

United Actions Called for Sept. 22



Protest against martial law, as in S.F. (above) have taken place since its declaration on September 22, 1972.

Special to the Ang Katipunan

NEW YORK — The National Coordinating Committee of the Anti Martial Law Movement in the U.S. calls upon all organizations and individuals fighting the Marcos regime to unite in joint actions to expose the dictatorship on Sept. 22. For the Filipino people, Sept. 22 marks the "anniversary" of the declaration of martial law and the beginning of the 4th year of fascist rule in the Philippines. This dictatorship has held sway for four years and has not shown a single sign of ever shedding its fascist character, but has in fact, intensified its attacks on the Filipino people under the cover of a "smiling martial law." As the Philippine nation faces this fascist "anniversary," all those who oppose this dictatorship must strengthen their unity and show

that the four years of repression has also meant four years of resistance on the part of the Filipino people in the homeland and abroad.

The urgency of having a united condemnation of the Marcos regime on Sept. 22 is especially important given the increasing agony of the thousands of political prisoners still detained. We are aware of the tribulations such prisoners as Frs. Ed de la Torre and Manuel Lahoz, Sen. Benigno Aquino, and Nilo Tayag are facing. Many prisoners have faced brutal tortures in the hands of the Marcos troops including the ice block and hot flat iron tortures, rape, morphine injections, beatings, electrode torture, and even murder. The health of thousands of prisoners are steadily deteriorating as they are made to subsist on a diet of rotten fish, rice, and thin soup. Cases of tuberculosis and dysentery are increasing as detainees are provided only with primitive medical and sanitary facilities. The families of political prisoners also suffer greatly as they often lose the breadwinner and are even blacklisted themselves and often cannot find work.

JOINT ACTIONS

The National Coordinating Committee believes that the grievous situation faced by the political prisoners should be fully exposed in
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U.S. Keeps Bases Despite "New" Treaty

Contrary to the regime's contention that its moves to "take-over" US bases and revise existing treaties signify a break from US-dictated policies, the forthcoming US-RP military renegotiations promises to cement a new defense relationship.

This new defense relationship is based upon covert collusion, an emerging policy that is forcibly being shaped by the changing realities in Asia. With the victory of the liberation struggle in Indochina, the US has been totally discredited, its position now less secure in the area. To accommodate these new realities and to prevent itself from being completely isolated, US policy in Asia has been undergoing conspicuous changes. Concretely, this has meant making some minor concessions while not relinquishing its strategic presence in the region. The contours of this new policy is now emerging and it is becoming clear that future US participation in the area will take the form of underplaying its role while bolstering U.S. support for its local stooges.

RENEGOTIATIONS—COVER FOR COVERT COLLUSION

Revamping the present US-RP military agreements with something less flagrant and more subtle is the underlying thread in the revision of the US-RP Bases Agreement, Military Assistance Pact, Mutual Defense Treaty—the top

agenda items of the talks. Clearly, the tacit unity of the Marcos regime and the US government is the preservation of the US as a Pacific power. While the Marcos government has demanded the end of extra-territoriality over US bases, it has hastened to qualify that "we are willing to enter into new arrangements that would help the
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Far West Convention Unites Hundreds Against Discrimination

BERKELEY—The 1975 Pilipino People's Far West Convention will be held here on August 29-31 at the University of California. United under the theme, "Paglingkuran ang Sambayan" (Serve the People), this year's FWC expects to bring together 1,000 Pilipinos in an intensive weekend of cultural activities, workshops and joint action building. A special highlight of the weekend event will be the performance of "Isuda Ti Imuna" (They Who Were First) on Saturday night at Zellerbach Auditorium, U.C.B. The play is a revival of the Manongs' past history that demonstrates their strengths, aspirations and oppression in this country.

Since 1971 the Far West Convention has played a key role in drawing Pilipinos together to discuss their problems and to exchange ideas which would bring about necessary changes. With the desire to maintain its important function in uniting and developing a progressive Pilipino movement, this year's convention made a serious examination of the weakness of the previous FWC's. It was felt that past FWC's had not been genuine working conventions with the aim of developing resolutions that would stimulate joint projects and activities with real action behind them. The lack of collective implementation of resolutions stems from lacking minimum principles of unity among delegates as the starting point of convention work, and the failure to follow-up the resolutions passed within the FWC.

