

SHAM 'PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY'

Limited Elections, Referendum Set

By SAMUEL P. BAYANI

In a new move to further circumvent the increasing sentiment for the restoration of democratic processes like genuine elections, Marcos has declared he may call "limited elections" in May 1977 to choose the members of a constitutional assembly.



Referendums under martial law have been stage-managed by Marcos and the Military like the one above in 1975. (AK file photo)

Marcos has also hinted he may hold another referendum on October 17, ostensibly for the purpose of referring current national issues to the people. Moreover, the referendum (continued on page 3)

DANTE, CORPUS CAPTURED

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NPA OFFENSIVE IN LUZON

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Miting de Avance, Pickets Slated for Sept. 22

Miting de avances, dinner forums, speak-outs, marches and pickets will be held in at least nine cities in the U.S. and three cities in Canada as anti-martial law forces all over North America lash back at the Marcos regime on September 22, fourth anniversary of martial law.

In a statement, the AMLC said that martial law must be lifted and genuine free elections held to allow the Filipino people to democratically decide how they want the Philippines governed and by whom.

The AMLC coordinator, Rene Cruz, indicated that various anti-martial law forces are "going all-out for September 22." To explain the demand and to mobilize for the events, local alliances are holding house meetings, distributing thousands of leaflets and activating numerous sympathizers.

In some of the actions, actual balloting to approve the demand for immediate elections will take place and the results presented by delegation to the Philippine consulate.

For a list of the nation-wide activities, see ON THE FRONT column inside.



PILIPINO PEOPLE'S FAR WEST CONVENTION ANNUAL CONFAB TARGETS DISCRIMINATION

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Supreme Court Decision Against Hotel

I-Hotel Tenants Brace for Eviction



By FRANCISCO OCAMPO and SHERRY VALPARAISO

SAN FRANCISCO — "The sheriff can come any day now and post pink slips . . . five days later, the eviction will start. But we won't move . . . there is no place to go anyway," was the response of the 60-some elderly tenants of the I-Hotel to the State Supreme Court's refusal, September 3, to review Judge Brown's ruling against the International Hotel tenants.

Implicit in the court's refusal to hear the appeal is that eviction proceedings can begin. Four Seas,

the latest owner of the I-Hotel, has already begun to seize on this opportunity by submitting a writ of execution to the S.F. Sheriff's Department.

"But you, us, the people can stop the eviction . . . we can all step forward and say, 'Stop these rich big businesses from moving in on us . . . we can save International Hotel,'" explained the 66-year-old tenant who has lived in this hotel since the late 20's.

Thus continues the 8-year old struggle to save (continued on page 6)

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(KDP) Union of Democratic Filipinos

KDP is a mass organization based in the US and is committed primarily to the struggle for the basic and long-term needs of the Filipino people, both in the Philippines and here in America.

Because of this, KDP supports the struggle of the Filipino people against the Marcos dictatorship and pledges to help build a broad-based movement among Filipinos in the US to oppose martial law.

However, KDP sees that the root cause of all the misery and poverty in the Philippines is the imperialist control, exercised principally by the U.S., over the economy and politics of the country. The Filipino people can solve this basic problem only through long and difficult revolutionary struggle for a truly genuine democratic and independent Philippines.

Here in the US, KDP is committed to struggling for the democratic rights of the Filipino minority. Katipunan views the racial and national discrimination experienced by the Filipino people, as part of and stemming from, the monopoly capitalist system in the US. KDP members understand that the US government is in fact, not democratic, but in the hands of a tiny minority of monopoly industrialists and bankers.

KDP sees that the people of the U.S. also need fundamental, revolutionary change to solve the basic ills that plague American society. The Katipunan understands that the working class must firmly control the government before it can rightfully be termed a government "of the people and for the people."

KDP sees that greater numbers of Filipinos are coming to these same political understandings. KDP is an organization open to all who agree with our political programme. In addition, KDP is committed to working in close cooperation with all progressive Filipinos to build a strong Filipino people's movement in America.

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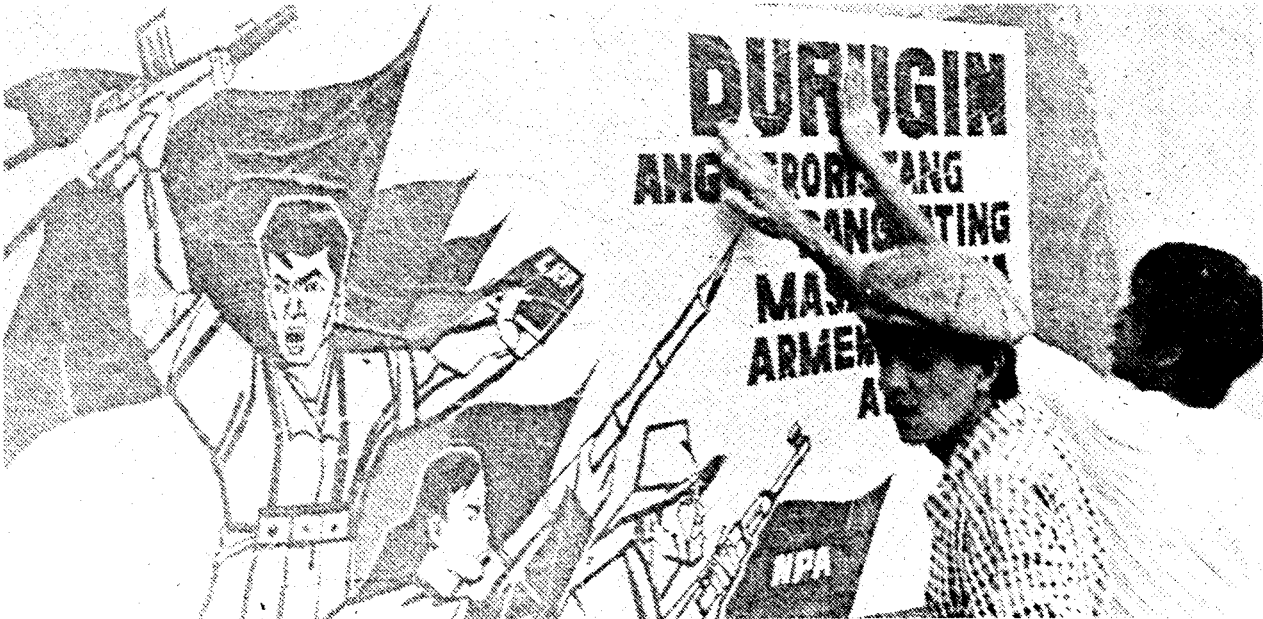
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EDITORIAL

4 YEARS OF MARTIAL LAW

What Will It Take To Topple The Dictatorship?



Before martial law, there was already a growing support for the armed struggle led by the New

People's Army. Posters such as these were common sights in the country. (AK file photo)

By KDP NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

Over these last four years of martial law in the Philippines, many forms of resistance have demonstrated the people's intense opposition to martial law and resolve to win their freedom and independence. Workers, students and clergy have taken to the streets to protest the denials of the right to strike and freedom of speech and press. An underground movement continues to produce newspapers and leaflets explaining the real conditions of the country. Political opposition leaders have spoken out against the institution of a one-man dictatorship and the abolition of free elections. This opposition has mounted despite a martial law regime which jails, tortures and even murders those who oppose it.

Now, as we approach the conclusion of the fourth year of the Philippine martial law and the people's resistance to it, many have asked, "What will it take to topple the dictatorship?" We in KDP believe in the long run, it will be the armed resistance in the Philippine countryside that will prove the most important and effective form of resistance to end the Marcos regime.

The martial law dictatorship is a rule by arms. Marcos was able to seize complete power overnight only because of his control over the military to enforce his dictatorial rule. In the four years of public protest in the Philippines and international condemnation, Marcos has moved to "cover" his image, but not to change his regime. Thus, he must be fought not only through public opinion and education — but with the force of arms.

Only through an armed resistance can the Filipino people actually topple the U.S.-backed Marcos dictatorship. Today it is the New People's Army and the Bangsa Moro Army which have taken up this heroic task. Their blows against the Marcos dictatorship have been the most substantial weakening of the dictatorship through the consistent and steady wearing down the defeat of the Marcos military forces.

But can these guerrilla armies really defeat the U.S.-backed Marcos troops? Obviously the Marcos troops are well armed and trained by the U.S. government. And if these U.S. backed Philippine troops were unable to defeat the guerrilla forces, then it is certainly conceivable from past experience, that the U.S. may directly intervene.

But the Marcos and U.S. armies have a big weakness, an "achilles heel" which has brought the inevitable downfall of many a U.S.-supported dictatorship. These armies represent the political interests of a tiny handful of landlords, oligarchs and foreign investors. When the Marcos troops enter a barrio, they are hated and feared. Their leadership and troops are known for their drunken-

ess, corruption, abuse of women, and defense of landlord interests.

The NPA represents just the opposite. They are a consciously political army, with not just a military perspective, but also one of organizing the people. Contrary to the empty promises of the Marcos "land reform", the NPA has a political program of agrarian revolution which actually conducts immediate struggles to reduce the land rent and abolish usury wherever they are active. Additionally the NPA redistributes land altogether where they have military control. The NPA is "new in the sense of its discipline, dedication to the people's interests and respect for the masses. It is the people's support that is their most valuable weapon.

Thus, despite the vast differences in arms and supplies between the people's army and the Marcos government the guerrilla armies have a strength which cannot be underestimated. This strength is the support of the Filipino people.

The NPA is not a handful of conspirators, disgruntled ex-politicians, bandits, or idealistic youth as the Marcos regime attempts to characterize it. The NPA is an army with a political program of national liberation, land for the tillers, and democratic coalition government of all those active in the liberation movement. It is an army whose program speaks to the fundamental problems which martial law has further aggravated. It is an army whose actions speak not of idealism, but of the down to earth realities of fighting the dictatorship and learning to win. It is an army whose source of membership and life are the people themselves who have voluntarily joined the armed struggle in thousands since the declaration of martial law.

This is the struggle which has produced leaders of the resistance such as Commander Dante and Victor Corpus, whose recent arrests are indeed a loss to the heroic resistance movement. But it is the Filipino people and their struggle which has produced and tested such leaders, and will surely continue to do so. Despite these arrests, the NPA continues undaunted and has already proven itself to be a nation-wide guerrilla army operating in all parts of the Philippines with strong local leadership.

All the resistance to the Philippine dictatorship is welcomed and needed. But we are convinced that history will bear out the truth that the New People's Army is the most valuable weapon that we, the Filipino people have in our struggle for genuine independence and freedom. In this fourth anniversary of the imposition of martial law, we believe the fact to be undeniable.

**Down with the U.S.-Marcos dictatorship!
Long live the armed resistance
of the Filipino People!**



Buod ng mga Balita

(Gist of the News)

NUNS PROTEST DISTORTION OF NEWS

MANILA—The Association of Major Religious Superiors of Women in the Philippines (AMRSWP) lodged a protest against the deliberate distortion of the facts by the Marcos government when it published a news story last month carrying the banner "Nuns Vow Support of the Military." In a letter to President Marcos, the nuns accused the government-controlled papers of misleading the people by making them believe that the religious supports the military regime.

Earlier, the nuns were invited by the military to discuss the conditions of the detainees at the Bicutan Detention Center in Taguig, Rizal which has recently been the scene of protest and assaults (see last issue of the AK, August 15-31, 1976). The nuns turned down the invitation stating that the meetings are just "exercises in futility." (Source: Philippine Times) □

PARITY—JAPANESE STYLE

MANILA—The Marcos government has recently announced a proposal that will replace the controversial "Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and Navigation" with Japan which is due to expire the end of this year. The expiring treaty, a target of protests from church groups, nationalist business people, and concerned citizens, allowed for deeper and wider domination of Japanese interests into the Philippine economy. The same treaty has been shelved by the Philippine Senate year after year since 1960, during the Carlos Garcia regime when it was first proposed, because of its outrageous lopsidedness in favor of Japanese big business. The treaty was, however, quietly ratified by the martial law government in December 1973, a move never made public until recently.

