

# Ang KATIPUNAN

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## FWC'79: A Step Towards Unity

It was an overpowering response to the call for action.

Over 400 Filipinos from the West Coast and Hawaii came as delegates to the 1979 Filipino Peoples Far West Convention at Sacramento's Community Center August 31 to September 2.

Attending were numerous senior citizens, professionals, students, youth, parents, workers and activists.

Community leaders from Washington, D.C., New York and Chicago also came to learn from the convention about the Filipino community in the West Coast. Begun nine years ago, the FWC has served as an important forum to confront important issues facing the Filipino community.

The convention opened at 9:30 a.m. Sept. 1 with the song "Ang Bayan Ko." Maxie Villones, this year's FWC Steering Committee member, emceed the opening assembly. Villones welcomed the delegates and presented a brief background on the Filipino community in Sacramento. She noted that 6-8,000 Filipinos live in the city and there are 28 Filipino organizations.

However, it was keynote speaker, Dolores Pizaro, who set the tone of the '79 FWC reiterating the goals of the convention and re-affirming the significance of the FWC's three slogans: "Break with Passivity," "Organize the Unorganized," and "Build Solid and Strong Unity in the Community."

Pizaro, an energetic member of the Filipino Community of Sacramento Valley, identified racism as a serious issue that confronted Filipinos long before she came to America. She said that this problem continues to confront Filipinos today. By identifying and resolving issues, the FWC has become a "unifying force in our economic, political and social struggles," Pizaro continued.

The keynote speaker also underscored that for Filipinos to rise to the call for action "unity is important . . . not just in a rhetorical sense, but unity in resolving issues."

Pizaro has not been one of the delegates who always comes to the yearly convention. Yet, having worked in the Steering Committee, she has come to learn more about the FWC's history, even its past achievements. "The FWC has grown and I hope that it continues to grow and struggle for our rights . . . It is in the various workshops where issues are discussed," and this has made the convention an educational arena.

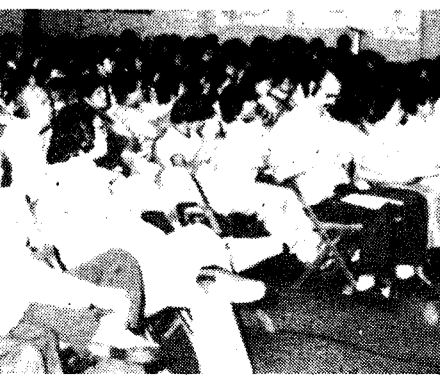
Also remembering her country of origin, Pizaro urged the delegates to "maintain our ties with our homeland by being concerned with the situation there . . . (like) violations of human rights . . . committed under the present rule of Pres. Marcos."

### Immigration Issue Confronted

One of the most pressing problems now before the Filipino community is the issue of immigrants' rights. For the first time in the history of the convention, this issue was taken up.

Speaking before the attentive assembly, Atty. Bill Tamayo gave a vivid description of the plight of Filipino immigrants. He noted that Filipinos are "denied job opportunities because of discriminatory licensure and hiring practices, subjected to live in poor housing conditions in inner cities, always in fear of deportation and sectioned out . . . as that unstable sector of the working class. Life among Filipino immigrants has not always been rewarding in America."

Continuing, Tamayo traced Filipino migration to the U.S. from the early 1900's



to the present delivering an illuminating analysis of the cause of the continuing influx of Filipinos. "First," noted Tamayo "the major factor that prompts people to leave their relatives, friends and homeland is the poverty and lack of opportunity in the homeland. This is the push factor . . . Secondly, the labor needs of U.S. business, the pull factor, dictate the type of immigration policies and quotas which are to be in effect. When the U.S. needs cheap labor, labor to occupy the bottom rung of the employment ladder, the U.S. opens its arms to the immigrants and allows massive immigration."