POINTS OF UNITY

The first major move then in building the "working character" of the 1975 FWC took place at a March 15th mass meeting of Pilipinos from the Northern California region. In this meeting, past resolutions were examined and two threads of unity which joined together the experiences of the Pilipino community were carefully noted:

We must recognize that Pilipinos, as a minority in the the U.S., must function in an atmosphere of racial and national discrimination. The struggle to maintain our Pilipino identity and to be recognized



Pictured above is a panel from the Educational Sectoral Conference, one of seven conferences held in preparation for this year's F.W.C.

as an equal is a daily struggle. We encounter discrimination in all fields, such as housing, education, employment...and it is this obstacle we must overcome in order to progress as a people.

Although we live in this country, the Philippines should be free and independent country with a democratic form of government. We must not sever our ties with the Philippines through apathy and ignorance.

These points of unity can unite the whole Pilipino community and move it in a forward, positive direction. They also convey the understanding that despite all the differences among us in our political, social, religious, and provincial attitudes, these are basic points of agreement and understanding which can result in areas of joint action.
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Marcos Attempts Bribery Cover-up

By Sherry Valparaiso

Trying to cover up his \$100,000 bribe attempt to keep Primitivo Mijares from testifying against the Martial law dictatorship at the U.S. Senate hearings, Marcos claimed that Mijares is a double agent sent here to spy on the anti martial law movement.

Two weeks following the disclosures of the bribe attempt, Marcos "revealed his side of the story" in a long, 1500 word cablegram to American syndicated columnist Jack Anderson. Detailing Mijares' alleged "double-spy status" Marcos stated, "Having infiltrated the anti-Philippine government elements who, according to him, were involved deeply in a plot to assassinate the president of the Philippines he (Mijares) offered to furnish information regarding this plot." The payments Marcos claimed were not only to "ensure a continuous flow of information," but also to establish a pro-Marcos newspaper in California. The report also alleges that the assassination plot was
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'Beware of Hermie Rotea'

EDITORIAL

Rotea Distorts Facts to Slander K.D.P

Several weeks ago in the PHILIPPINE NEWS, the KDP was maliciously attacked as spreading "false rumors" about MFP president, ex-Sen. Manglapus; and then we were accused of being "Marcos spies" infiltrating the ranks of the anti-martial law movement as part of a plot to sabotage it—masterminded in Manila! These ridiculous charges were made in a column (July 26-August 1) entitled "Spies, Traitors Must Be Purged" by Hermie Rotea, who is also the chairman of the MFP Los Angeles chapter. Mr. Rotea took it upon himself to launch these allegations because the KDP recently criticized ex-Sen. Manglapus for having top secret negotiations last March with U.S. Ambassador Wm. Sullivan at Clark Air Base in the Philippines.

First, the KDP maintains that this criticism of Mr. Manglapus was not based on a "false rumor" spread by a "Marcos publication" in the Philippines. In the ANG KATIPUNAN editorial explaining our criticism, we made specific reference to our source of information; the AGHAM BAYAN (Science for the people) is a popular anti martial law underground newspaper published by the Liga ng Agham Para Sa Bayan (League of Scientists for the People). Furthermore, we cannot accept Mr. Rotea's opinion that such a question of Mr. Manglapus' possible ties with the CIA or U.S. State Department is nothing but trivial hair-splitting. Indeed, the role of Amb. Sullivan and the U.S. government's backing of the Marcos dictatorship have been long proven facts—and any secret ties of Manglapus to these forces certainly raises the danger of compromise or outright capitulation to the fascist regime.

While ex-Sen. Manglapus has publicly denied visiting Clark Air Base on his recent trip to Asia, he has still not fully denied any such links with the

U.S. State Dept., CIA or American corporate interests in the Philippines. In this sense, the question of Mr. Manglapus' ties with U.S. interests and possible secret negotiations with the Marcos dictatorship remain a standing question within the anti martial law movement.

