filipino anti-nuclear activists, Fr. Mario Francisco, a Jesuit priest; Delfin Ganapin, a forest ecologist and Romy Villanueva, a resident of Morong, Bataan, has renewed Australian interest in the Philippine nuclear plant. The three visited several Australian cities in a highly successful campaign to generate support for an on-going effort to prevent Australian sales of uranium to the Philippines. Romy Villanueva is currently in the U.S., where he will go on a speaking tour under the auspices of the Campaign for a Nuclear-Free Philippines.

Apart from receiving the support of Australian anti-nuclear groups, they also generated a lot of attention in the mass media and in Australian political circles. The *Labor Star*, official journal of the Australian Labor Party, for example, denounced the Marcos regime's recent "investigation" of the safety aspects of the planned Morong nuclear plant as "a white-wash, farce and cover-up for Marcos' political incompetence."

"The Philippines, the *Labor Star* continued, "is a country in the grip of a recession and on the brink of bankruptcy...but it is so financially committed to the reactor that it is considered past the point of no return." □

## FILIPINO COMMUNITY NEWS

**Damayan:**

# SOMETHING NEW FOR CHICAGO

By **EDDIE ESCULTURA**  
AK Correspondent

*Damayan* is an organization to watch. Barely two years old, this neighborhood organization has already piled up a few things to its credit. It has compiled information on child care and city services. It also supported a member's trip to the Philippines to settle a family problem.

*Damayan* keeps itself attuned to the needs of the Filipino community. Recently, it sponsored a very successful forum on immigration rights. This was prompted by the harassment of Leticia Monserate who, unable to find employment in her field, became a target for deportation by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) for failing to practice her profession! The immigration judge ordered her deported. The defense filed an appeal and Monserate enlisted the support of the community. The publicity generated by the case and obvious legal weakness of the INS'

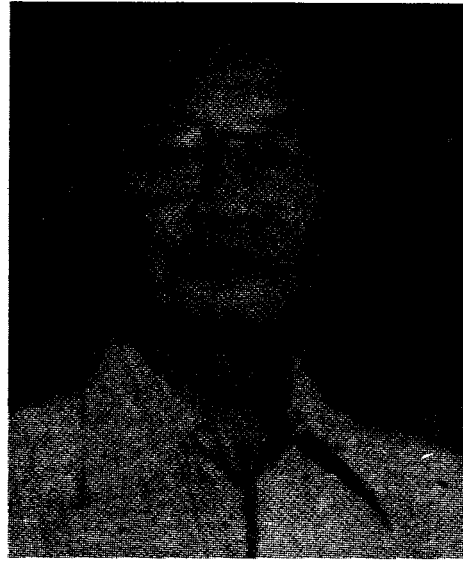
position compelled the judge to reverse his decision in return for the withdrawal of the case. This was not an isolated case and *Damayan* saw this as an unwelcome trend and saw the need to educate the community through the forum.

Every year one finds *Damayan* among the most active participants in the Philippine National Day celebration. This is no surprise since the organization is an off-shoot of the 1977 Filipino National Day Committee. Inspired by the enthusiastic response of the community (1,500 came to that event) and having learned more about the community in the course of the preparation, the Committee decided not to disband after the celebration. Instead, it formalized itself into an organization oriented towards serving the needs of the community.

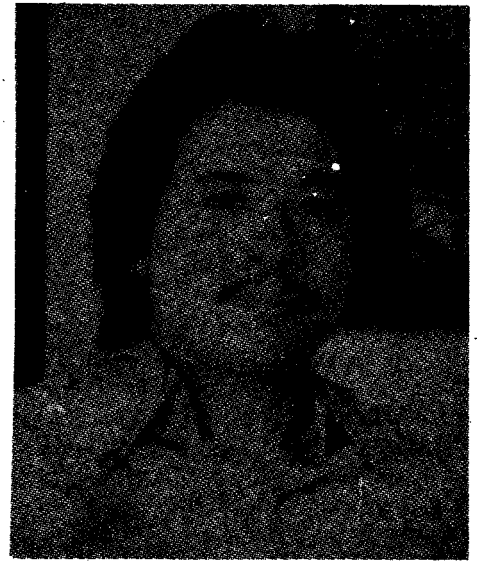
Life is not all work and *Damayan* knows this. It therefore holds wholesome yet unpretentious social activities such as picnics, informal get-togethers, and Halloween and Christ-



*Damayan was formed to serve the interests of the Filipino community. (Pinoy)*



mas parties.



### DEMOCRACY

*Damayan* has another facet to its credit. It is one of the few organizations which is open to evaluating its work in order to find the best way of serving the community and meeting the needs of its members. Thus, a month ago the organization met to identify its strength and weaknesses. It singled out, for example, the organizational structure as being a fetter to the organization. It came up with the conclusion that for an organization to remain relevant and sensitive to the needs of the community and the membership the organizational structure must be such that it facilitates not only democracy and equality within the leadership body but also full democratic participation by the membership. Otherwise, it was pointed out, the organization would collapse.

On the basis of that discussion a new constitution has been drafted and is due for ratification soon. Under the new structure the leadership body would consist of four co-equal officers, each of whom would chair a committee and assume certain other tasks. Being the center of information for the entire organiza-



*(Above, left) Larry Mutuc, first Damayan president; (above, right) Buddy Villamin, present president; (right) Filipino children at play. (PINOY)*

tion, the officers would promote sharing of information from the different areas of work, collective discussions and decisions and creativity in seeking the support and democratic participation of the membership.