"Thirdly, however," Tamayo proceeded, "the Filipino immigrants have been subjected to the worse kind of abuse that America has to offer . . ." Filipinos are the most unstable sector of the working class, facing problems of housing, deportation, licensure and employment in jobs unrelated to their skills.

Having presented a lucid analysis of the issue, Tamayo then pointed out the need for the convention to give focus to the immigrant problem. "We must talk about immigrant rights simply out of necessity," he said, noting that the last five years have shown a deepening crisis in the U.S. politics and economy. This period also witnessed the increasing attacks against immigrants — the 4-H trainees, nurses, doctors, SSI recipients — whom the government claims are "taking away the jobs from Americans."

Offering a solution to the problem, Tamayo stressed the need for a national plan, coordination and approach to the problem, and called for a national organization with the purpose of defending the rights of immigrants in this country.

### Dr. Alona Addresses Meeting

Another speaker at the convention's opening assembly was Dr. Bienvenido Alona, a Filipino doctor with the U.S. Navy. Alona faces a criminal perjury charge by the federal government. (See front page article, national edition.)

Vowing his innocence and charging racism in his case, Alona talked about the circumstances that led to the government charge against him. Alona urged the delegates to support him, saying that he is another victim of discrimination targeting the Filipino community.

Maria Abadesco, who nationally coordinates the Alona defense movement from Oxnard, California, spoke afterwards. She called on the conventioners to "be involved in exposing this injustice . . . by writing the Oxnard District Attorney to drop the charges, collecting signatures for the petition to drop the case and demonstrating in Oxnard on Sept. 24, the trial date for Alona."

### Prop. 13 Decried

The last of the speakers was Jessica Ordone, former director of the recently closed Filipino Immigrant Services in Oakland. Ordone's talk focused on Proposition 13, the purported tax relief initiative. Prop. 13 has caused massive cutbacks in vitally needed human services, including defunding of FIS, child care centers and bilingual education centers in California.

Ordone presented an analysis of the Prop. 13 and urged the convention delegates to stop any further cutbacks due to this regressive tax relief initiative by fighting back.

### Workshops

When the opening assembly ended, the convention broke up into eight work-

(continued on page s-2)

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGION

COMMENTARY

SCRAP THE DECOY PROGRAM!

By WILLY BRIONES  
AK Correspondent

*Good Samaritan gets proper come-uppance: Miss Sandy L., a great-hearted young person, saw an old woman pass out in a Tenderloin doorway at 9 a.m., so she stuck a dollar bill into her pocket. A moment later, Sandy found a "bum" at each elbow, demanding to know what she had taken OUT of the old woman's pocket. When she explained, one "bum" said, "Look, don't bother derelicts in doorways — that one is a police officer and so are we." He reached into the "old lady's" pocket. "And here's your dollar back." (Reprinted from the San Francisco Chronicle)*

But Herminigildo Aquino was not as fortunate as Good Samaritan Sandy.

In distress, Corazon Aquino, Hermie's wife, called us at 4 a.m., August 8, telling us that her husband was in jail for grand theft felony after picking up \$4 from the street and attempting to return it to its possible owner, a wino sprawled out on the pavement. (See news article, this page.)

In the 11 years that the Aquinos have lived in the U.S., from the International Hotel to the South of Market neighborhood, they have

"kept their records clean". Despite the difficulties of raising five children on his meager pay as a security guard - Aquino claims he never took anything from anyone. He told us that as a security guard he had even been assigned to pick up money from banks and other businesses, handling thousands of dollars. "If I was going to steal, I might as well steal thousands, not just \$4.00," pointed out the victim, "I had a lot of chances to do that before but I never even thought of it that way." Clearly, an individual injustice has been committed here against Hermie and his family. But this is not simply a question of guilt or innocence. Aquino and the other residents of the South of Market neighborhood who have heard about it, shudder at the thought that they are still the potential victims of this "Decoy Program" where theft opportunities are made very attractive; waiting to entice the next innocent bystander to take the bait.

There is a crucial distinction between criminal offense on the part of the accused and implanting, soliciting, or encouraging that idea by the police.