In addition, the KDP has not raised these questions of ex-Sen. Manglapus' ties with U.S. interests as an act of support for the dictatorship, but in fact, to warn of the dangers of capitulation to the regime and its backers. We have not raised these criticisms to create disunity, but in fact to halt the existing trends towards anti-unity activities by the MFP which is led by Mr. Manglapus. And on this point we must certainly disagree with Rotea's assertion of the MFP's track record of great "unity and cooperation" with other anti martial law groups.

The MFP did not even invite other group to participate in its Washington, D.C. rally to oppose the sham referendum in February, and would not participate in a united action at the NY Philippine Trade Center called by other anti martial law forces. During the June 12 pickets at Philippine Consulates, the MFP chapters in NY and LA refused to co-sponsor the joint actions of the anti martial law groups in those areas. And as for the Congressional hearings on U.S. aid to Marcos, most of the MFP ignored the 6 months of coordinated joint projects to circulate petitions and prepare materials and witnesses for the Washington D.C. testimonies. At the last minute, the MFP organized its own appearances at the hearings and wanted to fully utilize all the materials prepared by the National Coordinating Committee of the Anti Martial Law Movement.

The MFP not only refused to fully participate in the first National Conference of the Anti Martial

law Movement, but has continually refused to join the National Coordinating Committee formed afterwards to organize these joint projects against the dictatorship. At the MFP National Convention held in Chicago in 1974, the KDP proposal for the National Conference and a Coalition of all Anti Martial Law groups was received with warm applause by MFP delegates. Certainly, the elected leadership of the MFP is in a position of some form of decision making on such a crucial question interim of its National Convention. Despite such acts of disunity, the KDP has patiently continued to encourage the MFP to join together with other anti martial law forces whenever possible and we have welcomed their cooperation whenever it has taken place.

But who is this champion of "unity and cooperation." Hermie Rotea, who has launched such slanderous attacks on the KDP as to infer it has somehow turned pro-Marcos. Rotea's bitter-sweet pleas of unity represent the most hypocritical sham since Rotea himself is notorious for his anti-unity activities in LA and has actively opposed cooperation among anti-Marcos groups there. For example, the MFP LA chapter organized a picket at the Consulate protesting the sham Feb. 27th referendum, but did not even invite the other anti martial law groups to attend or co-sponsor it and restricted any literature or picket signs other than those of the MFP. In fact, Rotea tried to kick the KDP and NCRCLP off the picketline and refused to allow the use of a KDP banner which read "Marcos Referendum Is A Sham." One would hardly know that Rotea is aware that "we are fighting a common enemy," as he purports in his slanderous column.

In a gross distortion of facts, Rotea alleged that the KDP was "pulling its punches" against the dictatorship, and insinuated that KDP was shifting to a pro-Marcos position, simply based on the recently established diplomatic ties between the Philippines and People's China. The facts remain that while Marcos was in China, the KDP was actively initiating demonstrations protesting Marcos' so-called "Freedom Day" which were launched in 7 cities across the U.S. on June 12. While KDP was continuing the fight against the dictatorship, Hermie Rotea was nowhere to be found in the June 12 mass actions.

It is in fact such Rotea intrigues of "spies and traitors" which have been launched against the KDP that serve to divide and weaken the anti martial law movement. These charges of "pulling punches," being "traitors" and "little Benedict Arnolds" which Rotea has bandied about without the slightest shred of evidence or explanation constitute the "false rumors" which bolster the dictatorship. The history of KDP's militant resistance to the Marcos dictatorship is a fact which even the likes of Rotea are unable to dismiss. The KDP is well aware of the danger of Marcos infiltration in the anti martial law movement, and has been vigilant to remove any such traitors from our own ranks. We only hope that the MFP also takes heed of the danger of capitulation to the Marcos regime or its U.S. backers within their own ranks.