The provisions of the new proposal have not been disclosed either. Rather, diversionary publicity on particular "kinks" in the trade relationship have been emphasized. These include the unilateral decision of Japan to cut back its import of Philippine copper, increased refining fees and smelter charges for the Philippines, and the practice of Japanese fishing vessels of intruding into Philippine waters.



The Philippine and Japanese trade missions meet (above) to revise the unpopular R.P.-Japan Treaty of Commerce, Friendship, and Navigation which allowed for the penetration of Japanese capital in the Philippine economy. (AK file photo)

The Marcos government, while expressing "concern over the alien encroachment into Philippine sovereignty" meanwhile, obscures the fact that it was the martial law government that gave the Japanese its privileged position in the first place by ratifying the unpopular treaty despite mass protest.

Japan has deeply entrenched itself in Philippine economy and has been the "Top Trade Partner" in 1975, accounting for almost a third (31.8 percent) of total Philippine trade. It has also emerged as the biggest single source of financing for firms registered with the Board of Investments. The extent of Japanese penetration is incomparable with the U.S., though, which still controls about 80 percent of the total foreign investments in the country. □

MILITARY SPENDING PUTS BUDGET IN THE RED

MANILA—The more than two-fold build-up of the Armed Forces of the Philippines since the declaration of martial law four years ago has begun to overload the national budget, reports U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The report, prepared for the World Bank (the largest single source for "economic" loans of the Marcos regime), blames the 1976 deficit projections of between \$400 million to \$1 billion on increased military spending. Defense spending is now 16 percent of the total budget and is expected to rise to over 20 percent by 1978.

The build-up, directed at the Bangsa Moro Army in the south and the New People's Army, both of which continuously challenge the Marcos military, is based on a strategy of "self-reliance" against internal threats as the U.S. cuts back its military presence physically in Asia. (Source: Pacific News Service—New Asia News) □

POLICE GETS SALARY INCREASE, LEGAL AID

MANILA—The minimum pay for the 43,000-strong Integrated National Police (INP) was increased from P267 to P353 a month in addition to various allowances they are already enjoying. In line with the military build-up the martial law government is undertaking, Marcos also pledged continued support for modernization of its arms and equipment, "so that it will be the equal of the best police forces in the world." At present, the INP has P5.3 million worth of ordinance materials that include 89 patrol vehicles, 259 motorcycles, 1800 service revolvers and .38 caliber ammunition, several radio sets, firefighting equipment, two helicopters, and one light plane.

Meanwhile, in an effort to further assure the military of its privileged position in the martial law regime, President Marcos authorized the appropriation of P2 million to provide legal assistance to INP members facing charges before fiscals and courts. □

Resistance Continues Undaunted

COMMANDER DANTE, VICTOR CORPUS CAPTURED



Victor Corpus



Commander Dante

By FRANCISCO OCAMPO

MANILA—Two leading members of the New People's Army (NPA) were captured recently by the Philippine martial law government. Nabbed were Bernabe Buscayno, alias "Commander Dante," member of the National Operational Command of the NPA and Victor Corpus, staff member on military training for the NPA.

Sketchy reports on the arrests are contradictory and do not give reliable accounts on how the captures were conducted. Apparently, Commander Dante was captured in

Mexico, Pampanga, about 45 miles north of Manila, by Philippine Constabulary (PC) and National Intelligence Security Agency (NISA) operatives; but the place as to where Corpus was captured is still undisclosed up to press time.

Commander Dante, with a \$21,500 "dead or alive" price tag on his head, "appeared to still be a rebel, even as his captors put the cuffs on him and led him away," noted a Bulletin Today correspondent. The paper further noted: "Performing a public duty even in captivity, as he parried questions from interroga-

tors . . . (he answers) 'Ano ang kabutihan na maidudulot niyan sa masa kung sasagutin ko?' (What benefit will that bring to the masses if I answer that question?)"

Then, in steadfast candor, Dante pointed out, "I would rather die than reveal any information on the others."

Meanwhile, Marcos readily seized the situation to launch a "psych-war" calculated to undermine the intransigent resistance to his regime. He declared that "This just about eliminates the New People's Army." In the same breath, he talked about the possibility of giving amnesty to the "lower level members of the Party following the capture of its leadership" to demoralize the New People's Army and its popular support. His statement was later contradicted by General Fabian Ver, in charge of internal security and the Presidential Security Battalion, who had a better assessment of the NPA. The 120,000 member NPA (Marcos government estimate), admitted General Ver, has more militant members to fill in the positions left open by Commander Dante and Victor Corpus. Even the PC authorities at Camp Olivas, operations base of the Marcos military in Central Luzon, pointed to Commander Bilog, a former UP professor and another leading NPA member, as a possible replacement to carry the resistance to the Marcos dictatorship. □

Sham Elections, Referendum...

(continued from front page)

dum will be preceded by "informal consultations" with the people, the first of which took place on September 11, declared "Baranggay Day" and not coincidentally Marcos birthday.

These elaborate exercises (as Marcos himself termed them) have been contrived to give a semblance of "participatory democracy" to his one-man military rule. No one has any doubts as the outcome of these motions of "grass-roots democracy."

The following questions have been "suggested" for the October referendum, the fourth since martial law was declared in 1972: Do you want martial law lifted? Do you want to convene the interim National Assembly? If not, do you want to create a new body with legislative powers? Do you want such a body to exercise full legislative powers? If not, do you want such a body to be given limited legislative powers as may be determined by the President in a decree?

Voting in the referendum according to Marcos may be done through secret balloting or through show of hands. If past experience is any indication, it isn't much of a choice. Secret balloting was used in the third referendum which was marked by wide-spread fraud while the show of hands



The Marcoses cast their vote in the third referendum, which asked "Do you want martial law lifted?" That referendum, as well as the two that preceded it, was marked by wide-spread fraud. (AK file photo)

method was used in the first referendum which was characterized by open terrorism of the population.

The referendum lays the scenario for the Marcos' "piece de resistance"—the new legislative assembly. To thwart the demand of legal oppositionists like Diosdado Macapagal for the convening of the ad interim assembly as provided in the 1973 constitution, Marcos has originally created the Sangguniang Pambansa. As initially conceived, the Sangguniang Pambansa (National Legislative Advisory Council) would draw its representation from the baranggay, cabinet and governor ranks, all of whom have "appointive

tenures. The limited success of this ill-disguised move to bypass the ad interim assembly has prompted the regime to refine its maneuvers. Now it has proposed limited elections to choose members of a new legislative assembly.

The obvious emptiness of these gestures was unwittingly confirmed by Marcos himself who warned that he will "cancel the whole exercise (sic) and maintain the present form of government indefinitely" if "the evils of the old society return." This statement from the dictator is one of the best proofs to the truism that no genuine elections can take place under martial law. □

Pagbabalikwas (In revolt)



NPA LAUNCH OFFENSIVE IN LUZON

The NPA appears to be launching an offensive in Luzon. In the first week of August, 1976, an NPA detachment wiped out a squad of the Philippine Constabulary in northeastern Luzon. Three weeks later, the same week of Dante's capture, the government forces had a running encounter with a large group of NPA in Luzon. These two clashes were reported by correspondent Bernard Wideman to the Washington Post in its August 30, 1976 issue.

In his report, Wideman also said that the Marcos claim that the capture of Dante and Corpus had broken the back of the insurgency seems to be an overstatement. Wideman stated: "A basic strength of the Communist Party is that it is highly decentralized, with the success or failure of the movement determined by the hundreds of 6 to 12 man 'armed propaganda units' operating throughout the country."

Each of these units operates on its own at the village level, organizing the peasants while dispensing medical treatment,

agricultural assistance and imposing land reform.

"Above these units are provincial committees, supervised sub-regional committees, regional committees, and then the Central Committee."

Wideman then quotes a PC colonel as saying that it does no good killing provincial chairmen, because "as soon as you kill one, someone takes his place."

Wideman believes that the same will probably hold true for replacing Dante and Corpus. □

3,000 SACADAS MARCH IN NEGROS

BACOLOD CITY—Three thousand sacadas (sugar plantation workers) marched for two days during labor day, May 1 to demand a genuine land reform program from the Marcos government.

According to NASSA News, the newspaper of the National Secretariat of Social Action, Justice and Peace, the march started April 30 and was participated by sacadas from various plantations in the island and their families. The mass action reflects the strong unity and organization of the sacadas.

Very conservative estimates claimed that 3,000 participated but the sacadas estimated their number at 7,000. □

NPA SCORES IN 3 PROVINCES

CENTRAL LUZON—More than 45 enemy Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) troopers were killed by the New People's Army (NPA) in separate encounters, reports Himagsik (May issue). The NPA is turning the tables successfully on the massive AFP counterinsurgency campaign in the mountainous regions of Pampanga, Bataan and Zambales.

On March 8, 40 enemy troopers were wiped out in a battle in Tukop, Dinalupihan, Bataan. Himagsik recounts that many policemen and Civil Home Defense Force (CHDF) members invented excuses to avoid getting mobilized for the encounter which lasted from 11 AM to 5 PM.

On April 8, a Philippine Constabulary (PC) commando was killed and two others seriously wounded in a mountainside operation launched in Zambales by the mercenary troopers. After fleeing from the clash, the PC and Air Force survivors vented their anger on the Aeta settlers,

looting and beating up the menfolk.

In Kamatsiles, Florida Blanca, Pampanga, two PC soldiers and a civilian informer were liquidated by the NPA on May 5-6. Two other enemy elements sustained grave injuries. □

LUNETA FRUSTRATES MILITARY INTERROGATORS

QUEZON CITY—Jose Luneta, an alleged member of the Communist Party of the Philippines and one of those arrested in January 1976 (See AK, Feb. 26-March 25, 1976 issue), frustrated his military interrogators who were unable to extract any information from him even after subjecting him intensively to all of the tortures the military could think of. He has been confined at the V. Luna General Hospital, when this report was made, because of the tortures and severe physical injuries since his arrest. Luneta steadfastly withstood the tortures like the application of electric shocks in various parts of his body; he was even wrapped in a mat and was left under the parching heat of the sun at high noon. □

PORTRAIT OF TWO REVOLUTIONARIES

COMMANDER DANTE

It is hard to separate the man from the legend. Commander Dante, the dedicated, tough guerrilla fighter who led other peasant guerrillas in a revolution in the countryside is a folk-hero. Although his feats as a people's fighter are legendary, few facts are known about him.

MABUHAY
SI

DANTE



An original Katipunan member [organization that led the revolution against Spain and the U.S.] speaks at a 1970 rally. Behind him is the slogan "Long Live Dante!" (AK photo)

A guerrilla since he was 16, Dante or Bernabe Buscayno came from a poor peasant family in Tarlac. His father was a member of the Hukbalahap (Hukbo ng Bayan Laban sa Hapon), the peasant-based anti-Japanese army which was later transformed to the HMB (Hubong Mapagpalaya ng Bayan) or People's Liberation Army, to fight the landlords who had returned after the war to reclaim the land. Buscayno grew up in the midst of this agrarian discontent and resistance and was undoubtedly shaped by them. There are stories of him already acting as a courier for the Huks even as a child.

As a young Huk, Buscayno alias Dante displayed an uncompromising stand in his loyalty to the interests of the people. The old Communist Party was then under the opportunist leadership of Pedro Taruc, a distant relative of Luis Taruc, who took over the party after the arrest of Jesus Lava in 1964. The HMB was under Commander Sumulong, under whose leadership the Huks had degenerated into roving rebels. In pursuit of quick military victories despite the relative weakness of the people's forces to the government troops, the Huks suffered defeat after defeat. Worst still, the harassed guerrillas used coercion and thereby transformed themselves from the people's army to bandits.

Dante was one of the few Huks who militantly criticized this counter-revolutionary trend. It was a brave thing for the young guerrilla to do since Commander Sumulong made a practice of liquidating those who dared to speak against his leadership.

By the late '60s the mass criticism of the Taruc-Sumulong leadership had grown into a full-scale repudiation movement. The move to cleanse the Communist Party and revitalize it culminated in its re-establishment on December 26, 1968. Dante was one of

the founding charter members of the new CPP, together with other revolutionaries forged in the mass movement.