Discussion and ratification of the draft constitution is scheduled for September 15 at 3 p.m. at the Rizal Center, 1332 W. Irving Park Rd., Chicago.

For information call:  
Buddy Villamin — 561-6219 or  
Ven Capili — 539-1389

## Alona fights frame-up ...

*(continued from front page)*

between 1:30 p.m., when the child left the hospital, and 6 p.m., when she was returned to the hospital. Photographs taken of the child at the time of death depicted 30 percent burns. Testimony by Dr. Alona and other naval personnel who saw the child at noon showed that she had six to nine percent burns. The investigation also concluded that Dr. Alona had rendered the proper medical treatment to the child.

On Nov. 24, 1978, Richard Holmes interviewed Dr. Alona as a potential government witness in the trial of Timothy Read, Nicole's stepfather. Read was to be tried for the child abuse-murder of his stepdaughter. At that interview, Holmes was advised by Dr. Alona's military counsel that there were two sets of burnings. Holmes refused to accept this explanation and still insisted that Alona was negligent.

### THE FBI'S WORD VS. THAT OF THE "FILIPINO NATIONAL PHYSICIAN"

Alona was subpoenaed as a witness in the Read trial. The FBI agent was also called in as a witness. Alona testified that he did not think it was

child abuse at the time he saw the child. The FBI agent testified that Dr. Alona had told him he had suspected child abuse. At no time during the trial did the DA bring out the fact that there were two sets of burnings. Read was subsequently convicted for the death of Nicole Bond, on the lesser count of manslaughter.

Assistant D.A. Holmes was quoted in a newspaper article as saying that he lost the Read case because of Alona's statements and that "Alona was a liar," based on the conflicting testimonies of Alona and the FBI agent. The DA has brought nine counts of criminal perjury against Alona.

Alona believes that the DA is now trying to save face by using him as their scapegoat. What is clear is that the DA who initially failed to prosecute him for negligence is now out to get him for perjury.

### THE ROLE OF THE U.S. NAVY

The other party in this grim tale of racist frame-up is the U.S. Navy. The Navy only investigated Alona's treatment of the child; it failed to investigate the roles of other naval

personnel involved in treating Nicole Bond. At the time of the investigation, Alona's military counsel advised the naval panel that there maybe a basis for charge of negligence against other naval doctors who saw Nicole when she was brought into the naval hospital for the second time. In particular, he requested that the navy put on hold a Lt. Derby, one of the attending physicians for further questioning. The investigating panel refused. Derby was up for release from the navy at that time. Lt. Derby is now a civilian. To date, no investigation has been conducted on his role.

Alona's request for legal assistance for his upcoming perjury trial has also been refused. The Department of Justice memo stated that "Dept. of Justice representation or private representation at government expense is not in the interest of the United States." Adding insult to injury, it also stated that "perjury is not in the course and scope of his employment with the navy." Apparently, between Alona's word and the FBI agent's, the Dept. of Justice has already concluded that Alona is the party guilty of perjury.

"In a way what has happened to me is a blessing in disguise," Dr. Alona said to the FWC delegates in a workshop on immigrant rights. Before his case, Alona admitted he was only concerned with "building a castle of my own," unaware of the Filipino community's struggles. His experience at the FWC helped underscore the importance of community involvement and support.

Before leaving the convention, Dr. Alona expressed not only his sentiments but also those of all the FWC delegates, when he vowed to actively take up all issues confronting the Filipino community. □

## Errata

ERRATA: In the August 15-31 issue of the AK the article "Group Holds Immigrants Rights Forum" mistakenly stated that Ester Simpson as the main speaker of the forum. To set the record straight, Juan Soliz of the INS was the main speaker in the said forum. Our apologies to both Mr. Soliz and Ms. Simpson and our readers for the error.



# Census To Undercount Asians In The U.S.

Reprinted from the  
SAN FRANCISCO JOURNAL

Despite the one billion dollars that the U.S. Bureau of the Census will spend on the 1980 Census, Asian and Pacific Islander Americans may be severely undercounted in the 1980 Census. The Census Bureau has made plans to improve the census count. For example the Census plans to do a more thorough mail-out of census forms, special publicity efforts aimed at minorities, and the use of community services specialists for out-reach activities.

The Pacific Asian Coalition (PAC) Washington Office has learned that the Census Bureau is not planning to print 1980 Census forms in any Asian-Pacific language. Forms will be printed only in English and Spanish with English-language forms mailed to every household and Spanish-language forms available on request. In order to address language concerns, the Census Bureau is planning to print census questionnaire guides in forty languages, including Asian Pacific languages, which are to be utilized by bilingual enumerators. Service centers will be established nationwide where bilingual enumerators will be available to assist people in completing census forms.

The 1980 Census procedures may miss many limited-English speaking Asian-Pacific Americans. A nationwide 1976 survey of Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Filipino, and Vietnamese Americans, conducted by the Census Bureau and the National Center for Educational Statistics, found that two-thirds of Asian groups lived in households in which only Asian languages were spoken. The survey also estimated that less than 13 percent of Asian Americans resided in households where only English was spoken. Such data indicates that many, if not most, Asian-Pacific Americans are likely to encounter language difficulties in understanding and completing English-language census forms which may result in their being uncounted or miscounted.