For example, if a mugger has been preying upon nurses leaving a hospital and walking to the bus stop late at night, a female officer may decoy as a nurse, making repeated circuits from

the hospital to the bus stop until the mugger attempts to victimize her. At this point, instituting a decoy tactic simply means disguising a police officer to become a potential victim of a crime.

But in this program in South of Market, the police are not detecting criminal activity, but engendering it. Leaving the money in front of poor people in the manner they do can be seen in no other way.

Even internal SFPD memos cite that strict guidelines must be followed to avoid entrapment. In a memorandum by Lt. Charles F. Beene, Officer-in-Charge of the SFPD states specifically:

- "The following tactics are not used:
- Assuming a prone position
- Assuming the role of an intoxicated person
- Flagrantly displaying U.S. currency or other items of great value, on the person of the decoy, for example, a \$10 bill sticking out of a shirt pocket."

However, if these guidelines were followed, the South of Market "de-

coy" program would not be able to produce the same number of arrests as it does presently.

According to Dennis P. Riordan in a *San Francisco Examiner* commentary, Oct. 25, 1977: "An ordinary police officer hopes for a night when no crimes occur on his beat. For decoy operatives, a crime-free tour of duty would be a dismal failure."

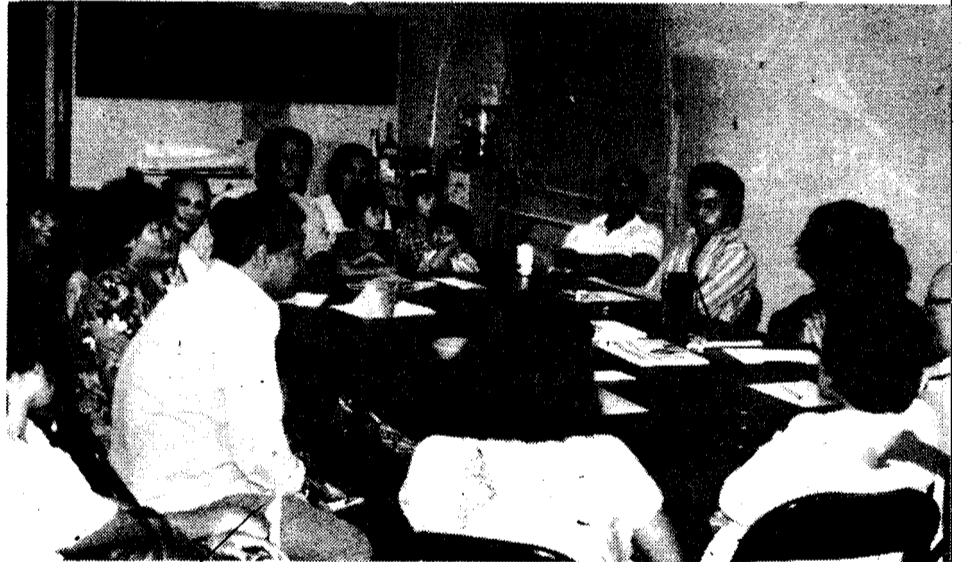
This contradiction in priorities is seen most clearly in the recent threatened cutback of the Senior Citizens Escort Program. Positive crime prevention programs in the area are also lacking like improved street lighting and rehabilitation programs that would take the "winos" off the streets where they are easily victimized.

Frankly, we can see no reason why the present "decoy" program should be continued. If anything, it should be eliminated and all other "decoy" programs of its type should be reviewed.

The residents of South of Market are on the right track and we applaud their courage to question the program and demand justice for Hermie Aquino. □

Residents Form Committee

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZES, CONDEMNS DECOY PROGRAM



South of Market residents meet to discuss the Aquino case.

(AK Photo)

By WILLY BRIONES  
AK Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO — When South of Market resident, Herminigildo Aquino, was recently arrested by the City's decoy police squad, angry neighbors organized a protest, decrying the action as entrapment.