We are confident that the vast majority of MFP members will carefully consider these warnings and the seriousness of their implications. We also hope that Mr. Manglapus and the MFP will disregard the baseless slurs of Rotea's smear campaign, and will unite with the entire anti martial law movement to deal greater blows to the Marcos dictatorship on its 4th "anniversary"—September 22. □

RP Establishes Diplomatic Ties with N. Vietnam

By Ma. Flor Sepulveda

Scoring a major diplomatic victory for itself, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) recently established diplomatic ties with the Philippines. During a ceremony in Hanoi, on August 7, the 2 governments agreed on the principles governing the relations between them and sealed this agreement with the signing of a joint communique.

In what amounted to a major concession, the Philippines pledged that it will not allow the US to use its territory against the people of Viet Nam and other Indochinese countries. Other points of the joint communique included:

1. Respect for the fundamental national rights and the right to self-determination of each peoples; non-aggression and non-interference in each others internal affairs in any act that may harm each others sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity.
2. Establishment of friendly and good neighborly relations between the 2 countries; economic and cultural exchanges on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

To remove the remaining irritants between them, the Philippines further promised to return all vessels and aircraft formerly belonging to the Saigon regime to the Provisional Revolutionary Government of S. Viet Nam and promised not to hold Vietnamese refugees against their will.

FORMER SUPPORTERS OF WAR

The Marcos regime's decision to establish ties with Hanoi represents a tactical retreat from its former stance of outright support and complicity with American aggression against the Indochinese people. Throughout the course of the Viet Nam war, the Philippine government, most especially the Marcos administration, played a supporting role to America's war in Indochina and allowed the US to use Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base as the staging grounds for the war. Under the Macapagal administration, the Philippines became directly involved through committing its own aggressor troops called the PHILCAG (Philippine Civic Action Group) detachment. Later, under the Marcos administration, more mercenaries were

dispatched under the dubious "Operations Brotherhood" program and the PHILCON. America's dastardly crimes against the Vietnamese people and the supportive role the Philippines played to foment this aggression, have always been adamantly opposed and condemned by the Filipino people. The upsurge of the national democratic movement during the mid-'60's to the early '70s was spanned by massive demonstrations against the war in Viet Nam and the Philippines' role in it.

For Marcos to now reverse his formerly hawkish stance is an admission that the US no longer holds much sway over Southeast Asia in the wake of its shattering defeat in Indochina.

REGIONAL DETENTE

Fully aware that the balance of power in Asia is now tipped in favor of the rising bloc of revolutionary governments and progressive movements, Marcos has tried to stem the tide of the national liberation struggles within the region with his own brand of detente.

The formalization of ties with Hanoi is a step towards the establishment of Marcos' Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality—a proposal initially raised to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations but momentarily shelved (see AK, June issue).

Recognizing that the US could no longer get directly involved in Asian diplomatic affairs, Marcos took the lead. His Peace Zone proposal basically called for a "stalemate" between communist and non-communist countries by forming a S.E. Asian organization to settle regional disputes. The organization was to be based on the principles of neutrality, non-alignment and nonviolence.

When the idea, however, was floated last May, the PRG of S. Viet Nam raised the question of a neutrality zone with countries having foreign military bases and treaties (referring particularly to the Philippines and Thailand). But now that Marcos is "renegotiating" the US bases and military treaties, and that both the Philippines and Thailand have called for the dissolution of SEATO, it is clear that Marcos is actively pursuing his regional detente concept, and ties with N. Viet Nam is a part of it. □

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Military Bases Stay Under US Control...

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US maintain an effective presence over the air and sea lanes of the Western Pacific."

Robert Funseth, spokesman for the State Department, has confirmed that the US position is to concede territorial rights over the bases in exchange for its continued use, which Marcos has guaranteed. (Oakland Tribune, Aug. 12)

The mere transfer of ownership of the bases from the US to the Philippines still allows the US to maintain its operations, and does not alter the strong US military presence in the country. It is therefore ridiculous that Philippines ownership of the bases ending of the practice of extra-territoriality along "will assure our dignity as a sovereign nation." His attempts to equate abolition of extra-territoriality with the achievement of "genuine sovereignty" is typical of Marcosian logic.