Earlier this year, Senators Spark-



Matsunaga and Daniel Inouye and Representatives Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui introduced legislation (SJR 23 and HJR 249) which requires the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Labor, and Health Education and Welfare to collect and publish the regularly reliable data on Asian-

Pacific Americans for states with significant numbers of Asian-Pacific Americans. Senators Matsunaga, Inouye, Magnuson, and Cranston sent a letter to Commerce Secretary Juanita Kreps, inquiring about the status of the Census Bureau's plans for counting Asian-Pacific Americans

in the 1980 Census. A similar letter of inquiry also was sent by Rep. Julian PAC encourages all concerned Asian-Pacific Americans to write to their Senators and Representatives to urge them to co-sponsor either Senate Joint Resolution 23 and/or House Joint Resolution 249. □

## FFP Responds To Distortions...

(continued from page 3)

we realize, it will be political practice that will resolve the question of which is the real FFP. And we are confident that the real Friends of the Filipino People will, to use Mr. Esclamado's term, stand out in people's eyes. **SOME LESSONS.** FFP has learned a lot of lessons. One is that truth in the old saying that "anti-communism is the last refuge of the scoundrel." Another is that power unchecked by democratic control corrupts. A third is that arrogant power is its own grave digger.

Let this be clear: Severina Rivera-Drew was a creation of the anti-martial law movement. In the belief that a figure had to be clearly projected as heading up its Congress work, the anti-martial law movement threw all its resources at publicizing Rivera-Drew's efforts. The movement gutted FFP, AMLC, KDP and IAFP chapters to provide support-personnel in Washington for Rivera - Drew.

Chapters of all these progressive anti-martial law organizations were consistently mobilized to provide the all-important grassroots back-up for the Washington work.

But the "image" went to Severina's head. The illusion grew in her that it was she, and she alone, who was responsible for the reputation of the anti-martial law movement's Congress work. Rivera-Drew seems not to have perceived herself as a medium for the movement; rather, the movement became a medium for the attainment of a comfortable and financially secure career as a lobbyist. It is a familiar and tragic story, especially around Washington, D.C. And it is the real story behind the events in FFP; not the elaborate fiction of a "communist plot" that Schirmer and Rivera-Drew have peddled.

Having arrogantly cut themselves off from the source of their strength and reputation — the mass movement — Rivera-Drew and Schirmer today represent no one and nothing but themselves. That they are without a constituency either in the Philippines or in the U.S. is a reality that will soon come crashing down — hard — on

these people.

And let this be a word of advice to Alex Esclamado. If you think that you have picked up valuable political allies in your attack against the progressive wing of the anti-martial law movement, you are sadly mistaken. Any sincere and honest force who desires the end of U.S. support for the Marcos dictatorship would easily see through their distortions and your own gimmick.

*No one who sincerely desires the end of the Marcos dictatorship and of U.S. intervention in the Philippines has much use for embittered ex-progressives turned red-baiters. Having deserted the progressive movement, these are "prophets" without honor anywhere. Especially in the Philippines today.*

**RECONSTRUCTION.** But let us end on a positive note. In addition to resuming vigorous grassroots activities, like forums and educationals, over the last two months, FFP has also re-established its Congressional work. On August 6, the Congressional Task Force (CTF) of the FFP and the AMLC was inaugurated in Washington, D.C. This should banish once and for all the

lie that FFP opposes Congress work. But CTF is different from the disbanded Congress Education Project. For one, it does not have the dead-weight of elitism and arrogance that characterized the old CEP. For another, it does its work with the full realization that Congress work cannot be the tail that will, as it were, wag the FFP dog. The Congressional Task Force will be but one component of the multi-sided enterprise to end all forms of U.S. intervention in the Philippines.

Signed,  
The FFP National Council

Andrew Siegal, New York; Steve Wake and Jim Regan, Washington, D.C.; Bill Simpson and Jan Fowler, Chicago; Kathy Keller and Atty. John Caughlan, Seattle; Robin Jurs and Dr. Walden Bello, San Francisco; Chibu Lagman and Terry O'Rear, Madison, Wisconsin; Kathy Gilbert, San Diego; David O'Connor, South Bay (Palo Alto, CA); Ron Gaul, Fresno; Virgie Sanchez and Alan Constantino, Los Angeles; George Hildebrand, Ithaca, N.Y.; Stephanie Brown, National Coordinator.

# Government Accelerates Economic Recession

Reprinted from THE GUARDIAN

Interest rates were climbing sharply at mid-month as the Federal Reserve Bank System's conservative new chairman, Paul Volcker, toughened the fight to bolster the dollar.

But the higher rates, designed to fight inflation in the U.S. and strengthen the dollar abroad, are expected to deepen the recession that so far seems to be developing rather slowly.

In recent weeks, the nation's overall economic activity, industrial output, house-building, workers' purchasing power and profits have all declined moderately. On the other hand, wholesale and farm prices have marched up the hill.