The residents of the predominantly Filipino neighborhood met Aug. 25 and formed a Residents Committee to educate and organize the neighborhood to oppose the police department's "Decoy Program" warning other residents not to be victimized by the police.

"This program attracts criminal activity instead of minimizing it," pointed out Aquino.

GRAND THEFT CHARGED

Aquino, 31, father of five, was arrested in the early morning of Aug. 8 and booked for grand theft felony. Although the charge was later lowered to grand theft misdemeanor last Aug. 16, he still faces the possibility of six months to one year imprisonment and a fine of \$500.

As reported in a special leaflet

circulated in the neighborhood, Aquino recounted his ordeal.

Around 2:00 a.m., Thursday, Aug. 8, Aquino was returning home from his job as a security guard when he decided to go to the store for some candies and gum for his kids. Leaving the store, he stepped on a wad of paper which he passed at first, but decided to turn back to check it out. It was money, \$4 right on the sidewalk, a foot away from what looked like a "wino." He picked up the money and left; but after about 30 steps, it crossed his mind that it might belong to the poor derelict sprawled on the street. As soon as he turned around to return the money, however, he was set upon by the police and arrested.

Aquino related that he was arrogantly treated by arresting officers; one almost smacked his badge in Aquino's face to show his identity. Another officer made a sly comment of "sending him back to Marcos." Aquino noted that his rights were not even read to him during the process, a clear legal violation.

This kind of police entrapment has been taking place in this resi-

(continued on page s-4)

FWC...



(continued from front page)

shops: Senior Citizens, Education/Immigration, Labor/Employment, Philippines Today, and Art and Culture.

Many delegates described that discussions in the workshops were "lively and interesting." One of those in the immigration workshop said, "The discussion in the workshop was spirited. I did not fall asleep!"

In the controversial Philippines Today workshop, 50 delegates exchanged ideas, opinions, and reports about the Philippines. The delegates were either pro-martial law like Melicio Jacaban, the former editor of the pro-Marcos Bataan News paper, anti-martial law like Rene Cruz of the Anti-Martial Law Coalition or neutral.

"Visions of a Warbride"

As has been the tradition, the first day of the convention ends with the night of cultural presentation. This year's FWC witnessed the preview of the Sining Bayan's production of its new play "Visions of a Warbride." This musical drama directed by Ermena Vinluan of the KDP's National Cultural Group, is an attempt to portray the life experiences of Filipina women who came to the U.S. as brides of Filipinos in the U.S. military shortly after World War II. The play succeeds as many viewers, themselves

warbrides, could identify with the play's description of a warbride's life.

Bringing back memories of bitter experiences as a non-white people with a foreign accent, the play moved many in the audience to tears.

Resolutions

As the last day of the convention came, the delegates moved quickly in formulating working resolutions and resolutions of principle. That sultry Sunday morning the logistics committee members of the FWC organizers were busy producing copies of the various resolutions for distribution among the delegates.

That afternoon, the closing assembly began at 2:00 p.m. It was here that resolutions were raised, discussed, voted on or amended by the delegates. Most of the workshops presented resolutions. Yet the most significant one was the resolution from the immigration workshop that will launch a Nationwide Task Force on immigration rights. This Task Force, overwhelmingly approved by the '79 FWC, will perform further research on the issue and will set to form a national organization next year to defend the rights of immigrants in the U.S.

Other noteworthy resolutions passed were those on the convention's all-out support for Dr. Alona, and the opposition to the "Robbins Amendment" that would make it more difficult to mandate school districts to desegregate, and the resolution to hold the 1980 FWC in San Francisco. In addition, the workshop on Philippines condition passed a resolution against the martial law regime.

Closing the convention was Ferd Galvez, principal of a school in Sacramento. Galvez acknowledged that although those who attended hold "differences in ideology..." the FWC was still a confirmation that the Filipino community could be united along a common objective. Galvez said, "We must accept and respect differences..." and rise to the call for action.