The issue of extra-territoriality has always been controversial and unpopular anyway. Under the present military bases agreement, American servicemen enjoy extra-territorial privileges which exempt them from Philippine prosecution for crimes committed against Filipinos. In the past, American military personnel have committed numerous murders and abuses against Filipinos but have been immune from prosecution. These crimes have aroused the hatred of the Filipino people, fanning the popular demand for the total abrogation of all unequal treaties. For Marcos to now harp for the abolition of extra-territoriality comes as a rather belated response to the 1969 killing of a shoe-shine boy suspected of stealing a bike by a US security guard; to the killing of a Filipino suspected of being a lurking "wild boar" by a navy petty officer; and to the 1970 rape of a Filipino by an American serviceman. These crimes incidentally all happened under his administration.

This delayed reaction on the dictator's part also evades the essence of US control. The Filipino people have long maintained that the attainment of "genuine independence" does not end with the abolition of extra-territorial privileges alone but with the total abrogation of all unequal treaties with the US.

OWNERSHIP OF BASES—NO SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE

In actuality, Philippine ownership of the bases does not threaten the strategic operations of the US in Asia. Marcos' sovereign claims over the bases only affects the misconduct of American servicemen, but does not determine how the US chooses to militarily utilize these bases. The concession of territoriality over Clark Air base does not detract from its essential function of being the largest arsenal for nuclear, chemical and bacteriological weapons in Asia. The same applies for the Subic Naval base. It will still continue to serve its indispensable strategic function as the largest naval base with the most naturally protected nuclear submarine facilities



in Asia. It will still be the headquarters and supply base of the Pacific Seventh Fleet—operations housebase for aircraft attack carriers, cruises and guided missile destroyers.

The US will readily make concessions that do not disturb the substance of these military operations.

Likewise, the other military treaties will be "renegotiated"—reworded and garnished with a sprinkling of nationalist dressing to conceal U.S. explicit role in Filipino internal affairs. Marcos will herald these prettified agreements as testaments to a new "self-reliant, independent" Philippines. Behind these high-sounding phrases lurks the reality of a totally dependent regime on U.S. aid.

U.S. MILITARY AID INCREASED

Despite Marcos' claims that U.S. military assistance to the Philippines has become gradually diminutive and is presently "irrelevant to the needs of the AFT," U.S. aid to the dictator has increased during these past 3 years. Aside from the military grants, other forms of aid have come through the Foreign Military Sales Credits Program (FMS) and the Excess Defense Articles (EDA) transfers. The FMS program extends credit to "friendly client states" of the U.S., allowing them to directly purchase the military equipment and services they require. Through the EDA, Surplus military equipment are transferred to client states at no cost.

Under martial law, there have been steep upswings in the appropriation of military aid to the Marcos regime. Aid appropriations through the MAP, FMS, EDA, JUSMAG, Police training and Ship transfers during the martial law years of 1973-1974 totals \$118.7-M. This figure represents nearly double the amount of \$60.2-M appropriated during the pre-martial law years of

1970, 1971, and 1972.

Marcos' ludicrous claims of receding assistance to his regime has been triggered by his fear that the U.S. will eventually cut-back its aid grants to the Philippines in the wake of mounting American public pressure on the U.S. Congress to cut-off aid to repressive regimes, including his own.

But even with the probability of military grant cutbacks, White House administrations have proven their capacity to circumvent Congress through indirect aid grants. For example, to compensate for the loss in grant monies, assistance falling under the FMA and EDA categories are simply increased.

Last year, a \$15.6-M loan was extended through the FMS for the financing of an M-16 rifle factory. The factory, which has a projected output of 15,000 rifles per year, is a strategic investment and will partially resolve Philippine dependency on imported armaments. This manner of funneling aid is in keeping with American policy of buttressing its puppets under the guise of "self-reliance."

In truth, Marcos has no intentions of challenging U.S. presence in the Philippines. On the contrary, Marcos is working for the preservation and consolidation of U.S. power in Asia. Marcos knows his survival depends on U.S. presence and support. That this was his intent was demonstrated in the statements he issued, guaranteeing U.S. investments will not be affected by the renegotiations.