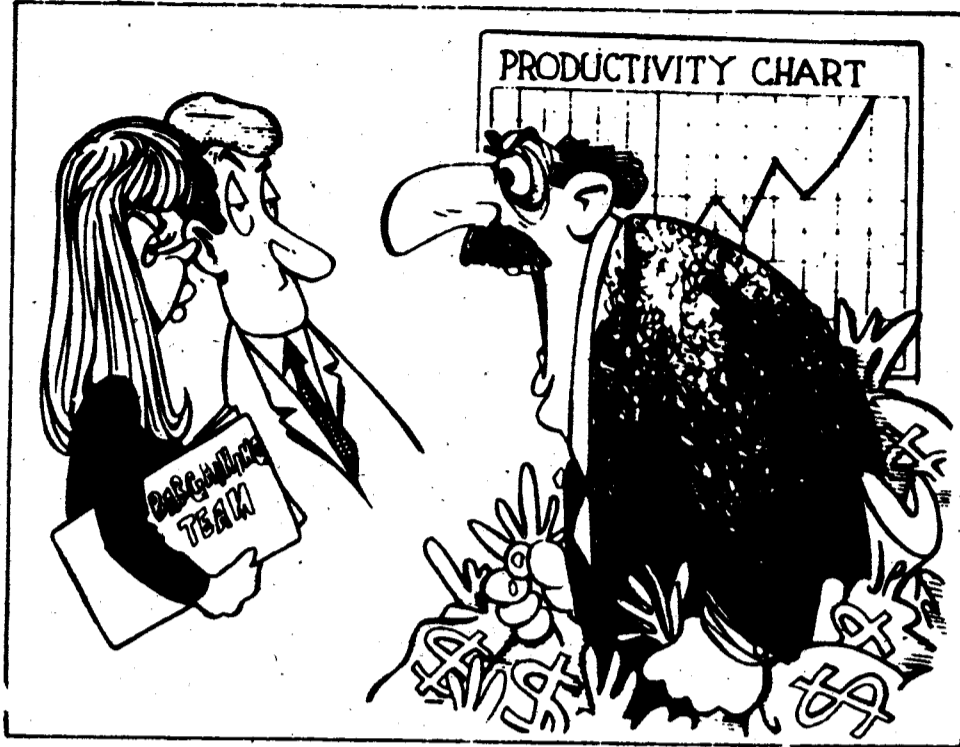
And President Jimmy Carter moved again to take money from hard-pressed consumers of oil products and put it in the already bulging pockets of the oil companies.

In the Fed's first formal action since Volcker became chairman, on Aug. 16, the board raised the interest rate it charges commercial banks to a record 10.5 percent, from 10 percent, the previous record set less than a month before.

Commercial banks reacted quickly, boosting the rate to their most favored customers to 12 percent. That tied the record set in 1974.

The interest rate increases add significantly to business costs, tending to slow business activity, reduce demand for goods and thus take pressure off prices — or so the theory goes.

As it often does, the Commerce Department revised the figures it had issued earlier on second quarter real (adjusted for inflation) gross national product (GNP). GNP, which is the sum of the country's output of goods and services, declined only 2.4 percent, the department said, not 3.3 percent as previously reported. The



**"Raise? You need a raise? Is that all you people think about is money?"**

earlier figure had been unexpectedly high and seemed to indicate a rapid deepening of the recession.

Industrial output in July slipped at an annual rate of a little more than 1 percent — not much. However, there was a more pronounced slump in the output of consumer goods, especially durable goods. The number of cars produced fell at an annual rate of more than 36 percent, but even so production was still outpacing sales — pointing to more drastic cutbacks in production in August and a hike in layoffs.

Such big ticket items as cars and refrigerators are usually the first items consumers cross off their shopping lists when they see a recession coming.

Housing starts in July were off 7 percent from June and down 12

percent for the first seven months, compared with the same months in 1978. However, at the annual rate of 1.8 million starts in July, building activity was still relatively strong. Home building is, of course, a key industry because it is so large, labor-intensive and widespread.

Personal income in the country as a whole was up a strong 1.4 percent in July from June, but the increase was illusory: the standard of living of Americans continued to decline.

Much of the rise in income was attributable to the 9.9 percent increase in Social Security payments, which began in July, and a smaller rise in veterans' benefits. These increases did not make up for the losses in purchasing power over the past year due to inflated prices for food and other essentials. Wages and

salaries paid by private industry rose in July at an annual rate of more than 8 percent, but that, too, failed to keep up with prices.

And, ominously, wholesale prices shot up again in July, accelerating from the relatively moderate increases of the past two months. Last month they rose at an annual rate of nearly 14 percent, more than double the rate for May and June. The latest increases at the wholesale level will be passed through to retail customers in the months ahead.

Higher oil prices were at the base of many of the recent wholesale boosts. Gasoline prices, according to the government reports, increased almost 4 percent in July. Heating oil rose 9 percent in July, when it usually falls, strongly suggesting hoarding. And the higher levels of crude oil prices were beginning to be reflected in products farther along in the processing line — in chemicals, resins for plastics, synthetic rubber and paints. Still to come are the effects of the OPEC and U.S. June 1 increases.

And after three months of decline, food prices at the farm level jumped in July at an annual rate of more than 25 percent.

Profits for the second quarter were down 2.4 percent, after a gain of 7.3 percent in the first part of the year. This meant they were being raked in at an annual rate of \$139 billion, 13 percent above the year-earlier rate. However, after taking inflation into account, profits before taxes were up only 3.6 percent from last year's.

President Jimmy Carter did his best to boost oil earnings. He decontrolled the price of so-called heavy oil. The move may or may not increase output in future years, as he says it will. But it will certainly and immediately add \$1 billion a year to oil company revenues. Most of it will go to Getty, Chevron and Atlantic. □

## United Farm Workers Rally Bolsters Strike

By ELLEN ROSENZWEIG  
Reprinted by THE GUARDIAN

The United Farm Workers union (UFW) lettuce strike, now in its seventh month, received a tremendous show of solidarity August 11 when thousands of farmworkers and supporters rallied in Salinas, California. They declared their determination to continue the strike and mount a boycott until the growers agree to contracts with the union.

The rally culminated in a 10-day "march on Salinas" which had 10,000 participants by the time it reached here. There were two contingents to the march: one from San Francisco, 100 miles north of Salinas, and one from San Ardo, 70 miles south.