It is now up to the Filipino community in San Francisco, host city of the 1980 FWC, to also prove Filipinos can join together amidst differences to fight racial and national discrimination. □

## SEATTLE REGION

## UNION BUSTING IN ALASKA CANNERIES

First of a two-series article

SEATTLE — A Local 37 ILWU Investigating Team recently returned from Alaska after investigating charges of a full-blown campaign to "bust the union" was in progress at the New England Fish Company (NEFCO) Uganik Bay Plant.

Representing the Union on the Investigating Team were: Glen Suson, this year's delegate (shop steward) at Uganik; and Silme Domingo, a member of the Local 37 Executive Council and the recently organized Investigating Committee.

The Investigation Team was sanctioned by the Executive Council on August 8, after Suson made a report regarding the campaign to break the union at Uganik Bay. Suson, who had returned to Seattle three days earlier after suffering a severe injury on the job, reported that there was a petition being circulated amongst Local 37 members.

"According to some union members who had been approached to sign," Suson explained, "the petition was calling for NEFCO to 'decertify the union.' Essentially, the petition is calling for NEFCO to no longer recognize the Union as the legal representative and collective bargaining agent of cannery workers."

Furthermore, Suson pointed out that the petition was being spearheaded by Laura Johnson and Carol Vincent, two white women who had refused to join the union after a 30-day grace period. Johnson and Vincent's refusal to join the Union was in gross violation of the Local 37's "closed shop" agreement with NEFCO which guarantees that no non-union mem-

bers can work in Local 37's jurisdiction.

Suson alleged that NEFCO was aiding and abetting Johnson and Vincent's union-busting activities by refusing to terminate the two despite a formal grievance filed by Suson with NEFCO's Uganik Superintendent Kern Roberts. Suson speculated that NEFCO is probably the force behind Johnson and Vincent.

The most disturbing part of Suson's report was the disclosure that Union members were collaborating in the union-busting effort. Suson specifically named Hazel Diaz, wife of the cannery worker foreman as among those union members who were rumored to be pushing for the petition. "In fact," Suson stated, "some of our members claim that the petition read: 'I, Hazel Diaz, the undersigned . . .'"

In concluding his report, Suson firmly demanded: "We cannot take this lying down. We must confront this now. The Union must fight back." Suson then added: "We should send an investigating team to Uganik and expose these anti-union activities. But most important, we must educate our members on the present situation and unite them around supporting the Union."

Upon hearing Suson's report, the Executive Board unanimously voted to send an investigating team to Uganik and named Suson and Domingo to represent the Union. In naming Domingo, the Executive Council noted Domingo's five-year work experience at Uganik and his role as shop steward during the 1978 season.

### THREE GOALS

On August 14, the Investigating



Women Alaskeros at the patching line of Uganik Bay Cannery. (AK Photo)

Team departed Seattle for Uganik Bay which is on Kodiak Island. According to Suson, they had the following goals. "First, we want to investigate the union-busting efforts. Second, we want to work with our members and conduct a mass membership meeting to educate them on the present situation. Third, issue the union position on the non-membership of Johnson and Vincent."

Upon arriving at Uganik Bay at 7 p.m., August 14, Suson and Domingo immediately notified Superintendent Roberts and Ivan Fox, NEFCO Vice-President in charge of Alaska operations, of their order of business. Noticeably caught by surprise, Roberts and Fox initially refused the Union representatives access to the cannery, despite warnings that they would be in violation of the National Labor Relations Act by refusing Union representatives access to the membership. After a brief, but heated exchange, the NEFCO officials hesitantly relented and allowed the Team to stay on the premises.

### ORDERED OFF THE CANNERY

Domingo and Suson immediately began their investigation. However, within 30 minutes of their previous meeting with NEFCO, they were summoned back to NEFCO's office. At that point, Roberts and Fox reversed their previous position and ordered the Investigating Team to immediately leave NEFCO's private property. Roberts stated that a seaplane was being rerouted back to

Uganik to pick the team up and that the Team was to leave at the point. (Uganik Bay is only accessible by chartered seaplane or by boat.)