The forthcoming U.S.-RP renegotiations is aimed at preserving this mutually beneficial relationship between the U.S. and Marcos. This much is evident and Romulo, Foreign Secretary of the Regime, confirmed this in a speech last July 4. To quote the reliable Marcos mouthpiece: "... The U.S.-RP renegotiations will be designed to reconcile the best long-term interest of the Philippines and the U.S." □

PESO PLUNGES ANOTHER 8%

The value of the almost-worthless peso has dropped again. The deflated peso has plummeted down another 8%, and is now worth P7.60 to one U.S. dollar from its previous P7.03. Under the martial law regime, the peso has continued its steady descent since its devaluation in 1970 when it sank to P6.00 per U.S. dollar from its level of P3.90/dollar.

The Marcos government has allowed the peso to float down in a bid to curtail the trend of increased importation which has created an unfavorable balance of trade payments.

The move came after the quarterly report of the Central Bank on the nation's economy. CB Gov. Licaros' optimistic pronouncements about the rosy state of the economy rang hollow after a harder look at the figures contained in the report. The foreign trade deficit hit \$420-M in the first half of the year, reserves slipped to \$1300-M from its previous \$1500-M and external debt rose from \$330-M to \$3532-M.

The government finally blamed the economic crisis on the continuous flow of costly non-essential imports, like cigarettes and liquor, which "whittle down" the dollars earned by the country's exports. The government hopes that the peso devaluation, with its corresponding

price increase on these imports will cut down on these imports.

Without an accompanying increase in wages, present wages are barely enough to cover the essential items of survival like food, clothing, shelter. The daily worry is survival, let alone worry about "non-essential imported goods." For the majority of Filipinos, the peso will now buy-even less food and clothing. Already the purchasing power of the peso has dropped down to .30 centavos. (Eco. Monitor, 7/4/75) In a survey of 244 workers in Metro Manila in late 1974, the median wage was P10.76 per day.

The effectiveness of this strategy however, is questionable. The logic of the Marcos technocrats is weak at best. The flood of imports which the government blames for the unfavorable balance of trade is not brought about by the importation of non-essential goods like cigarettes and liquor but rather by the importation of capital goods by U.S. multinational firms. The government's hopes that these U.S. firms would use local goods in their operations has not materialized and the U.S. firms persist in importing its materials. However, instead of imposing import controls on these U.S. bus-

inesses, the government has devalued the peso to pass on the economic burden to the already groaning population.

However, 5/74 statistics from the food and Nutrition Research Center reported that a day's supply of nutritious food cost P18.16/day. Added to this, the expenses of clothing, rent and other basic necessities, the average minimal cost of living is P37.91 a day, three times the daily median wage!

The plight of the agricultural workers and the rural population is even worse. Thus, the government's claim that the devaluation of the peso will mean a boost in the rural areas, which will supposedly benefit from higher peso earnings from copra and other exports is ridiculous. In truth, the higher peso earnings of the export products like sugar and coconut do not trickle down to the workers in the sugar fields or coconut plantations. A recent survey of 319 sugar workers in Negros reveal that the majority did not even receive the minimum wage of P7 a day. In fact, children from the age of 6 or 7 work in the sugarcane to augment the miserable wages of their family.

On the other hand, for the multinational corporations and the landlords, the devaluation of the peso means more profit. Their dollars will not buy more; the cheaper peso will mean cheaper production costs and therefore a higher return on profit. □

Mula sa atin...

MARCOS ALLEGES "FOREIGN INVASION" THREAT IN MINDANAO

The Marcos gov't persists in its campaign to distort the Muslim resistance. Its most recent accusation is that the Philippines is threatened by some "foreign invasion," citing foreign mercenaries were in the south allegedly training Muslim rebels. This latest tirade was voiced by the dictator himself in a speech made during the 74th anniversary celebration of the Philippine Constabulary in Camp Crame. Marcos claims he received confirmed reports that foreign infiltrators were operating in Mindanao. However, Marcos conveniently omitted any concrete facts to substantiate this charge.

With typical empty demagoguery, Marcos further declared he would use all the resources of the nation to repel the so-called foreign intervention, adding that "We will meet arms with arms if necessary to prevent any attempt to dismember the Republic."