As the marchers moved through the valley, as many as 1,000 farmworkers a day walked out of the fields in one-day work stoppages. UFW president Cesar Chavez marched the full 70 miles of the San Ardo march despite his fast for "love and patience" which he started on the opening day of the march.

The climax of the weekend came at the union's fourth constitutional convention August 12 here, and the announcement that the UFW had reached a contract agreement with

Meyers Tomato covering 325 workers. Meyers is the first of the 28 vegetable growers, whose contracts expired in January, to settle with the UFW.

Targets of the UFW boycott are iceberg lettuce and the products of United Brands, which owns the largest lettuce company in California, Sun Harvest. United Brands labels include Chiquita bananas, A&W root beer and fast-food stands and John Morrell Meats.

Some 5,000 farmworkers have been on strike against 12 lettuce and vegetable growers, six of which have operations in the Salinas area, since January. Negotiations have been sporadic and difficult, with wages the main dispute. At the beginning of the year, the UFW demanded \$5.15 an hour, while the growers offered a seven percent raise on the current \$3.70 an hour.

### WAGE DISPUTES

The UFW argues that farmworker wages have risen only about \$2 an hour since the union began organizing in 1964. With current inflation, farmworkers' buying power has decreased substantially over the last few years.

The growers recently announced they are now offering a 34 percent raise over the next three years, which

they said the UFW spurned. But UFW president Chavez responded that the 34 percent would only bring farmworkers up to \$5 an hour in 1982.

Bud Antle, one of the largest lettuce growers in California, has agreed to a new contract with the Teamsters union which would give field workers \$5 an hour as of 1979. Chavez argues the other growers can pay the same.

The march comes just as the lettuce harvest is picking up after a month-long "little winter" between harvests. The UFW has strike authorizations from the workers at about 20 other lettuce companies, and many workers in the valley have been expecting a general strike, soon.

Support for the strike among the state's farmworkers has remained strong over the seven months. But the lack of success in negotiations has led many, both inside and outside of the UFW, to consider the strike crucial to the union's survival. Most of the UFW support is among lettuce and vegetable workers, and the loss of these contracts would be a major defeat for the union.

When the march reached here, it snaked through the streets of the town, stretching for miles. At the front of the march were six horsemen, a mariachi band, Chavez and, for the

last three miles, California Governor Brown. Marchers shouted, "Boycott Chiquita bananas!" and "Esta huelga esta ganada!" (This strike is won.) Brown also spoke at the rally, but he had to wait several hours before speaking.

Also speaking at a pre-rally gathering were several representatives of labor organizations, including Jack Henning, secretary-treasurer of the California AFL-CIO, and Jimmy Herman, president of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union Local 6, and a representative of the United Auto Workers. Mario Obledo, California's Secretary of Health and Welfare, also spoke.

But unquestionably the high point of the one-day constitutional convention was UFW attorney and negotiator Jerry Cohen's announcement about the agreement with Meyers Tomato.

In addition to the \$5 hourly wage, the Meyers contract provides for a cost-of-living adjustment, a guarantee that no seniority workers will be replaced by mechanization, and union representatives paid a full-time salary by the employer. All these provisions are new to UFW contracts.

## Gains Of Revolution Threatened

# Khomeini Unleashes Reaction In Iran

Armed reaction, with the Ayatollah Khomeini in command, has been the order of the day in Iran.

Endangering many of the revolution's gains, Khomeini recently unleashed a campaign against all domestic opposition to his rightist, theocratic rule. Newspapers have been closed, opposition parties have been suppressed, rallies and demonstrations have been outlawed.

In addition, Khomeini has launched a ruthless 'holy war' against the dissident Kurd minority who has been seeking both autonomy and democratic rule from the central government. Dozens of rebel Kurds have been executed by Khomeini's troops for "waging war against God and his representatives."

The fragile alliance of religious, workers, national minorities, and Iran's middle classes which ousted the shah last February is now in disarray. The main democratic gains achieved by the Iranian masses—freedoms of press, assembly, protest, political association, and belief—have been suppressed. As of August 18, the Ayatollah Khomeini vowed to turn Iran into an Islamic state ruled by one party, "like the Rastakhiz," the single party established earlier by the Shah.

### IRAN'S REVOLUTION CONTESTED

For six months, the direction of Iran's revolution has been contested by the various groups which allied in the fight to oust the despotic rule of the shah. Khomeini, around whom all anti-shah forces rallied before the February revolution, returned to Iran with a vision of an Islamic nation, free from "degenerate" Western concepts and values. Establishing his secret Revolutionary Council headquartered in Qom, Khomeini organized his religious supporters, many of them reactionary mullahs, or Islamic religious leaders, into the grassroots Revolutionary Islamic Komitehs. These Komitehs, organized local militias comprised of unemployed youths, and they have the power to enforce their policies on the populace.

Nominally, the country was ruled by the provisional government headed by Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan. Yet Khomeini's Revolutionary Council has been able to wield effective power through the Komitehs, the informal Islamic militias and secret revolutionary courts. While many expected that there would be a transfer of power from Khomeini's secret courts and militias to the central government, Bazargan has been waging a losing battle with the Ayatollah for control of the country. Even the Ministry of Justice has complained that it is never consulted or informed of the actions taken by Khomeini's secret courts.

Khomeini strengthened his rule in May following the assassinations of the Ayatollah Morteza Motahari and Gen. Mohammad Vali Gharani. Motahari was an important member of the Revolutionary Council and a close disciple of Khomeini's, while Gen. Gharani was the new government's first chief of staff. Both assassinations were claimed by a little-known anti-cleric group called Forghan. Even though the Iranian left denounced the killings, Khomeini blamed the "communists" for the deaths, and instituted a crackdown on the left. In addition, Khomeini formed a new militia, the Guardian Corps of the Islamic Revolution, answerable only to the Revolutionary Council and given broad powers to insure internal security.