At that point, Domingo responded: "You are in violation of the NRLA by refusing to allow us access to our members and by failing to act in good faith bargaining with the Union. If you choose to violate the law that is your problem. However, if you are charging us with trespassing, we will need written explanation."

Fox immediately refused to provide the demanded written explanation.

Refusing to be intimidated, Domingo adamantly resounded: "We are not leaving without written explanation. If you refuse, you must physically remove us from the cannery."

Fox obliged, "... that can easily be done."

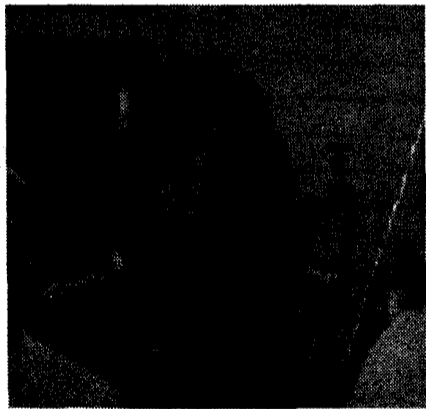
However, at that point, Fox and Roberts realized that the Team was not going to be intimidated to leave. Contact was hastily made with NEFCO officials in Seattle who upheld the union's right to conduct union business at any plant within the scope of the contract. Yet, Domingo and Suson were to find out later that this position would change within hours. In fact, by the morning of August 15, they were to be ordered off the premises once again. The Team eventually left Uganik only 19 hours after their arrival.

(Next issue will be on the union membership's feelings about the union busting moves by NEFCO.

— Editor



Silme Domingo



Glen Suson

## TRAVEL EDITOR PAINTS FALSE IMAGE OF MARTIAL LAW

By LENI MARIN  
AK Correspondent

Stanton H. Patty, the *Seattle Times* assistant travel editor, visited the Philippines recently as a guest of the Philippine Ministry of Tourism on a tour arranged by the Pan American World Airways. Mr. Patty has been running a series of articles in the *Times* on his Philippine visit.

After reading any one of the series of articles done by Mr. Patty, one is left with a feeling of awe at the wealth of physical grandeur of the Philippines. But the awe quickly turns into uneasiness. Is the Philippines really just an idyllic Pacific paradise with happy smiling people? Mr. Patty, like most travelogue writers who produce fantasies for tourist consumption, fails to present a total and objective picture of the Philippines. In this respect, he

does exactly what the Marcos regime has been doing: Painting an image of "smiling Martial Law" to attract not only tourists but foreign investors to take advantage of the cheap raw materials and labor in the Philippines.

For the unbiased traveller, it takes only a short time to see beyond the plush hotels the desperate economic situation in the country. This year, there is a record-breaking 40 percent inflation rate causing dramatic increases in basic commodities and transportation. But of course, tourists with dollars do not feel the impact since a dollar is equivalent to about ₱9.50 while the average daily wage for a Filipino worker is ₱11. In Zamboanga, Mr. Patty romantically calls the Muslims who live on stilts over the sea "sea gypsies." These people may be gypsies only because they have not been provided any land to

live on and although their stilts may lend a picturesque atmosphere against the ocean, they live in the most squalid conditions.

When Mr. Patty started his article on Mindanao with a quote "Oh, the monkeys have no tails in Zamboanga," it is not altogether clear what he wanted to convey. To put the phrase in its historical perspective, it is taken from a song that American troops popularized in the Philippine-American War at the turn of the century. The song was loaded with racist overtones. The monkeys (Filipinos) were the target of American aggression in a war of resistance to American occupation. More than 800,000 lives (one-eighth of the total Filipino population at that time) were lost in that "First Vietnam."