On March 29, 1969, three months after the Party was re-established, the people's guerrilla forces were re-organized under the re-established Party's leadership into the New People's Army. In rectification of its past roving rebel practice, a rectification document "New People's Army and the Rules of the NPA" was also promulgated. This document describes Dante's role in the rectification movement which led to the creation of the NPA: "At the same time, within the people's army, Commander Dante, with the late Comrade Delio, struggled hard to put other red commanders and fighters on the revolutionary path, continued to wage armed struggle most militantly and fostered the revolutionary spirit of serving the people and making the red fighters merge with the people, like fish with the water. Today the efforts of the overwhelming majority of red commanders and fighters led by Commander Dante who remain ever faithful to the people's democratic revolution . . . are crowned with the transformation of the old Hukbong Mapagpalaya ng Bayan into the NPA . . ."

It was this exemplary courage and unswerving loyalty to the interests of the revolution that captured the imagination of the masses. Stories about him spread from barrio to barrio. His name is a household word amongst the peasants in Central Luzon. The townspeople of Concepcion, Tarlac, Dante's hometown, proudly refer to their town as "Dante's town." The youth rallied around his image as a revolutionary. In the height of the revolutionary upsurge in the cities in the early '70s, student activists, workers could often be heard shouting "Mabuhay si Dante" in mass rallies and demonstrations.

Stories, songs, and poems were woven around his feats. One such poem, "Commander Dante, Head of the New People's Army" by Clarita Roja describes how he outwitted the PC.

Near Mt. Arayat, a few years back,
Commander Dante is said to have eluded
An air-tight enemy dragnet.
It had been drizzling all day,
And a dozen settlers living on the foothills

Had just refused through torture after torture
To say what it was that they knew of the revolution
And the head of the New People's Army.
And so, moving like polar bears in tropical country,
The huge wet-through PC troops

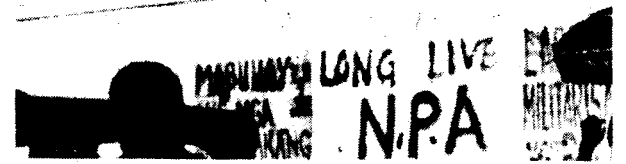
Overtuned every leaf and branch and pebble
In search for their quarry.
They wasted round upon round of ammunition
Shooting up the cicadas
Chirping innocently up in the trees;

But refused to dirty their olive drabs
In the murky pool that lay silently in wait.
It took twelve hours, a dozen maimed or killed and
Three dead cicadas before they gave up the
futile quest.

But listen, carefully now, to the rest of the story:

Minutes after they had trudged wearily away,
The murky pool stirred, revealing
A small lithe figure:
Commander Dante, straw plant between lips,
Smiling the victory of the revolution.

Sixteen years and 15,000 troops later, the wily, elusive red fighter has been captured. But even in captivity, he lives up to the legend. Steadfast and fearless in the face of fascist terror, (like one performing a public duty commented the Marcos press) he declared: "I would rather die than inform on my comrades in the revolutionary movement." □



VICTOR CORPUS

(AK photo)

"It is against my dignity, honor and sense of patriotism to serve the oppressive and exploitative interest of U.S. imperialism and the local ruling classes by being a member of the reactionary and puppet Armed Forces of the Philippines. I consider it abominable to be part of the principal state apparatus now brutally suppressing the broad masses of the people in both the cities and countryside." With these words, the Philippine Constabulary lieutenant, Victor Corpus defected to the New People's Army on December 29, 1970 to "break his servitude and cast his lot with the revolutionary forces in the country."

His defection climaxed with the successful raid on the armory of Fort Del Pilar (known as the Philippine Military Academy) in Baguio City. With split-second precision, the well-executed raid confiscated a total of 43 high-powered weapons and several thousand rounds of ammunition. Corpus, officer-of-the-day in the Academy that particular night, played a leading role in the raid.

Victor Corpus had an outstanding record in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). He was one of the top graduates of the Philippine Military Academy in 1967. After graduation, he took airborne and special forces training under the PC Officers Training School. He was recognized as one of the leading experts in all hand and shoulder weapons in the entire AFP. Before becoming a faculty member of the Philippine Military Academy, he served as a PC detachment officer in Cavite, a PC ranger, a Metrocom officer, and a special guard of the Bantay arson victims.

Even during his student days at the Academy, Corpus developed a profound sentiment for revolutionary change in an oppressive and exploitative society. In response to a letter of a former senior classmate at the academy, Corpus replied, "It is a well-known fact, sir, that wealth in this country is concentrated in the hands of a few and a wide chasm separates the rich 'elite' and the teeming millions of the countrymen who are poor. This is what we call the inequitable social system, the unjust society. This is the effect of a semi-feudal and semi-colonial society like ours and this is the condition that breeds revolution." As he stayed longer in the AFP, he "saw all kinds of corruption and dishonesty (even from the PMA cadets), greed, selfishness, immorality, and hypocrisy . . . It is in the NPA where I found the most noble, the most selfless people I have never seen in the AFP . . ."

Corpus' wife explains the reason for his defection. "To part with your loved one . . . your wife and your first-born who is barely a month old is not an easy thing to do," she said, ". . . (but) it always hurt him before to be an armed instrument of the state that oppresses..." □

FILIPINO COMMUNITY

SEATTLE FAR WEST CONVENTION:

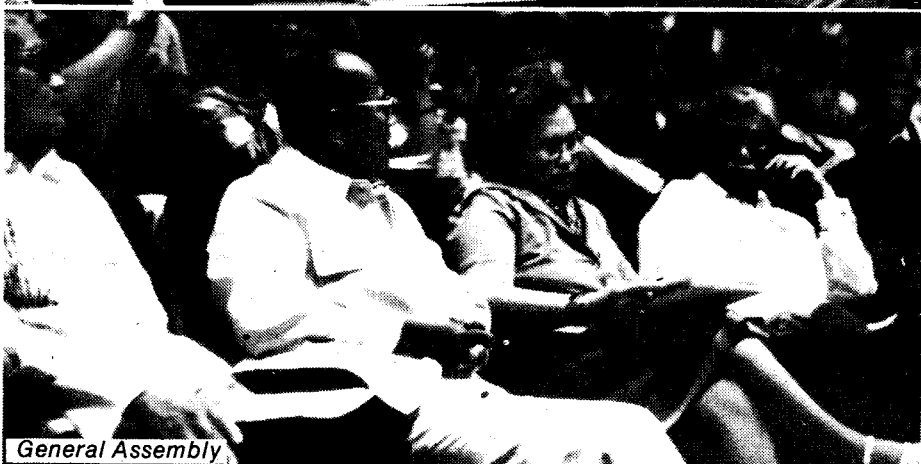
West Coast Filipinos Unite Against Discrimination



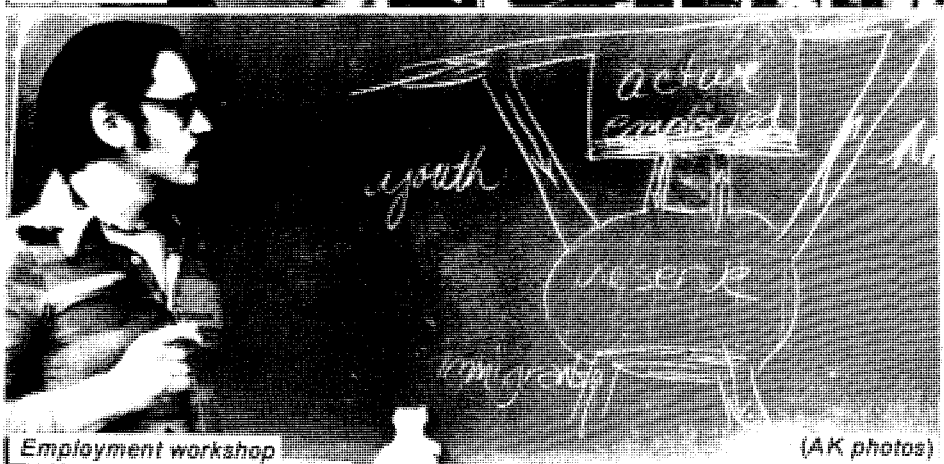
Workshop participants



Registration



General Assembly



Employment workshop

(AK photos)

By TRINITY ORDONA

SEATTLE — Another successful "working convention" was held here Labor Day weekend as hundreds of Filipinos gathered for the 6th annual Filipino People's Far West Convention. Over 600 delegates attended, discussing a wide range of community issues and developing reports and resolutions from the nine workshops held.

Notable among these resolutions were the retention of the West Coast Confederation of Filipino Students and Education Task Force, and the development of locally-initiated committees in the areas of health/medical workers, youth and employment.

A highlight of the Convention was the Saturday night cultural presentation, a joint effort of young performers from Seattle and the S.F. Bay Area. The two-part production chronicled the hardships and experiences of the first Filipino immigrants, followed by a present-day community struggle for decent, low-cost housing. The performance, utilizing original song, dance and drama, won an enthusiastic, standing ovation from the audience. (See next page for detailed report.)

BROAD MOBILIZATION AND SUPPORT

The well-organized 3-day affair began Friday, September 3 with day-long registration and cultural entertainment in the evening. Over 400 delegates came from the Pacific Northwest area alone — Portland, Oregon and Seattle, Tacoma and Yakima in Washington. The local support of the Filipino community in the host city, Seattle, was especially noticeable as 25-30 Filipino organizations endorsed the FWC and gave various forms of support. This included food and money donations as well as active participation in fundraising events and in the Convention itself.

About 200 delegates came from outlying areas as far away as San Diego, Los Angeles, Fresno, and S.F. Bay Area in California and Honolulu, Hawaii. The delegate from Hawaii, Mr. Emil Makuakame afterwards announced his intention to take the "FWC" concept back with him to Hawaii where he hoped to apply it. Makuakame was invited by the FWC Steering Committee to participate in the Housing Workshop as a representative of PACE (People Against Chinatown Eviction), a grass-roots coalition of Honolulu Chinatown residents and storeowners fighting redevelopment.

UNITY AGAINST DISCRIMINATION, CONCERN FOR PHILIPPINES

The Convention was opened Saturday morning by Mr. Leo Lorenzo, I.D. resident and former labor organizer of the ILWU Local 37, who welcomed

everyone in the spirit of "Pag-isahin ang Sambayanan" (Unite the People), the Convention's theme. Mrs. Adelina Domingo, member of the Seattle Filipino Community Council and active leader in the FWC Steering Committee, gave the keynote address.

Citing examples from her own life, Mrs. Domingo explained that discrimination has been an integral part of Filipino experience in America. "My husband was subjected to hardship and racist attacks during the '30s when he first came to America; my sons have been blacklisted from the Alaskan canneries because they spoke out against the bad working and living conditions of minority workers there; and I myself have been consistently passed up for job promotions after years of loyal service," she said. "There is discrimination against Filipinos, and if anyone here disagrees, I will argue with you right now."

Mrs. Domingo then explained that the second point of unity of the FWC was concern for the Philippines. She cited the common practice of Filipinos sending money back home to help out their relatives as a manifestation of that concern. In any case, "whether you came here in the '20s, '40s or '70s, we Filipinos cannot forget our homeland and our loved ones still back in the Philippines," she said. Mrs. Domingo concluded with a rousing call for unity that brought the assembly to its feet with a standing ovation.

The slide show that followed was presented jointly by the FWC Program Committee and the KDP. A brief recounting of Filipino-American history, the presentation spoke to the specific experiences of Filipino immigrants and their children from the '20s, post WWII and present periods. Through the audio-visual materials, it was shown how discrimination has been a consistent experience of Filipinos in America, although its forms have varied from one period to the next. Organizing and fighting against injustice was also a part of Filipino-American experience. The FWC is one of the means used today by the Filipino community to organize and fight for its democratic rights.

WORKSHOPS, PLENARY REPORT

With this overall perspective in mind, the FWC delegates divided into workshops, the heart of the "working convention." For both Saturday and Sunday, discussions were held in the nine areas of: art and culture, youth, students, education, labor, employment, health/medical workers, housing and conditions in the Philippines. (See next issue for detailed report on workshops and resolutions.)

Since various conferences and workshops were held this summer in the areas of students,

education, housing, art and culture, youth and health, most facilitators were well prepared. Several workshops presented delegates with packets of written materials. In some cases, slide shows, skits and short cultural presentations were also utilized. These factors helped focus workshop discussion, allowing adequate time to prepare good reports and resolutions.