### LEFT CALLS FOR POPULAR RULE

The Marxist *Fedayee* and Islamic *Mujaheddin* guerrilla groups which supported Khomeini during the anti-shah struggle, and spearheaded the final street fighting which overthrew the Pahlavi regime have issued demands for the Iranian revolution which go far beyond the vision of Khomeini's Islamic Iran run by theocratic experts or Bazargan's Western-educated technocrats.

Wary of Khomeini and the religious mullahs, as well as the Bazargan government, the *Fedayee* denounced the secret Islamic courts and called for public trials of former members of the Pahlavi regime. In addition, a call was issued for the dismantling of the old military with the creation of a "people's revolutionary armed forces" run by soldiers' committees and elected officers. Nationalization of the banks was demanded and popular rule was proposed, instituted through the formation of elected workers councils to run the factories and control nationalized institutions.

The *Fedayee's* call for elected workers' councils gained popular support, and committees formed



Khomeini's militia executes Kurdish rebels in the retaking of Saqqez. Repression of the opposition has threatened Iran's revolutionary gains.

across Iran. Oil workers, who conducted crippling strikes which paralyzed the Pahlavi regime, were in the forefront of establishing the popular councils. In April, pro-Khomeini gangs attempted to suppress the councils by arresting prominent members, many of whom were members of the *Fedayee* or *Mujaheddin*. In the oil refinery city of Abadan, 41 *Fedayee* members were abducted by Islamic militia members and taken away for trial by the secret Islamic courts.

Many of the repressive decrees by Khomeini have been aimed against the left, and the reactionary Mullahs have rallied thousands of phalangist youths under the slogan of "Death to the Communists" during recent street fighting in Teheran. While suffering sharp repression by Khomeini since April, the latest offensive has forced the *Fedayee* and other left groups to vacate their offices in Teheran, with the leadership going into hiding.

### MINORITIES AGITATE FOR AUTONOMY

Another major grouping now under severe repression from Khomeini is the country's ethnic minorities, especially the Kurds in Iran's northwest.

Under the Pahlavi regime, the various ethnic and tribal minorities suffered sharp discrimination of their language, culture and religion as well as economic exploitation of their lands and resources. In helping to drive out the shah, Iran's minority people hoped for some form of self-determination and autonomy.

However under the Ayatollah Khomeini's rule, no recognition has been given to the national aspiration of the Kurd, Turkoman, Baluchi and Arab minorities. Instead, there is no mention of regional autonomy in the draft constitution, and armed suppression of all rebel minorities has been ordered by the Ayatollah.

In northern Iran, dissident Turkomans fought pitched battles with Islamic militias and government troops last March. The half million Turkomans are seeking a return of their lands stolen by the Pahlavi dictatorship and it is estimated that 150 were killed in the fighting.

Some two million Arabs in southern Iran have also been seeking autonomy and a voice in choosing their government. In April, 200 Arabs were killed in fighting with militia and soldiers when the southern port city of Khorramshahr was seized. The southern province of Khuzistan has been the focus of the Arab struggle for autonomy, an area crucial to the country's oil industry. Minority Arabs make up an estimated 20 percent of the oil workforce.

### KURDS VIOLENTLY SUPPRESSED

Most recently, Khomeini's repression is aimed at the Kurds in northwestern Iran. Since March, an estimated 1,000 people have been killed in pitched battles between the government and Kurdish rebels. Demanding autonomy within a federal system, the Kurds have seized cities, such as Saqqez, Paveh and Mahabad, to press their demands. Since Kurds are overwhelmingly of the Sunni Muslim faith, while Khomeini and his supporters are Shiite Muslims, the suppression of

the Kurdish rebellion has taken on religious overtones.

Khomeini has whipped up a near-hysteria against the Kurds, declaring the rebels "infidels," and their leaders are branded as "corrupt satanic agents." Outlawing the Kurdish Democratic Party, Khomeini has ordered the arrest and suppression of its leaders. In retaking cities held by Kurd rebels, Khomeini's troops have systematically executed suspected rebel leaders for "anti-revolutionary activities" and "crimes against God."

Preparing his supporters for the brutal repression, Khomeini declared, "Had we smashed that dam of corruption, had we acted in a revolutionary manner, had we broken all the pens, had we shut down all those corrupt publications and put their directors on trial, had we banned the corrupt parties, had we set up the scaffolds in the main square of each city, we would not have had so much trouble today."

Khomeini never espoused any intention of allowing any form of popular democratic rule govern Iran. While the minorities, workers, left and middle classes worked for some form of popular rule, Khomeini denounced the term "democracy" as a foreign, Western concept alien to Islamic beliefs.

In the referendum over Iran's political future, he denied Iranians the choice between his Islamic Republic and a Democratic Islamic Republic as proposed by his opponents. While in his Paris exile, Khomeini was careful not to alienate other forces of the anti-shah opposition, he has increasingly sided with the reactionary Mullahs in Iran, decrying equality of the sexes, right of judicial appeal and democratic rule as "degenerate" Western concepts.