Then Mr. Patty goes on to recall that Zamboanga's Pasonanca Park

was named after Gen. John (Blackjack) Pershing who "put down a Moro uprising and served as governor of the province." If Mr. Patty takes great pride in this, he should complete his story about Pershing. "Blackjack" Pershing ordered the Bud Bagsak Battle of 1913 wherein several hundreds of Muslim men, women and children trapped in a volcano crater were slaughtered by American mortars and guns.

As the anniversary of martial law draws near, the Marcos dictatorship is feverishly trying to cosmetize its notorious regime overseas. For after seven years of martial rule, the Marcos regime has remained one of the most brutal dictatorships which continue to violate human rights. The regime's schemes include hiring the services of a public relations firm in the U.S., showing cultural extravaganzas and putting up advertisements in magazines. Hosting travel editors to tour the Philippines is another. □

# Oxnard Filipinos Form Alona Defense Group

By VINCE REYES  
AK Correspondent

One feels a slow, even pace in Oxnard. The rural surroundings generate a distinctive calmness. Open highways running through miles of farmland create the illusion that you are miles from urban life yet the heart of busy downtown Los Angeles is only an hour and a half away.

It has been more than 30 years since Filipino workers lived the social pace of Oxnard with strikes determined to better their living and working conditions. Although successful in many of their efforts, the exploitation of Filipinos continued as the community retained its rural character.

Post World War II settled Ft. Hueneme and brought in Navy recruits, many of whom were Filipino. Thus the community, although small in number and somewhat isolated from the urban areas still reflected the immigration pattern of the Filipino population nationwide.

Today, one's first glance at Oxnard would have one think that nothing much has changed over the past

decade or so. But a closer examination reveals that a formidable suburb has developed and that the influence of the Naval base has in fact changed the racial and economic composition of Oxnard. What does not seem to have changed is the racial prejudice of the past against minorities. Last year the Ku Klux Klan made headlines with the exposure of their existence in the area.

Things have changed also for Filipinos. A smaller number are now working in the fields and a larger number are now involved with military and military related occupations. The number of professionals is also growing to meet the needs of Oxnard growing population.

But one thing hasn't changed. And that is the tradition of Filipinos in Oxnard to fight against injustices stemming from racial discrimination.

Filipinos in a new era are still organizing to fight for their rights. This time Filipinos are coming to the aid of Dr. Bienvenido Alona who is being charged with perjury in a child abuse case. (Details in this issue.) Alona's case has recently been in the

center of the public eye as witnessed by the numerous defense and fundraising committees which have sprouted around the country.

In Oxnard, a committed group of people including Alona's wife, Emy, friends and people with a sincere concern for Alona, have for several months been gathering support. At a meeting last August 23, the groups more seriously assessed their role as a defense committee. "Ben is only the embodiment of an injustice that reflects discrimination in the system," asserted Emy Alona, the moving force behind the committee. One member, Maria Abadesco of the KDP, expressed the sentiments of others: "We are not just talking of just this one incident, but about all other cases and forms of discrimination. In taking up Dr. Alona's case, we are educating others to stand up for their rights and struggle in their own situations of discrimination."

Already, the Oxnard committee has chalked up the several months of publicity work and fundraising activities for the legal costs of Alona's case. Most notable has been their picket in

front of the Courthouse in Oxnard, protesting the D.A.'s treatment of the case. This action served to highlight the case as a clear-cut example of racist frame-up.

The Oxnard Committee is now the coordinating center of a nationwide network of local defense committees that have been formed in all major cities of the U.S. It has issued a National Call for all defense committees to launch a petition and letter campaign directed at the D.A.'s office, demanding the dropping of charges against Alona. The committee is also coordinating a large demonstration in Oxnard on September 24, the day of Alona's hearing.

With all these organizing work currently underway, the Alona Defense Committee is certainly hastening the pace of Oxnard's daily life. Filipinos are again at the forefront of defending people's rights in Oxnard. One of the goals of the committee as one member put it is "to put Oxnard on the map." Their success will surely make Alona's case as well as Oxnard another symbol of fighting against racial injustice. □

## DECOY PROGRAM...



Hermie Aquino with his family.