The Sunday afternoon plenary was clearly the best indicator of the FWC's "working character." Most delegates attended the 4-hour long session and waited patiently for the resolutions to be typed, mimeographed and distributed. Once the proceedings were underway, the reports and resolutions went smoothly. Four workshops gave educational slide shows, permitting the assembly to gain more insight into their workshop discussions. The student workshop, which made the last report, presented a very entertaining skit on "How the Confederation Grew," bringing laughter and constant applause from the audience.

Just as the plenary was about to conclude, a minor "disruption" occurred when some non-delegates from Seattle wanted to air their criticisms of the FWC. The assembly voted to allow these statements at the end of the plenary. At that time, Tim and J.R. Cordova of the Seattle-based Filipino Youth Activities (FYA) criticized the FWC, and insinuated that it was useless. Although FYA had sponsored the first convention in 1971, the Cordovas, along with other unnamed individuals "Boycotted" the FWC. They said there were "no professionals participating in the FWC" and that the "resolutions were repetitious," never resulting in any concrete actions. The Cordovas' remarks were countered by several Seattle community persons active in the FWC. One of them, Mrs. Doniego, criticized their action as unconstructive and disuniting, since they "could have raised these opinions months ago when the FWC was being organized."

Despite the "disruption," the Seattle FWC ended on the same high note of unity that opened it. San Diego was enthusiastically voted as the site of the 1977 FWC and Cynthia Domingo, chairperson of the Program Committee, gave the closing remarks.

Recalling the months of hard work, sacrifice and struggle on the part of the majority of Filipinos in Seattle, Ms. Domingo said that "unity is priceless...it cannot be bought, but must be worked for." Noting that the Seattle Filipino community had learned this lesson well in its dauntless efforts to host this year's convention, she concluded, it is "this type of unity that makes us strong" and "enables us to fight for our just demands for freedom, justice and equality!"

CULTURAL REVIEW:**'Let Yesterday's Struggles Unite Our People Today'**

By SHERRY VALPARAISO

SEATTLE — The Saturday night cultural performance at the Pilipino People's Far West Convention September 4, proved to be another spectacular hit with the dual production of "Isuda Ti Immuna — Those Who Came First" and "Tagatupad — Those Who Must Carry On."

Performed before a near-capacity crowd in Kane Hall at the University of Washington, the plays highlighted the theme of the convention, "Pagisahin ang Sambayanan," with the particular interpretation, "Let Yesterday's Struggle Unite Our People Today."

"Our aim," said director Ermina Vinluan, "was to draw from the struggles of Filipinos in the past in 'Isuda', to inspire our people toward achieving their rights today as dramatized in the fight for low-cost housing in 'Tagatupad'."

Capturing the hard fought struggle for an honest and progressive leadership in the Alaskan cannery union, the last scenes in Isuda, set in Seattle, aroused tremendous response, particularly from those who themselves or their parents had been active in Union organizing. The comical portrayal of the character Gorospe, corrupt union president while drawing lots of laughter, hit a nerve of seriousness among those who are all too aware of the corruption which currently prevails in the union. "Isuda" ends on a high note however, when the Filipino workers through their determination to organize an honest union, win the election.

TAGATUPAD — THOSE WHO MUST CARRY ON

After "Isuda" the focus of the struggle is shifted to the contemporary conditions of the Filipino community in "Tagatupad." This original stage play is set in the International District in Seattle where the Manongs and other elderly tenants are in the midst of the battle to fight eviction.

Scene one opens with a discussion between Manong Benny and Terri, a Filipino-American youth about the need to arouse the entire Filipino community to fight for low-income housing. Suddenly Andres, an immigrant youth runs in, fleeing



"Isuda" (left) depicting the struggles of the early Filipino immigrant shows them as young Pinoys fighting off a racist attack; "Tagatupad," (right) portrays the fight of the elderly Asians in Seattle's International District against commercial redevelopment at the expense of the community. (AK photo)



from the police and a gang fight. Andres begins to get a sense that here is something more important to fight for. Later, Manong Nicolas rushes in with the news of eviction notices for residents of the hotel.

The following scene set at a dress rehearsal at Terri's dance troupe is a creative integration of the beautiful Filipino cultural arts. Terri, who is late for rehearsal, explains her involvement in the ID. She is lectured by her teacher who utters the infamous words, "There is nothing more important than Filipino dance, it is your heritage!"

Despite the teacher's narrow point of view, many from the troupe are won over to the importance of fighting the evictions.

The last two scenes depict the growing support to

fight the eviction and the play ends on the day of eviction when the residents, supporters and community link hands to defend the hotel.

"Tagatupad", which received a standing ovation, was loaded with highlights too numerous to mention. Particularly notable however, was the excellent portrayal of Manong Benny played by 17-year-old Leo Arevalo whose portrayal of a "Manong" was very realistic. Not only were the characters portrayed with much authenticity, but the issues and dynamics of the Filipino community that were dramatized are very real.

The realism of "Tagatupad" is a tribute to the Seattle Filipino community and is indicative of its deep sense of involvement, commitment, and unity to solve its problems. □

I-HOTEL EVICTION...

(continued from front page)

(AK photo)

I-Hotel Tenants Association (IHTA) and various support organizations and individuals have exhausted all of the legal channels available to save the hotel, their spirits are still high. Even when they saw Judge Ira Brown's bias against them when he reversed a 7-5 jury opinion in favor of the tenants last April 30; even after Sheriff Hongisto, who will be executing the eviction, had lambasted the tenants and the supporters by calling the hotel a "flea bag" — their determination is even stronger because they know that these few individuals are not the decisive factors but it is the tenants, supporters and the community who will have the last say in this struggle.

Recognizing that their strength hinges on a consolidated organization that can insure the right direction for the struggle and correct assessments of the day-to-day work involved, an organization

that can mobilize the largest and broadest support, the tenants and supporters, during a recent meeting, mapped out their strategy and tactics. Plans of action were particularized to the minutest detail. Provisions for food, medical care, internal and external security, publicity and outreach, etc. have been made. The plan was broken down into various stages of work including general preparations, five day posting period, sixth day until eviction and Eviction Day to focus and systematize their approach to the struggle.

The planning was so well-calculated that one of the Chinese tenants remarked in amazement, "I have never seen a well-organized plan such as this, I am sure we will win."

At the same meeting the basic strategy to save the hotel was reiterated: "We have to expose the city's inability to provide a basic necessity of its residents — decent, low-income housing; expose the so-called 'redevelopment' as a scheme for big businesses to move in and take over communities like ours, Chinatown-Manilatown. This encroachment into our communities has to stop, and it is us, the people who can do it."

Emil DeGuzman, an active supporter of the Hotel struggle, elaborating on this point, said: "Our tactic is to set a precedent by demanding from the city to exercise its power of eminent domain to purchase the hotel and then sell it to the tenants for continued management. The welfare of the people must come first before the business interests of a few corporations."

"Massive public pressure is needed to force the city to follow through on its promises to provide safe, decent, and suitable housing within the community." DeGuzman continued, "On one hand, Mayor Moscone has failed to move effectively on his proposals, and it appears that the Board of Supervisors and the financial community have been trying to block our efforts to purchase the hotel."

The International Hotel needs your support — join the various committees organized to assist in this struggle, link up with the phone tree set up to mobilize thousands of supporters in a matter of minutes. Attend the demonstrations, pickets, rallies to save the I-Hotel and expose the anti-people trends in this government. Call (415) 982-1783 and 982-4249 for more information. □

MEDICAL WORKERS' FORM ALLIANCEBy NONIE ESPIRITU
AK Correspondent

The Alliance of Health Professionals has recently been formed, marking a major breakthrough in rallying major sectors in the health professions, like physicians, dentists, nurses, pharmacists, medical technologists, dietitians, x-ray technicians. Coming together in a medical workers' workshop organized by the Emergency Defense Committee for Foreign Medical Graduates (EDC-FMG), in San Francisco last August 22, representatives of these sectors met and analyzed, for the first time, the difficulties that faced them in practicing their professions.

Several facts were established in the workshop:

1) That foreign-educated professionals were allowed to immigrate freely into this country; 2) when these professionals get here, licensure policies make it difficult for them to practice their professions. This problem is particularly chronic in California; 3) that in most instances, it is necessary to go back to school but that these foreign-educated professionals can afford neither the time nor the money (most having families to support); 4) that there are no refresher courses sponsored by the Board of Examiners; 5) that any existing training programs are inadequate and have limited admissions; 6) that racial and national discrimination is one of the underlying causes of the above difficulties.

In recent years, such discrimination has erupted in blatant forms. For example, foreign dental graduates take an extra exam as compared to U.S. graduates; and in an extreme form, foreign-trained pharmacists are not even allowed to take the licensure exam!

Recognizing that racial and national discrimination has hampered the advancement of Filipinos in their profession and integration into the mainstream of American health care, the Alliance was formed.

At present, the Alliance is doing extensive research into the licensure and job placement problems of each sector. The results of this investigation will be presented at a statewide-wide conference (date to be announced later).

The Alliance is open to all Filipino health professionals and concerned citizens as well as non-Filipinos who are faced with the same problems. For contribution of materials for the research, or for information, contact: Nonie Espiritu (ad hoc chairperson): (415) 655-8849; 4007 Howe St., Oakland, CA 94611. □

DESPITE COMMUNITY PROTEST**TAFT Board Plans Revamp of History Slide Show**

At the Aug. 11 presentation of the TAFT-ESAA slideshow, the audience of over 150 students, community persons and educators overwhelmingly supported what many called an "accurate and vital document on Filipino-American History." Ms. Salud Mallare (center), questions the perspective of the slideshow.

(AK photo)



By SHERRY VALPARAISO

SAN FRANCISCO — "The slideshow is our responsibility and we will not make commitments to anyone as to its final content."

This was the stand of the Board of the Association of Filipino Teachers (TAFT) at a meeting held August 28, 1976 on the controversial slideshow on Filipino history.

The dispute between the TAFT-ESAA staff and the TAFT Board of Directors revolved around the content and perspective of the slideshow on Filipino-American history which was developed as curriculum material for the secondary schools. According to one staff member of the TAFT-ESAA project, "the issue is whether we are going to deal with the role of discrimination in Filipino History." The controversy broke open at the close of the one year project when the Board heatedly rejected the slideshow saying it was "anti-American, promoted hatred towards the white Americans and was anti-Marcos."

The three-part slideshow covering "Colonialism in the Philippines, Filipino Immigration to the United States and Filipino Communities in the United States" was viewed by an audience of 150 Filipinos on August 11, 1976 at St. Patrick's Church. The audience overwhelmingly submitted written reactions to the TAFT Board. However, despite tremendous support and suggestions from students, parents, community organizations and educators that the slide show remain intact, as an important and accurate document, the Board refused to change its stand.

At the August 21 meeting, the TAFT Board made a 2½ hour presentation establishing their legal authority over the slideshow, and laid out their proposed revisions, claiming they need to present an "acceptable product" to HEW, the funding source.

When asked by the *Ang Katipunan* whether the proposed revisions were based on specific objections by HEW, Mrs. Reina Bautista, TAFT Board member admitted that the revisions were based solely on the opinions of the Board.

Following the Board's presentation, many questions were raised as to what had warranted the rash actions on the part of the Board which resulted in the calling in of the police to arrest the staff and the confiscation of the slideshow. An educator in the S.F. schools also questioned the Board's negligence in failing to provide the staff with specific guidelines during the one-year project, only to reject the final product at the end of a year's work. Mrs. Bautista argued that the Board had met with staff on several occasions regarding content. However, after further questioning it was revealed that a quorum from the Board was never present in the meetings because they were too busy.

SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS

While offering no contest to the Board's legal ownership of the slideshow, staff members as well as others present posed suggestions to resolve the issue. Sorcy Rocamora suggested that the Ad Hoc Community Advisory Committee which had been formed in the midst of the controversy be allowed input on the future work on the slideshow to insure that the content is not obscured. Another educator, who was present at the St. Patrick's showing, and felt there was nothing unacceptable about the slide show, proposed that TAFT develop a sequel or supplemental materials rather than revise it.