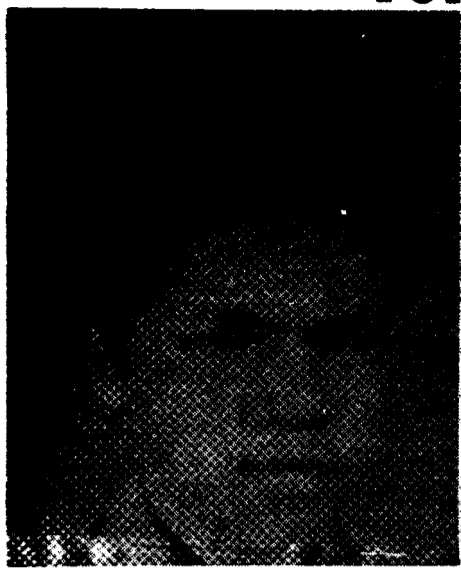
Despite his vitriolic diatribes against the West however, Khomeini and the Bazargan government have begun negotiations with Washington to better relations. The White House recently approved the sale of heating oil and kerosene to Khomeini. More ominously, talks were begun over the resumption of large-scale shipments of U.S. arms to Iran. Some \$5 billion worth of arms and military equipment originally ordered by the deposed Pahlavi regime, are now being sought by the Ayatollah Khomeini and Bazargan.

Observers say that the arms are needed in Khomeini's war against the Kurds, and Washington has been said to be very interested in bettering U.S. influence over the new regime. One pro-Khomeini apologist in Washington asserted that

"Despite the executions and the rhetoric, Khomeini really seems to be following a policy of moderation."

However, one leftist spokesperson in Iran decried the Ayatollah's policies, saying, "We are moving from anarchy to fascism." He noted that the left would not surrender easily to Khomeini's terror. "We have been underground before, and we are going back underground." With Khomeini's recent crackdown and overtures to Washington, the fate of Iran's revolution has seriously been threatened. □

# June 14th Detainees Tortured



Romeo Candazo as editor of the Philippine Collegian.

Recent reports received by the Task Force on Detainees have heightened suspicion that the batch of detainees arrested June 14 in Talon, Rizal continue to be tortured by operatives of the 5th Constabulary Security Unit.

Oscar Armea, a worker at Consolidated Can, and Romeo Candazo, former instructor in the history department of the University of the Philippines were reported to be the two most heavily tortured of those arrested June 14, by a CSU unit headed by Col. Ishmael Rodrigo. (See story on page 4.)

Most of the detainees suffered beating, "Russian roulette," strangu-

lation, electric shock, solitary confinement, and sexual indignities.

The detainees remained steadfast and united in the face of this treatment and declared their intention to go on a hunger strike if not immediately transferred to Camp Bagong Diwa, formerly Cicutan Rehabilitation Center.

Earlier, 10 detainees were transferred to Bagong Diwa. The remaining seven proclaimed that they would push through with the hunger strike if the military failed to transfer all of them at once to the detention center. This collective position was asserted in face of the military's attempts to concentrate their brutalities on Oscar Armea and Romeo Candazo.

And yet through deceit, the military managed to keep Candazo and Armea behind. As the 5th CSU were transferring the detainees upon instruction of PC Gen. Ramos, Armea and Candazo were yanked from the waiting van as they were about to board.

This action has roused the fears of their families that the two are in for more torture. Armea is already in a weakened state while Candazo is suffering from a heart defect.

Meanwhile, friends and relatives have urged all concerned groups and individuals to pressure the Philippine military authorities to investigate the torture of the 18 arrests on June 14 and immediately transfer Armea and Candazo to Camp Bagong Diwa. □

# Military Abuses in No. Luzon...

Continued from page 1

## CAGAYAN VALLEY— FORCED EVACUATIONS

In Cagayan Valley, home province of Enrile, 55 people from the sitios of Baggao were arbitrarily arrested, tortured and detained. Shortly after, residents of sitio Tagang were forced to evacuate and abandon their homesteads.

The incident occurred last April when some members of the 21st Infantry Battalion (21st IB) attended a dance at sitio Tagang. Sometime during the evening the Army men found their guns missing. The 55 men and women present at the dance were arrested and forced to march to Camp Temblique in Baggao, some five kilometers away.

The barrio folks' detention lasted for 12 days during which time they were subjected to all sorts of abuses. The men were kicked and paddled with 2" by 2" pieces of wood. Many sustained cuts and bruises, some had their teeth knocked out and one spat blood after beatings.

They were also made to take off their clothes and squat for hours under the sun. Those who fainted or fell out of the squatting position were kicked. One of the detainees was used by the soldiers as their target for practice-shooting. They put a bottle on his head and then took turns shooting it.

Women were not spared from abuses. They were slapped and subjected to various indignities.

## HUMAN PUNCHING BAGS

In the evenings the soldiers would get drunk and the detainees would be roused from their sleep to be used as human punching bags. Sometimes the soldiers would force detainees to masturbate in front of them while they watched with perverted satisfaction.

Aside from the 55 persons who were detained for more than a week, 12 other residents of sitio Tagang were also beaten up by elements of the 21st IB. All the rest of the barrio folk who were not arrested were forced to evacuate from their sitio from April 16 to 23. Many of the barrio residents' properties were stolen by the soldiers during the evacuation—their rice, chickens, eggs, coconuts as well as cash and valuables were "confiscated." A young mother who had just given birth weakened during the forced evacuation and died.

Memories of the 21st IB, will remain bitter for the residents of Tagang, Baggao for a long time to come.

## KALINGA VILLAGE RAIDED

At dawn of June 10, folks of Barrio Bugnay, Tinglayan, Kalinga-Apayao, were rudely awakened when around 30 troopers of the 51st PC Battalion broke into their tranquil village. The soldiers were in hot pursuit of New People's Army (NPA) partisans allegedly sighted in the area, according to sketchy intelligence reports.