(continued from page 2)

dential area as well as in the Tenderloin and the Western Addition/Fillmore, all low-income, minority neighborhoods. Policy decoys posing as derelicts or unconscious drunks lie on the streets with their wallets or money sticking out to entice any passerby to commit petty theft.

### PETITION, PROTEST TO D.A.

Every since the incident the residents have been very concerned and are taking active steps to organize. Within a week of Aquino's arrest, there have been several meetings with leaflets circulating and door-to-door discussions buzzing through the neighborhood.

"Let's move quickly, get those petitions out to everyone, and register our protests," reported Emily Evangelista, a resident and social worker in the neighborhood.

Their demands include:

1. Drop the charges against Herminigildo Aquino and issue a public apology for the harassment and

mental anguish it has caused him and his family.

2. Take disciplinary actions against the arresting officers for not following standard operational procedures in effecting the program. Give the Residents Committee a report on the effectiveness of the "Decoy Program" including a financial statement on the costs to sustain it, rationale on why only the South of Market, Tenderloin, and Western Edition neighborhoods are being targeted, and justification of the use of "decoys" as an alternative form of policing.

3. Increase the funding for real crime prevention projects like the "senior citizens escort service," more lights for streets, and rehabilitation centers for alcoholics.

The Residents Committee is also raising funds to carry out this education-petition campaign more effectively and help with legal fees for Aquino. Assistance is needed—call Hermie and Cora Aquino at 863-5691 or the KDP-San Francisco Chapter at 239-5449 for more information. □

## Funds Raised for AMLC Newsletter



Seattle AMLA members sing "Ang Bayan Ko" at recent fundraiser.

SEATTLE—In an enthusiastic show of support for the *Taliba*, the Anti-Martial Law Coalition newsletter, 75 members of the Seattle Filipino community and their American friends attended the fundraising dinner/auction, August 24, at the Filipino Community Center in Empire Way.

The event, sponsored by the Seattle Anti-Martial Law Alliance, was held to raise funds for the timely publication of the *Taliba* to keep the community informed of developments in the Philippines. Before the evening was over, the Alliance was able to raise about \$500 from the food and auction proceeds. It also gained more support from the community in the form of pledges to attend the September 21 picket, now an annual protest action by anti-martial law forces in the U.S. to mark the declaration of martial law in the Philippines in 1972. The dinner/auction likewise acquired pledges for monthly donations for *Taliba* printing and for help in its distribution in this city.

The event was a community effort all throughout. Forms of participation ranged from cooking the dinner, donating auction items, to clean-up of the hall where the dinner/auction was held.

The evening started with a traditional Filipino dinner of *pancit*, *lumpia* and *pan de sal*, followed by a cultural program. Guests enjoyed the folk dances superbly performed by the

Folklorico Filipino, the Shona songs and dances from Zimbabwe by the SWINYAI Troupe, a *kundiman* by two AMLA supporters, and the ever-popular "Ang Bayan Ko" by the Alliance members. Short presentations by the AMLA on the significance of *Taliba* distribution and September 22 preceded the short slide show on present conditions in the Philippines and U.S. collusion with the Marcos dictatorship.

Finally, the witty auctioneer, another AMLA supporter, added a lot of fun to the evening by creatively enticing the audience to buy the attractive sale items. He interspersed the auctioning with reminders on how the funds can help distribute more *Talibas*. Generous bids were therefore called on a jewelry box made by a political prisoner, leather Indian stools, TV, radio, bed, etc.

A Filipino supporter, enthused by the success of the event said, "I wish more Filipinos had been around to participate in this enjoyable and greatly informative evening."

An American guest, moved by the slide show, added his comment, "I did not realize that the present economic and political situation in the Philippines is this serious. I certainly would not want the Philippines to be another Vietnam."

Both signed up to pledge more support for the work of the Seattle Anti-Martial Law Alliance. □