The most touching statement came from a student consultant to the TAFT-ESAA project. She strongly urged the Board not to change the slideshow, stating: "The students really need this slideshow. You so-called 'sophisticated members of the Filipino community' must not shelter us from the realities of discrimination and the long history of Filipinos struggling to fight racism. Why do you think so many of us go through identity crisis? We must learn our true history in order to deal with society today."

The TAFT Board seemed unconvinced by the student's appeal. While they stated that they will keep the suggestions in mind, they also reiterated that they will not hold themselves accountable to anyone for the final outcome of the slideshow on Filipino history. □

FMG VICTORY**COMMUNITY CELEBRATES REVERSAL OF DISCRIMINATORY RULING**By MARLENE SCHNAPP
AK Correspondent

NEW YORK — Celebrating the recent victory over a discriminatory State Dept. ruling, the Emergency Defense Committee for the Foreign Medical Graduates (EDC-FMG) sponsored a merienda affair August 29, 1976.

The jubilant gathering of both medical and non-medical sectors of the Filipino Community capped the EDC-FMG efforts which have substantially reversed the State Department ruling that would have resulted in the deportation of hundreds of FMGs.

New policies of the State Department and the Immigration and Naturalization Services were handed out to those present. The EDC-FMG pledged to continue their work and announced a proposal for a conference to be held sometime in the fall to discuss other problems within the medical sectors, e.g., licensure problems of nurses.

Dr. Nick Lansigan, past president of the Philippine Medical Association of America (PMAA), delivered the opening remarks, stating that it was broad community support of the FMG issue that was the most essential factor in achieving the victory. He noted that the Filipino community "is reaching a very important stage of maturity in its development as a minority in the U.S. . . . a stage where we will no longer be called a silent minority whose rights can be easily trampled on . . . and this is the greater victory that we have achieved."

A message from Dr. Roberto Cunanan, outgoing president of PMAA was read by Dr. Angelo Macatangay emphasizing the fact that it was not only important that we won the FMG issue. What was undoubtedly important was the common concern for the problem . . . people helping each other." Dr. Macatangay also expressed his personal admiration for the EDC-FMG for being able to assert the democratic rights of the Filipino minority.

Ms. Teresa Rodriguez, KDP, delivered a message of solidarity, pointing out: "This issue brought us face to face with one of the most powerful institutions of the U.S. government — The State Department. It also brought us to confrontation with the highly financed and influential lobbies of



Through a well-coordinated nation-wide campaign, which included educational forums on the FMG issue like the one above in Philadelphia, the EDC-FMG was

able to force the State Dept. and INS to reverse the discriminatory ruling.

(AK photo)

American organized medicine, forces who would disrupt the lives of hundreds of FMGs for the sake of profit." But in the final analysis, Ms. Rodriguez cited, it was the justness of the cause against racial and national discrimination and the unity of the community that achieved the significant victory.

The KDP singers offered a very fitting song for the occasion, "Profits Enslave the World." Slides for the early Filipino immigrants, depicting the history of the Filipinos as a minority in the U.S., were flashed during the singing.

FUTURE PLANS

Ms. Aimee Cruz informally laid out the EDC-FMG proposal for a conference that would serve as an arena for discussion of the various problems that exist among other members of the medical sector. She pointed out that the FMG issue should serve as a searchlight for other problems within the medical field. The conference will provide the necessary

forum where everyone will get a full picture of the issues like the licensure problems of nurses and dieticians. She encouraged everyone to attend a planning meeting for the proposed event.

An open forum followed the proposal and there was general consensus that such a conference is needed to pinpoint the burning issues. Father Teodoro Dizon, a community person from Brooklyn, welcomed the idea and urged the Filipino community to take on the licensure problem of the nurses. Ms. Nelia Isana, a teacher from Brooklyn College, vigorously supported the conference and called on other sectors to participate in the effort. Ms. Isana is presently fighting the City University of New York (C.U.N.Y.) for being unfairly laid off.

The afternoon affair held at the United Nations Church Center in New York City was attended by some 45 people and was held as a gesture of appreciation to the Filipino community for its support of the FMG issue. □

TRIAL SET FOR TWO FILIPINA NURSES



Filipina Narcisco and Leonora Perez, the two nurses being charged with killing five patients and poisoning 10 others at the Ann Arbor VA hospital, need community support in preparation for their Jan. 4 trial. Legal costs are estimated at \$350,000.

ANN ARBOR—In what is expected to be a very controversial case, the trial for the two Filipina nurses, Filipina Narcisco and Leonila Perez, has been scheduled to begin on January 4, 1977.

A Federal grand jury indictment handed down last June 16 focused the attention of the Filipino community here in the U.S. to the plight of the two nurses who were charged with conspiring to murder five patients and poisoning ten others at the Veterans Administration Hospital, this city.

In an effort to bolster the position of the federal prosecution, Dr. David Abrahamsen, a New York psychiatrist and expert on violence and crime, was flown here to probe the possible motives which led to the murders. He is expected to be a prosecution witness at the trial where he will reveal his findings based on his interviews with members of the hospital personnel and former associates of the Filipina nurses. The prosecution is trying to prove that the senseless killings was motivated by the frustration of the two Filipina nurses at the "chronic shortage of nurses in the VA hospital."

Recent interviews with the two nurses described their ordeal. "It seemed like a nightmare," according to Miss Narcisco referring to the harrowing experiences she and Mrs. Perez underwent during the 10-month investigation conducted by the FBI. In an interrogation session that lasted six hours, Miss Narcisco quoted an FBI agent as saying: "Your life is over if you don't confess."

Mrs. Perez recalled that on a late Wednesday afternoon in Chicago, a car pulled up beside her and an FBI announced her arrest and asked her to enter the car. When the slight, 32-year old nurse refused, the agent shot back, "If you don't come, we will drag you."

Meanwhile, a growing sympathy and solidarity has been stemming mainly from local Filipino communities all over the U.S., most notably from the National Coordinating Committee of the Narcisco-Perez Legal Defense Committee, headed by Naty Ngo. The committee estimates that the cost of the defense will run at least \$350,000. Other local defense committees who have initiated fundraising drives in their respective cities, are coordinating their activities with the National Coordinating Committee.

Certain sectors, however, like the Philippine Nurses Association in Chicago (PNA) and the Philippine Consulate in that city, have come under criticism for refusing to link up their fundraising efforts with the National Committee. In a phone interview with a community person in Chicago, active in the local defense committee, the AK found out that despite the publicity drummed up by the Philippine government, no contribution has been made to the Narcisco-Perez Defense Committee to date.

In a parting word, Miss Narcisco said: "We hope we will get a fair trial." At this point, what will seem crucial to the two nurses getting a fair trial will be solid and unified backing from the whole Filipino community in the U.S. □

On the Front

SEPT. 22 MASS ACTIONS

Following are the scheduled activities for the fourth anniversary of martial law:

CHICAGO

SEPT. 18 — Dinner-forum at St. Theresa's Hall, 1950 N. Kenmore. Immediate relatives of political prisoners will be among the speakers. Cultural presentations will add color to the event.

SEPT. 22 — Militant picket at Philippine consulate, 12 noon at 6 N. Michigan. A delegation will seek out the consul and present to him the movement's demand. A coffin bearing the corpse of "democracy" will be laid on the sidewalk and a chained "Mother Philippines" will explain her plight to the passerby.

NEW YORK

SEPT. 18 — Miting de avance at 2 p.m. at the Bohemian Dance Hall, 29-19 24th Avenue, Astoria, Queens. Speeches from representatives of the church, press, senior citizens, national democratic movement; amateur and professional singers, dancers; refreshments will be on sale; balloting to approve the demand "lift martial law..." will be held.

SEPT. 22 — Militant picket at the Philippine Center (consulate), 5th Avenue and 46th. Picket will present the results of the balloting and the demand.

PHILADELPHIA

SEPT. 18 — Miting de avance-dinner, 6 p.m. at the Tabernacle Church, 3700 Chestnut St. There will be poetry reading, speeches, and "interrogation" and group singing. As in other cities, American friends will also speak on the importance of cutting off U.S. aid to Marcos.

SEPT. 22 — Philadelphians will go to New York to join in the picket at the Philippine consulate.

WASHINGTON D.C.

SEPT. 15 — Press conference at the U.S. Congress, the AMLC assisting Amnesty International. Amnesty International will present its final report on the conditions of political prisoners in Marcos' jails. Its members will also testify on that day at the Fraser subcommittee hearings on human rights in the Philippines. Rep. Donald Fraser is expected to ask the State Department for an official report or opinion on human rights and martial law.

BAY AREA

SEPT. 17 — Miting de avance at the Glide Memorial Church, 330 Ellis St. Speeches and cultural presentations will drive home the need to lift martial law and hold immediate elections.

SEPT. 22 — A motorcade organized by local anti-martial groups will wind its way through San Francisco streets in the morning. A march and picket will follow; the picket starting at 12 noon at the

Philippine consulate, 447 Sutter St. A delegation will try to meet with the consul to present the main demand of the movement.

LOS ANGELES

SEPT. 17 — Protest meeting/Speakout, 7:30 p.m., the Community Center, 1740 W. Temple. Cultural presentations and open-forum, an appeal to the community to be concerned with the plight of people in the homeland, a call to join the picket the following Wednesday.

SEPT. 22 — Militant picket in the afternoon at the Philippine consulate located between Wilshire Blvd. and Catalina.

HONOLULU

SEPT. 18 — Dinner-forum at 5:30 p.m. at St. Anthony's Church, 640 Puhale Rd. Aside from speeches and songs, there will be testimonials from returning balik-bayans regarding their experiences and the experiences of their relatives under martial law.

SEPT. 22 — Demonstration at 4:30 p.m. in front of the Philippine consulate, 2433 Pali Highway. Acton is timed for rush-hour traffic for more visibility. A delegation will present the movement's demands to consular officials.

SEATTLE

SEPT. 19 — Miting de avance-dinner, 4-8 p.m. at the Jefferson Park Recreation Center, 3801 Beacon Ave. South. There will be a new anti-martial law slide show aside from speeches. Also folk dances and balloting to approve the demand to "lift martial law..."

SEPT. 22 — Picket at the Philippine consulate, 3rd and Columbia St. A delegation will present results of community balloting on the demand to "lift martial law—hold immediate elections" to the Consul General.

SAN DIEGO

Plans for anti-martial law activities around Sept. 22 in this city are still being finalized by the local anti-martial law alliance.

CANADA

TORONTO and MONTREAL—A joint picket by anti-martial law groups in these two cities will be held in OTTAWA at the Philippine consulate, 130 Albert St., on

Wed., Sept. 22. MONTREAL—There will be a slide show-forum on four years of martial law on Sept. 25. Time and place to be announced.

VANCOUVER, B.C. — A forum with skits and slide show will be held Sept. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the Holy Name Church on Canby St., collection for political prisoners will be taken.

For verification: Rene Cruz, coordinator AMLC (212) 889-8342.

AMLC SUPPORTS VILLEGAS CALLS FOR PARLEY

The Anti-Martial Law Coalition (AMLC) has expressed support to the idea of a national gathering of all anti-martial law forces put forward by Antonio Villegas, former mayor of Manila.

The Coalition which has launched and coordinated many major nationwide campaigns against the Marcos regime stated that "a national gathering or conference would be important in order for the whole movement to discuss and plan more joint actions and projects that will further expose the injustices committed by the Marcos regime and also build stronger unity among all anti-martial law forces." The AMLC stressed the role such a gathering or conference can play in "planning for more advances in the movement's work on such issues as the treatment of political prisoners, squatters, workers' and students' rights, and in the crucial task of cutting off U.S. aid to the dictatorship." Rene Cruz, AMLC coordinator explained further: "Work on the political prisoners issue or work around cutting off U.S. aid to Marcos needs a lot of dimensions to be really effective. You need mass activities, forums, pickets, fundraisers, research and documentation, work in the U.S. Congress. Therefore, you need a lot of good planning and cooperation from all forces in the movement. A national gathering is really the correct way of putting these things together."

The AMLC also expressed its willingness to participate equally with other anti-martial law forces in the planning

and preparations for the national gathering suggested by Villegas. It said that "a national event that could formulate plans for joint actions and projects through frank and democratic discussions would be worthwhile to work for as it would be a positive step towards a unified anti-martial law movement."