The Constabulary scoured nearby

mountains at the outskirts of the village and not finding any NPAs arrested two villagers, Jose Paner and Sangangao Sacwog.

In the "search and destroy campaign," the PC also burned down three camp houses used by the villagers as communal resting places; confiscated axes, crowbars, bolos and other farm tools; and destroyed vegetable crops.

The PC operation lasted from 3 a.m. to 2 p.m. No explanations were given to the people, who were herded and tightly guarded by the troops in the course of the military operation.

Bugnay residents are among the signatories of the *bodong* (peace pact) forged among different Bontoc and Kalinga tribes opposing the Chico River Dam Project. The people here believe that the PC troopers used the alleged NPA sightings as a ploy to harass them and break their opposition.

The Bugnay raid came close on the heels of warnings aired through the press by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile charging that military groups are using the Chico dam case to agitate people against the government.

## ISABELA FARMERS "SALVAGED"

Meanwhile, military repression and brutality in Isabela province assumed monstrous proportions in June. Army men now feel free to pick on innocent rural folk and torture them during investigation. At least three deaths through "salvaging" (unofficial executions) reported have been confirmed.

On June 1, elements of the 44th Infantry Battalion of the Philippine Army made a round of sitios Pacca and Bigao in Old San Marino, Ilagan, Isabela. Ten farmers were arrested and taken to the detachment headquarters where they were questioned about their involvement with the NPA. They were kicked and given fist blows and were forced to admit that they were "pasa bilis" (couriers). Their genitals and mouths were smeared with hot chili peppers while four were hung upside down in a well.

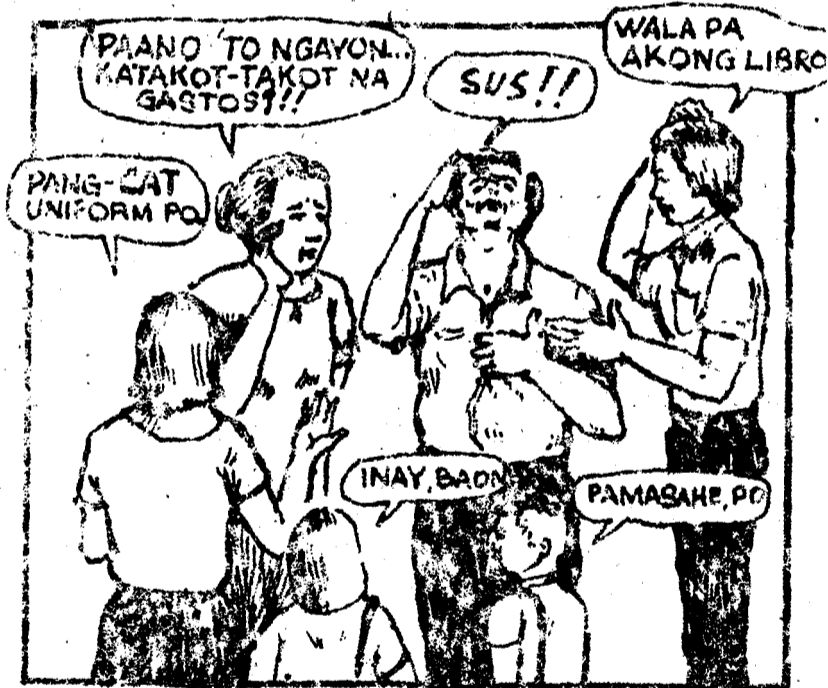
The next day, seven of the farmers were released while three, Corpuz, Villanueva and Cabico remained in custody. This was the last heard of them.

For the next few weeks their wives searched and queried about the whereabouts of their husbands. Finally on June 17, Lt. Col. Garcia wrote the families expressing his regret that "I do fear of (sic) their lives to Communist terrorists for giving vital information to the military."

This account confirmed to the wives that their husbands were indeed murdered while in custody.

On June 11, about a kilometer away from the headquarters two male teenagers found three charred bodies in a common grave. Although the bodies were beyond recognition, remnants of clothing confirmed their identities as those of the missing farmers. □

# School Blues For Teachers And Students



School has been in progress for two and a half months in the Philippines and the crunch of high tuition fees has slammed hard on parents and their school-age children. On the other end, teachers are submerged in the grind of underpaid jobs.

The Ministry of Education and Culture (MEC) projected a total enrollment of 12.3 million students. Like past trends, the biggest enrollment is in the elementary level. Most school-age children never make it past that level for financial reasons. Despite the number of enrollees, 7.5 million are out-of-school.

In the school year 1977-78, an estimated P4,000 annually was spent by the government for each student. With the present Education budget at P4.3 billion divided by a school-age population of 19,851,000, an average of only P317 can be allotted per student this school year.

## TEACHERS GET RAW DEAL

Historically, teachers have been among the lowest-paid professional workers. According to the Ministry of Labor, the basic pay for college teachers is P300 a month. Public school teachers have a basic pay of P564 a month. On these salaries, with the current cost of living what is, teachers can hardly make ends meet. Many take to sideline jobs as selling sweepstake tickets, cosmetics, underwear, etc.

Teachers consider themselves the most overworked yet underpaid public servants. After school, they must bring home preparation work, for which they are not paid. Their pay also gets a slashing from endless unauthorized extracurricular activities of the school.

One of the biggest disadvantages teachers face is that they are prohibited by Article 244 of the Labor Code from unionizing. □

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