The AMLC concluded that "What everyone needs in order to contribute more effectively to our people's fight for freedom is a unified movement that includes all anti-martial law groups and individuals from all walks of life and from all political persuasions. This united front, wherein we can strengthen our points of agreement, respect and subordinate our differences of for cooperation in practical activities against the common enemy, will be a powerful fist of resistance that can challenge the Marcos dictatorship. Building this unified movement is a pressing responsibility we must all take on if we really are to help our people. It is from this standpoint that the AMLC is supporting Mr. Villegas' suggestion of a national gathering of anti-martial law forces."

Organizations composing the AMLC are the: Friends of the Filipino People, Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino, National Committee for the Restoration of Civil Liberties in the Philippines, Pilipino para sa Pambansang Demokrasya, Philippines Information Bulletin. Many unaffiliated individuals are members of local alliances in various cities.

By Rene Cruz, Coordinator, AMLC

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DOMESTIC / INTERNATIONAL

MIXED VERDICT FOR
SAN QUENTIN 6

By VICTOR UNO

In the longest political trial in U.S. history — lasting over 16 months with 24 days of deliberations — A San Rafael jury found three of the San Quentin Six innocent of all charges while convicting the others on assault and murder charges. The verdicts, hailed by many as a victory for the defense, with 40 acquittals out of 46 conspiracy, assault and murder charges, actually represented a mixed decision which made no clear stand on the key question in the case — whether or not prison authorities had conspired to murder George Jackson or whether the prison activist had conspired to escape.

In finding five of the six defendants innocent of all conspiracy charges, the jury implicitly rejected the State's contention that all six defendants had plotted the August 21, 1971, San Quentin escape attempt which ended in the deaths of George Jackson, two inmates and three prison guards. But in convicting defendant Johnny Larry Spain of conspiracy and two counts of murder, the same jury upheld the state's charge that George Jackson had conspired with radical lawyer Stephen Bingham to escape.



San Quentin 6 defendants: (top, from left) Fleeta Drumgo, Hugo Pinell, Luis Talamantez; (bottom, from left) Johnny Spain, David Johnson, Willie Tate.

The conviction of Spain was perhaps the most damaging blow to the defense which hoped to widen the case into an independent investigation of the alleged conspiracy by prison and state authorities to assassinate George Jackson, with powers to subpoena police records and interview witnesses not involved in the trial. Most observers now feel that Spain's conviction, by upholding the cornerstone of the prosecution's case, will relieve pressure on the state to open any wider investigation.

The most damaging testimony against Spain, a member of the Black Panther Party, was that given by guards who said they found an escape map and zip gun in his cell. In addition, Spain was allegedly seen by several witnesses holding a gun and working closely with Jackson on the day of the Adjustment Center (AC) takeover. Despite psychiatric testimony that Spain had a medical history of blackouts under stress, Spain's defense of "impaired consciousness" and "diminished capacity" were found unacceptable by the jury.

MIXED VERDICT

While Spain's conviction indicates the jury agreed at least in part with the prosecution's conspiracy theory, the same jury rejected the conspiracy notion as an explanation for all the events on August 21, 1971. Instead, much of the violence that day was seen as the culmination of years of tension between the Black and Latin prisoners and the harsh conditions and racist guards in San Quentin prison's Adjustment Center.

Through the testimonies of Fleeta Drumgo, Luis Talamantez and Willie Tate, a brutal protrait of prison life was graphically depicted which clearly won the sympathy of the jurors. All these three who took the stand for the defense were subsequently

(continued on page 11)

U.S. Threatens New Korean War



U.S.-provoked incident at the Korean demilitarized zone, escalated into a major international crisis.

By VICTOR UNO

A mid-August incident in the Korean demilitarized zone, sparked by a U.S. attempt to trim a tree, quickly escalated into a major international crisis as the U.S. used the incident as a pretext to stage a massive and dangerous show of military strength. U.S. actions posed the clear danger of provoking a new war on the Korean peninsula, where over 40,000 U.S. troops are stationed and where an estimated 700 to 1,000 tactical nuclear weapons are poised against North Korea.

The incident which sparked the crisis was over a relatively minor issue — the trimming of a tree — with the facts disputed by both the U.S. and the Democratic Republic of North Korea (DPRK). An argument over the tree on August 18 escalated into a brief fight between North Korean guards and a party of 15 Americans and South Korean troops, resulting in the death of two U.S. Army officers and the wounding of five North Koreans. The U.S. blamed the DPRK for the incident, saying the U.S. attempt to prune a tree was "routine maintenance" and that the killings were a "premeditated act of murder" by North Korea.

North Korea, on the other hand, stated that the U.S. began to fell the tree without prior consultation with the DPRK, a normal procedure for any work done within the jointly administered armistice zone. The North Koreans, who originally planted and nurtured the tree, then "argued patiently for 30 minutes" with the U.S. workteam to stop, but the request was met with invective. The DPRK charged that the U.S. troops then attacked them "brandishing lethal weapons," and in the ensuing melee the casualties resulted.

Despite U.S. claims that the work team was only conducting "routine maintenance," U.S. military sources later admitted to the AP that only "ten days earlier" the North Koreans "pulled up a vehicle to block an earlier attempt" to prune the tree. Given the tension in the area, observers noted that there was no explanation why the U.S. or the South Koreans made no effort to consult the DPRK before trying to trim the same tree again.

U.S. ESCALATES INCIDENT

The incident itself was not uncommon to the highly tense 151-mile truce line dividing the Korean nation. Since the 1953 armistice, more than 1,000 Koreans and 49 Americans have been killed in different border skirmishes and the Korean peninsula is still designated a combat zone by the U.S. The U.S., however, used this latest incident to display a show of military strength similar to the Mayaguez incident following the liberation of Cambodia last year.

Within 24 hours of the incident, the Washington Special Action Group (WASAG) — a select committee that meets only for major world crisis — assembled two times to review the situation. While CIA director George Bush admitted there was "no evidence of any North Korean military moves towards the South Korean border," the 41,000 U.S. troops in Korea were placed on alert. In addition, a squadron of F-4 Phantoms from Okinawa and 20 F-111's from Idaho were flown to the peninsula, as well as a number of B-52 strategic bombers from Guam.

By August 20, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger was publicly demanding "explanations and

reparations" from North Korea for the deaths of the two Americans. Then on August 21, "to demonstrate that the U.S. would not be intimidated by North Korea," some 300 combat equipped U.S. and South Korean troops moved into the demilitarized zone and proceeded to fell the tree. Overhead flew 26 helicopter gunships, three B-52's, and an unspecified number of F-4 and F-111 jets.

North Korean response to these provocative acts was to place the Korean People's Army and reserves on alert, but during the entire incident no DPRK military movements were undertaken. Many observers have credited the DPRK's restraint as the main reason why a larger military confrontation, possibly even a new Korean war, was avoided. Nevertheless, the U.S. has continued a dangerous military presence with the U.S. aircraft carrier Midway, four frigates, and a destroyer sailing into Korean waters August 22. In addition, B-52's have continued making daily practice bombing runs over the south.

U.S. POLICY RESPONSIBLE

The fact that the latest Korean incident occurred directly between the U.S. and the D.P.R.K. has only underscored the underlying reason for present tensions on the Korean peninsula, namely the continued presence of the U.S. military enforcing the arbitrary 23-year-old division of the Korean nation at the 38th parallel. Since the signing of the armistice which halted the Korean War on July 27, 1953, no peace agreement has ever been signed and efforts by liberal Congressmen, the U.N. or the D.P.R.K. to end the U.S. military presence have been consistently met with deaf ears by the U.S. State Department. Instead, the U.S. has continued to back anti-democratic regimes in the south such as the present fascist rule of Pak Jung Hi and the U.S. military role has recently increased, now with some 41,000 troops and over 700 nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula.

Despite U.S. efforts to maintain its influence over southern Korea, world opinion has been growing against the U.S.' Korean policy. For the Korean people, with a 2300 year history of sovereignty, national reunification is of paramount importance, and the world's non-aligned and socialist countries have recognized the Korean people's right to determine their own future and have called for the withdrawal of all U.S. troops and nuclear weapons. Even in the U.N., which the U.S. has been able to use as a cover for its involvement in Korea, a resolution was passed last year calling for the withdrawal of all foreign troops and for the peaceful reunification of Korea.

The DPRK has charged that the latest U.S. actions in Korea were planned to provoke a wider military conflict as part of a new U.S. effort to stem growing international and domestic opposition to the U.S. presence. Indeed, the latest U.S. military maneuvers, far from being an instance of "over-reaction" or "overkill" as some critics charge, have all the ominous characteristics of a well-orchestrated effort to provoke a new war, similar to the Gulf of Tonkin incident which sounded the bell for the U.S. war in Vietnam. If such a war were to break out in Korea, possibly over some new border dispute or an alleged incident, an intransigent and bellicose U.S.' Korean policy would be held responsible. □

KDP INTERVIEW: Chilean Refugees Recount Torture, Denounce Junta

By WALDEN BELLO
AK Correspondent

September 11, 1976 marks the third anniversary of the U.S.-backed military coup in Chile, which toppled the Popular Unity Government of Dr. Salvador Allende. The fascist junta inaugurated a reign of political and economic terror which continues to this day. Reliable estimates show that some 40,000 Chileans have been assassinated since the coup and at least 6,000 are still in concentration camps.

Companeros Hugo, Oscar, and Jose — their last names have been omitted to prevent possible repercussions on their relatives in Chile — were interviewed on September 2. They are part of a group of 100 former Chilean political prisoners and their families now in San Jose, California, who were recently released and allowed to leave Chile as a result of international pressure on the Chilean military junta. All three were arrested shortly after the coup.

Oscar was a former official of the Central Federation of Labor (CUT) and a representative of the Committee of Refugees; Jose was a former civil servant in the Ministry of Public Health; and Hugo was a worker in a printing press.

Q: On what grounds were you arrested and imprisoned by the junta?

Oscar: The fundamental cause of my arrest was that I was a militant of the left and leader of the CUT in my province. My crime was none other than having been a participant in the revolutionary process that Chile went through under Companero Allende.

Jose: Like the majority of political prisoners I was charged with non-existent crimes. In my case the very nature of my occupation made it impossible for me to commit the deeds they charged me with — being an extremist, preparation of a paramilitary group, transportation of arms.

Q: Would you care to describe your experience as a political prisoner?

Oscar: After I was picked up, they crammed about

Members of the democratically elected Allende government guarded by troops after the fascist coup on Sept. 11, 1973. Thousands of Chilean people continue to suffer under the junta's dictatorship.

(NICH photo)



700 of us into five rooms where we were treated like animals, deprived of water and food, or if they gave us food it was usually mixed with human excrement. I really don't want to speak of my personal experience under torture, since it was a general experience. Application of electrodes on the mouth, genitals, and all parts of the body. Blows. Being tied, then pulled by a moving vehicle. Everybody went through this. But I would like to mention the fact that an officer in our camp shot and killed a peasant comrade in front of everybody to demonstrate that we were powerless to do anything.

Hugo: I was in prison for two years and two months. When they picked me up in 1974 I was made incomunicado and confined to a 50 x 80 meter cell. The first week I was tortured constantly, morning, noon, and night, so that I lost my sense of time. They tried to break me not only physically but ideologically. I was tortured in different ways, but in all cases they applied electricity with varying voltage on my genitals, tongue, buttocks, and ear lobes. To keep me awake, they burned me with cigarette butts. At the same time they tortured me psychologically with threats on my family and

about destroying my house. They were constantly refining their methods to extract confessions and force an individual to be a traitor to a cause he had embraced.

Q: What was the impact of torture and imprisonment on you, both personally and politically?

Jose: After that experience my ideals as a militant of the left are firmer. For I have experienced in the flesh what fascism is. It is the duty of every militant of the left to accept these risks.

Hugo: I am proud of the cultural education I gained in the camp. The time I spent there was not wasted. Those comrades who were brought in who did not have very advanced ideas were taught by the experience to surpass them. We had to develop an organizational life in order to constantly overcome ourselves. And, of course, this preparation was necessary to enable us to better confront the daily blows of the fascist junta.

Oscar: In spite of the torture and the pressures on their families, the comrades remained very firm, especially the workers. The comrades had to survive, and it was the spirit of great solidarity and

(continued on page 11)

Dare to struggle...



STEELWORKERS CHALLENGE I.W. ABEL

A growing movement of militant rank and file steelworkers are preparing to take on the conservative leadership of retiring United Steelworkers Union (USW) aging president I.W. Abel. The movement, lead by Ed Sadlowski and his Steelworkers Fight Back organization, hopes to place control of the 1.2 million member union back in the hands of the rank and file and to reverse a number of serious concessions made to industry under Abel's leadership.

Highlighting the differences between the insurgent-Sadlowski forces and Abel's backers is their stand on the controversial Experimental Negotiating Agreement (ENA) signed under Abel's leadership. Under the ENA, which outlaws an industrywide strike and allows the company great latitude in making productivity changes at the expense of the workers, over 100,000 USW workers have been laid off and some 50,000 jobs have been permanently lost. In addition, the ENA allows local strikes only if approved by the USW executive board, something the board has yet to do since the signing of the ENA.

Abel forces staunchly back the ENA and are even maneuvering to extend its ratification past the August 1977 expiration deadline. In addition, efforts are being made to change the USW constitution in an effort to retain the aging Abel, who would normally retire at the mandatory age of 65.

Sadlowski forces oppose the ENA and have been working for three key

reforms — rank and file ratification of any general contract, the right to an industry-wide strike; and a roll back on union dues. Other demands call for a streamlining of grievance and arbitration procedures, a guaranteed annual wage and a cost of living clause for pensions.

Observers speculate that the insurgent movement will challenge the Abel group this coming February, running Sadlowski as their candidate for president. As the head of the union's largest district, Sadlowski's candidacy could represent a serious and popular challenge to the old line policies of I.W. Abel. □

80,000 COALWORKERS STAGE WILDCAT STRIKE

A wildcat strike by 213 miners at the Cedar Coal Co. mine near Charleston, W.V., over safety grievances spread rapidly to include over 80,000 coal miners in late June. By the second week of August, the wildcat strike was largely winding down, but the issues raised over mine safety and the right to strike remain.

Sparking the five week walkout was the United Mineworkers Union Local 1759 which struck after the Cedar Coal Co. refused to implement a safety procedure and after the courts refused to hear the UMW complaint. Job safety is a critical issue for the nation's 184,000 miners. In 1975 alone, some 121 persons were killed in mining accidents.

While the courts were unresponsive to the miners plight, lawyers for Cedar Coal were able to obtain an injunction against the strike. Federal

Judge Dennis Knapp fined the union \$25,000 a day and jailed 18 of the strikers. Imprisonment was also threatened for all the 213 strikers.

Instead of killing the strike, the court action spread the wildcat. The solidarity of the miners not only shut down the mines in West Virginia, but also spread the strike to Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Virginia and Colorado. "When that judge gets out of the coal business, that's when we go back to work," declared one striking miner.

Besides the courts, UMW president Arnold Miller and the UMW Executive Committee were also trying to end the strike. Local 1759 was threatened with receivership and strike leaders were threatened with expulsion.

Only after substantial pressure from the UMW leadership and a concession from the courts dropping all criminal contempt charges against the 213 Cedar Coal strikers did the strike end. The issues sparking the massive strike, however, have clearly not been settled. Mine safety and the right to strike over grievances continue to underlie the miners unrest, and UMW President Miller, originally elected as a reformer, has been coming under increasing criticism for his handling of the 1974 contract which outlawed the use of the strike. □

RUBBER STRIKE ENDS

The four month strike by 60,000 members of the United Rubber Workers union (URW) ended in mid-August with agreements providing, for increased wages and benefits, as well

as for a cost of living adjustment (COLA) provision. The walkout against the "Big Four" tire companies — Goodyear, Firestone, Uni-Royal and Goodrich — was the largest and longest strike in URW history. Over 21 states were affected by the latest strike.

Key to the URW's walkout was the union's efforts to recoup financial setbacks incurred during the latest economic crisis, where the real wages of URW members fell by eight percent. The new contracts provide for a 35 percent increase over the next three years in wages and health and welfare benefits, and the COLA provision will help preserve these gains against inflation. Still, the overall settlement does not cover the losses incurred under the 1973 contract.

The old contract, negotiated under Nixon's phase III wage and price controls limited the wage increase to 6.2 percent. The workers, who have traditionally been on par with wages in the auto industry, found themselves behind by as much as \$2.00 an hour as auto workers were able to negotiate after the wage controls expired. The average wage at the beginning of the strike was \$5.50 an hour. With the settlement this will increase by \$1.35 over a three year period.

Besides targeting all major tire companies for the strike, the URW also initiated a world-wide boycott of Firestone products in an effort to get the industry to negotiate seriously. Throughout the duration of the strike, the rank and file militantly supported the walkout, even while having to live off savings as strike benefits ran out after the first three weeks. □

MAO TSETUNG: 1893-1976



In the early morning hours of September 9, the heroic and beloved leader of the Chinese people and the Chinese Revolution passed away. For China's 800 million people, for all the world's oppressed and toiling masses, the death of Mao Tsetung was deeply mourned.

The life and work of Mao Tsetung was intimately tied to the Chinese Revolution, for one could not speak about Mao without speaking about the Chinese Revolution. Indeed, it was only through the Chinese Revolution, the massive uprising of millions of people, that such a leader could arise. And just as the Chinese revolution found its expression in the leadership of such a man, Mao Tsetung's leadership and guidance of

that movement saw it to its victory in 1949 and through successive internal struggles.

Once a backward, underdeveloped country ravaged by colonial and imperialist powers, starved and sickened by years of foreign domination and semi-feudal conditions, China has been transformed into a self-reliant socialist state, able to feed, educate, and clothe its masses. Like a beacon for the world's toiling masses, China's example shines as a living testament to the tremendous creative power of working people.

Throughout China's revolutionary process, Mao Tsetung was always exhorting the Chinese masses to climb to new heights, to undertake difficult tasks and to seize destiny in their own hands. Guided by the firm conviction that "the masses are the makers of history," Mao was able to foresee the eventual triumph of the Chinese masses even in the darkest days of the Chinese Revolution. Where others wavered or fell to the wayside, Mao persevered, always relying on the people to win final victory.

The impact of Mao Tsetung and the Chinese Revolution have gone far beyond the borders of China. Oppressed peoples everywhere have been inspired by the Chinese masses and its leader. As a military strategist, revolutionary strategist and tactician, Mao Tsetung's contributions towards the liberation of all peoples will long be felt and appreciated. Indeed, these scientific works and Mao's life will continue to inspire and lead not only the Chinese masses, but all oppressed and exploited people struggling for liberation. □

WORLD IN FOCUS

SO. AFRICAN UPRISINGS CONTINUE

Massive uprisings and demonstrations by tens of thousands of blacks continue to rock the racist South African government of Prime Minister John Vorster. Since the June 16th Soweto uprising, more than 30 urban ghettos near Pretoria, Johannesburg, Cape Town and Port Elizabeth have erupted in anti-government, anti-apartheid demonstrations.

Recent protests in ghettos surrounding Johannesburg indicated growing support from all sectors of the black populace. While the June 16th protest was largely a student protest, the August uprisings rallied thousands of black workers to the demonstrations. On August 23, 80 percent of Johannesburg's black workers responded to a call for a three-day general strike, effectively crippling that city's industrial plants. In Soweto, an estimated 170,000 workers joined the boycott, the biggest work stoppage in the white minority regime's history.

The response of the Vorster government has been to conduct massive arrests nationwide in an attempt to stem the protests. More than 175 black clergy, teachers, lawyers, journalists and student leaders have been jailed, as well as over 2,000 arrested during the mid-August protests. Despite the arrests and armed repression, in which over 135 were killed by South African police, the militant protests have shown no signs of abating. □

Mixed Verdict in San Quentin 6 Trial...

(continued from page 9)

exonerated on all charges.

Hugo Pinell, a fourth defendant also charged with conspiracy and murder, as well as several additional counts of assault and abetting, was convicted on two assault charges. Pinell was the lone defendant who chose to defend himself and cross-examine guards who accused him of slitting their throats.

Pinell, already serving several life terms, said in closing arguments that in his case conviction or acquittal would not change his prison status but hopefully the trial would open a broader investigation into the August 21 events and what he called the cold-blooded murder of activist George Jackson.

The assault conviction of the last defendant, David Johnson, clearly surprised spectators, defense attorneys and his co-defendants. Johnson was the most quiet and most soft-spoken of the six, accepting a public defender to represent him and agreeing with the attorney's decision not to take the witness stand in his defense. Johnson's defense was similar to that of Willie Tate's, who was

acquitted, and Tate's attorney later called Johnson's conviction "the greatest travesty" of the entire trial, declaring Johnson was innocent of the charge he was convicted for.

OVERSHADOWED VICTORY

For the three defendants acquitted of all charges, the conviction of their fellow defendants overshadowed their own vindication. In the words of Willie Tate's lawyer, "There was justice for some, but not justice for others, so there's no way we can say it was a total victory." Even that justice for the acquitted was questioned by Robert Carrow, attorney for Luis Talamantez. "How do you make up to these men for five years in that hell hole?" he asked reporters. "How do you give back to these men what they lost in that time?"

Almost five years after San Quentin prison authorities gunned down prison activist and poet George Jackson, three of the six accused by the state in that escape attempt are finally free. Implicit in their exoneration was the defense contention that prison authorities and state law enforcement agents conspired to murder Jackson, setting him up for the kill according to former police informer Louis Tackwood. For those three remaining in San Quentin's infamous Adjustment Center, appeals will be enacted in an attempt to obtain vindication. □

Chilean Refugees Denounce Junta...

(continued from page 10)

camaraderie that carried them through. All this points to the high level of political consciousness of the comrades in prison.

Q: Please comment on what you feel is the significance of the Chilean junta and on the state of the resistance.

Jose: Under the junta the workers have lost all that they had gained in the last forty years.

Oscar: It is a reactionary government. It is in all senses a repressive government. Even the small entrepreneurs and merchants are now being drowned by its policies to concentrate power within a small group. It does not allow unions to assemble. It does not allow any meeting to take place without a soldier or sailor to spy on the gathering. And any comrade who complains about salary or health is brought to the concentration camp. The fight against fascism is gaining ground everyday in Chile. Step by step the Chilean working class under the leadership of the CUT is creating the conditions for resistance. There have been strikes in many places, and in these places the workers are finding the means to organize themselves to confront fascism.

Hugo: The military junta is a puppet of the local bourgeoisie, a bourgeoisie doing the work of U.S. imperialism. The contradictions among the differ-

ent sectors of the bourgeoisie are sharpening daily, and the workers, housewives, students, and professionals are beginning to lose the fear that characterized the first months. The resistance is growing wider and deeper. We count on international solidarity to fortify the resistance growing in Chile. And international solidarity means not only ideological and political assistance but also material assistance. For the junta will not be overthrown only with words.

Q: Do you have any words for your fellow political prisoners in the Philippines?

Oscar: To those Filipino comrades in prison, I can only say, have faith in the working class and the leadership of the working class parties, the proletarian parties. And I hope this proletarian leadership exists because it is the only way that we can be liberated from the military junta or fascist dictatorship. This message is given with much optimism and faith, for perhaps sooner than we expect, our countries will be free to construct their destiny, and I believe this destiny will be socialism. *Hugo:* I would encourage all my Filipino comrades in concentration camps to avail of their period in prison to acquire the cultural and political equipment to be used against the dictatorship that stands over that wonderful country. The prison camps are only creations of the bourgeoisie to break us down as human beings, to destroy us ideologically. Time in prison must therefore be time to do political work. And I have no doubt that this is in fact being done. As in Chile, the dictatorship will fall, come what may. □

LEBANON'S PARTITION OPPOSED

With the recent fall of Palestinian refugee camp of Tal El Zaatar, the question of Lebanon's partition looms larger. The capture of the camp by rightist Lebanese forces was the most serious setback suffered by leftist and Palestinian forces since Syria's intervention in June. Observers note that the camp was pivotal in the attempts by rightist forces to enact a partition.

Efforts to secure a de facto partition has been the major strategy of the rightists since initiating the war over a year ago. Recently, major enclaves of Palestinian and leftist Lebanese have fallen to the right including Koura, Nab'a and Abu Iyyad. In addition, overtures by rightist leaders Camille Chamoun and Pierre Gemayal for participation have increased.

In rejecting the partition strategy, Palestinian and leftist forces have braced themselves for a protracted war. Conscription of all Palestinians between the ages of 15-45 has been enacted by the PLO and Lebanese socialist leader Kamal Jumblatt has taken steps towards forming a regular volunteer army to replace the existing part-time militias. The PLO has also undertaken efforts internationally to condemn Syria's intervention on behalf of the rightists, holding Assad responsible for the fall of Tal El Zaatar and the subsequent murder of thousands of its inhabitants. □

NON-ALIGNED NATIONS MEET

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka—The non-aligned nations fifth summit conference held August 16-19 issued a series of political decisions strengthening the stand of Third World nations against colonial and neo-colonial rule. The white minority governments in southern Africa were denounced and a call for an oil embargo against France and Israel for selling arms to Pretoria was issued. Full support was declared for black Rhodesians in their struggle for majority rule who are "using all means at their disposal, including armed struggle."

A resolution was also passed targeting the U.S. for its presence in Korea. The summit called for "the withdrawal of all foreign troops from South Korea, for the closure of foreign military bases, for the termination of the U.N. Command and for the replacement of the Korean military armistice agreement by a durable peace agreement." The summit also "expressed its deep concern over the grave situation in Korea created by the imperialists, a situation in which a war may break out at any time." □

LENDING INSTITUTIONS BEHIND MARTIAL LAW

Lavish Preparations Underway For IMF-WB Confab

By SAMUEL P. BAYANI

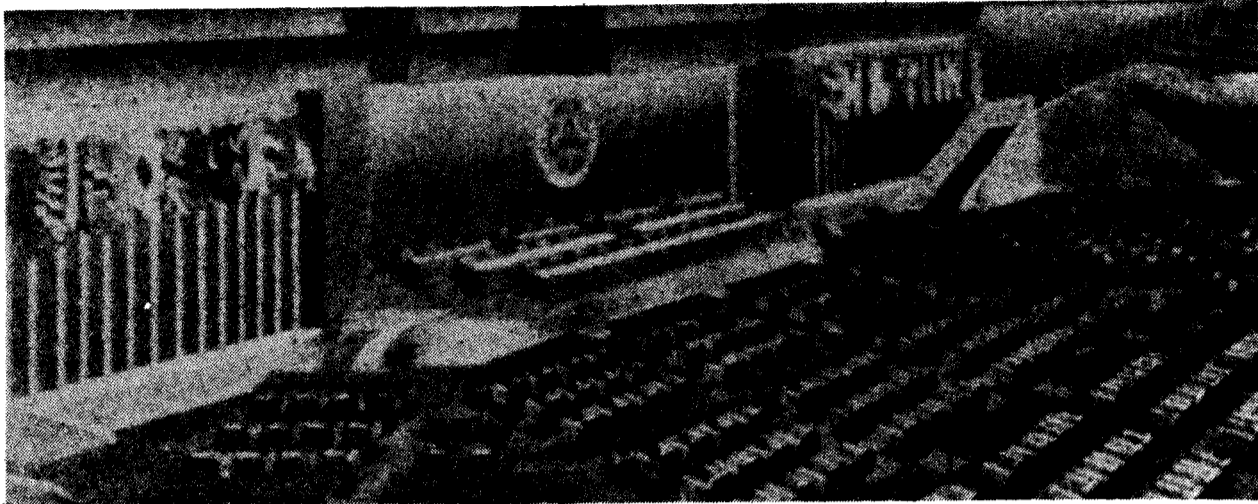
MANILA — In line with the regime's policy of making Manila the "Convention Center" or "Geneva of Asia," the International Monetary Fund-World Bank will be holding its annual conference in this city in October. Lavish preparations are being undertaken for the international meet and the regime is once again indulging in one of its wasteful but showy sprees, the likes of the extravagant Miss Universe Pageant and the Ali-Frazier fight.

The conference is doubly note-worthy, aside from the publicity which the regime values, because the IMF and the WB have been instrumental in promoting and enforcing the regime's economic policy which is biased in favor of foreign investment, despite its proven detriment to the country's development.

The wanton spending for the conference has been mainly generated by the mad rush of hotel building; 3,600 new hotel rooms were recently added to the 4,000 hotel rooms already existing. In the last six months alone, 15 hotels have sprouted up in the Greater Manila area almost overnight, with a total cost of P3.5 billion.

A convention center, equipped with audio-visual and simultaneous translation equipment as well as a banquet hall, has also been built for the occasion, adding to the city's string of expensive but unproductive projects like the P40 million Folk Arts Theatre and the P380 million Heart Center, monuments to the lopsided priorities of the regime.

Ironically, the IMF-WB conference will last for only two weeks. The government economic planning agency admits there is already a "room glut" and predicts an excess of 1,200 rooms by the end of 1976. It is also projected that the financing for the hotel building, two-thirds of which came from government agencies, will not be recovered for many years. Moreover, the inflationary spending on construction is straining the already faltering Philippine economy. The foreign



The Convention Center being rushed for the IMF-WB Conference adds to the long list of expensive

exchange crisis and the country's balance of payments deficit is likewise aggravated by the irrational importation of construction materials which had to be imported to finish the hotels in time for the conference, as well as hundreds of Mercedes Benz to provide transport for the conference delegates.

Concurrent with this red-carpet treatment, the martial law government has undertaken a crash course training program for 2,000 taxi car drivers who were chosen to drive the delegates around. Similarly, hundreds of "promo-girls" (another euphemism would be "hospitality girls") to escort the delegates around the city. Another extravagant treat for the delegates will be the return engagement of the "Kasaysayan ng Lahi" or "Story of the Nation" spectacular parade which was staged during the Miss Universe Pageant and during Ford's visit. With a cast of thousands, the costly

but unproductive projects of the regime.

(AK file photo)

extravaganza is a "historical tableau," New Society style.

To prevent any incidents that would mar the conference and embarrass the regime, (like the 12,000 strong march during Ford's visit, protesting martial law (10,000 police forces are being deployed for the conference.

Examples in the past, however, have proven that the Filipino masses have still managed to find creative means of protest against the martial law government. The IMF-WB conference may yet prove to be one of those times. □

Watch for our next issue where we will feature excerpts from a study, "Development and Dictatorship: The Politics of World Bank Assistance to the Marcos Regime." The study was undertaken by the Anti-Martial Law Coalition [Philippines] and is scheduled for release.

8,000 PERISH IN EARTHQUAKE

Marcos, U.S. See 'Silver Lining' Behind Tragedy

By FRANCISCO OCAMPO

MANILA — While the victims of the earthquake-tidal wave disaster that hit the Philippines August 17, are suffering over their tragedy, Marcos and the U.S. are preoccupied with exploiting the catastrophe to their advantage.

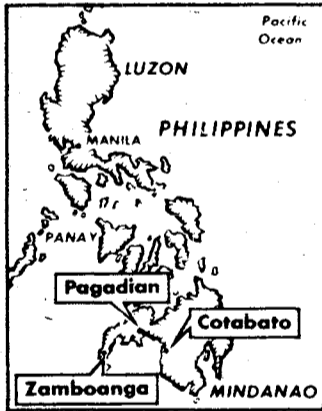
"There is a silver lining to the tidal wave and earthquake toll and tragedy in Cotabato," cheerfully declares Marcos as 8,000 perished in the intensity eight earthquake and 30 foot tidal wave while another 175,000 mourned over the loss of their families, friends, relatives and homes. Marcos is referring to the Muslim dissidents who have resisted his regime for the last four years and whom he declares were "wiped out" by the flood waters thereby "completely eliminating the insurgency in the south."

The Marcos regime's cold-blooded response to the disaster is equalled by the U.S. A secret U.S. State Department memo reveals that the U.S. hopes to exploit the situation to get political mileage out of the disaster. The memo which was intercepted and exposed by the Washington Post newspaper, states that the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) hopes to use the disaster to advance the U.S. - R.P. military negotiations in favor of the U.S., at the same time, override any efforts by the U.S. Congress to limit aid to governments accused of violating human rights.

"...major political consideration is the renegotiation of the U.S. Base agreement in the Philippines with respect to Clark Field and the Naval Base at Subic... we have an opportunity to demonstrate the importance of these Bases to the GOP (Government of the Philippines) by actively involving U.S. resources deployed from these Bases to the relief effort. Our interest in maximizing our use of these Bases will, in turn, have impact on what kinds of resources we bring to bear on the disaster.

"Another concern is the human rights issue. While there are some individuals on the (Capitol) Hill who are concerned over the USG (U.S. Government) relationships with a country which allegedly violates human rights, we do not feel that U.S. disaster relief efforts will be brought under any criticism because of concern over human rights violations. If anything, providing disaster relief in this situation makes a strong case for not having blanket prohibitions against providing foreign aid (of which disaster assistance is a component) to a country accused of violating its citizen's human rights.

Earthquake-tidal wave disaster — the stench of death was all over; but all Marcos and the U.S. could think of was to exploit the disaster to their political advantage.



WIDESPREAD DEVASTATION

Meanwhile, the devastation was widespread and has caused untold sufferings. Tidal waves surged 500 meters inland at 150 miles an hour and engulfed entire villages along the shorelines of Zamboanga all the way to Cotabato (see map of devastated area). Houses and their occupants were swept out to sea; bodies later lined the shore while others still floated in the open sea. Those who escaped the waves were crushed by collapsing buildings. The stench of death fouled the air; mass graves for bodies unidentified and hastily-done



(AK file photo)

wooden boxes for use as coffins for those identified were made while decomposing bodies were embalmed on the sidewalk.

Hardest hit by the quake is the Maguindanao province sustaining 37.29 percent of the fatalities; followed by Zamboanga del Sur (34.67 percent), Lanao del Sur (11.69 percent), Zamboanga City (8.25 percent), Sultan Kudarat (7.71 percent, Basilan and Lanao del Norte (both 0.3 percent).

This is the second disaster to hit the Philippines this year. Typhoon Didang swept across the north and central Luzon area, claiming 200 lives and causing \$80 million damage to property. □

NEWS ROUND-UP

Aquino, still undergoing trial for subversion, could face a firing squad if convicted, but observers say it is unlikely, since President Marcos knows it would make Aquino a martyr for freedom. • Newly-appointed Senior Assistant Defense Secretary, Col. Jaime Alfonso, denied the emergence of a military caste rule even under martial law, a common phenomenon for countries under authoritarian rule. • The nine Filipino employees of Subic Naval Base who were stripped naked and frisked for allegedly concealing PX goods filed a P1.7 million damage suit against four American base personnel. • The Philippine international dollar reserve took another dip, this time, down by 5.5 percent from last month. • A Manila-based newspaper columnist wrote that there is good basis to the speculation that the CIA headquarters in Asia has been moved from Bangkok to Manila. • Finance Secretary Cesar Virata said that the country's current tariff structure will not be amended until after the November Presidential elections in the U.S. • In Pagadian City, during a display of military rivalry, three Philippine Army soldiers were killed and four civilians injured after a

shoot out between army men and PC troopers who were initially disarmed by the former. • Consumer prices went up 7.1 percent in July, disclosed the Central Bank. • The sharp drop in sugar prices (about 15 to 60 points in the New York Coffee and Sugar Exchange) is expected to affect the export earnings, sugar being the country's top export commodity; consequently, the balance of payment will be further aggravated. • A minimum tax of P10 which will affect all taxpayers has been proposed to meet the P1 billion in additional revenues needed for the 1977 budget of the bankrupt martial law government. • A nuisance tax for all U.S. aircrafts passing over the town of Mabalacat, Pampanga was proposed by the advisory council of this town claiming that the "nuisance created by low-flying jets delay public hearings and school classes, distrubs our way of life, impairs students' ability to learn and aggravates the condition of the sick." • Water supply for some 70 cities and towns have been declared unsafe by the Local Water Utilities Administration because it does not meet bacteriological standards; as such, is a potential carrier of diseases. □