While the struggle of the Filipino Muslim minorities enjoys the support and solidarity of other Muslim nations, the regime's "enemy from without" theory is an attempt to dismiss the mass resistance in the south as simply a battle between the Philippine gov't and some foreign interventionist.

Marcos further elucidates on his theory: "Let me hasten to add that the threat to the Philippines which we face or may face later on will not come from any outright open and frank external aggression by an enemy that is identifiable. Rather the danger to our country will be a massive type of infiltration which will probably seek to support with arms, equipment, funds and supplies coming from outside the Philippines . . ."

Marcos might as well be describing U.S. infiltration of the country. It is U.S. arms, equipment, funds and supplies that props up the isolated martial law regime and enables it to launch its acts of aggression against the Filipino people.

PC, LOCAL POLICE INTEGRATE UNDER ONE COMMAND

The increasing militarization of the Philippines under martial law took another expression last week, when Marcos ordered the formation of the Integrated National Police (INP). The INP would be composed of the Philippine Constabulary (PC) and all police units in the country, now totaling a strength of 75,000, and will be commanded by PC Chief Fidel Ramos. The PC will serve as its nucleus with the integrated police forces of cities and towns as components.

With its formation, the INP will take over the functions of the NAPOLCOM (National Police Commission) such as officer training, establishing an integrated police communications system, and others. The NAPOLCOM which was created last year to accomplish the same avowed purpose of the INP, will continue to exercise final authority over local police agencies, prisons and fire departments, and will be directed by the Dept. of National Defense.

The formation of the INP represents the near completion of the regime's one-year military build-up plan to double the military's size, centralize its command, and boost its armory. Already the dictatorship boasts of having a 100% increase in the size of the military, from 100,000 in 1973 to its present 256,000 and is preparing full-gear to completely modernize its weaponry system.

UP STUDENTS FIGHT FOR THEIR RIGHTS

Students at the UP have recently been agitating for the restoration of their student council which has been defunct since martial law was declared 3 years ago. UP students have launched a campaign for an autonomous, democratic and representative council that would effectively work for the rights and welfare of the students. In response to this demand, the present UP administration, under the Marcos appointee, O.D. Corpuz, has concocted a scheme to replace the student council with a "students conference." The duties and rights of the students conference have been kept intentionally ambiguous by the non-committal administration. But one thing is apparent to the students. The students conference as envisioned by the administration will simply be an advisory body with no power at all.

Furthermore, the administration is cracking down on the UP Collegian, the militant campus newspaper that led the clamor for a student council. Corpuz has revised the rules governing the school organ, the present staff has been replaced and the staff advisor given more powers to censor articles and suspend "uncooperative" staff members.

These moves are in line with the martial law regime's hard-fist policy against the studentry, one of the most active and vocal sectors against the corrupt government during the pre-martial law days.

CHICO RIVER DAM: Waters of Life or Death?

Below is an article submitted by a guest writer which provides vital information on the Bontoc and Kalinga peoples struggle against the Chico River Dam Project—a struggle which has won the popular support and active assistance of many Filipinos.
—Editor

By Mary J. Heffron

"The dams are all we talk about these days. It is like talking continually of death, of certain death." The Bontoc tribesman from the Cordilleras in Northern Luzon was speaking his people's minds on the projected Chico River Basin Development Project. The Philippine Government Project has met such strong opposition from the Bontoc and Kalinga people that operations have recently been suspended "until such time that a final decision is made."

The projected plan is mammoth—though strangely a little publicized venture. Details of it have become largely known because of the resistance of the Kalinga and Bontoc peoples. They have channeled their strong feelings through their own well-organized local representation to larger and better-known groups in their nation, and to Malacanang itself.

THE PROJECT

The Project was announced in October 1974 to provincial and local government officials in the Chico River Area by Presidential Letter No. 220. It was to be planned by Lahmeyer International of Frankfurt, Germany, in association with the Engineering Development Corporation of the Philippines. The Chico River was to be dammed in four places, causing about 15,000 families of the Bontoc and Kalinga mountain tribes to be evacuated and destroying farmland now yielding U.S. \$2 million in fruits, grains and vegetables annually—the livelihood of those now living there. The fourth of these dams would be the largest in Asia, and larger than the other three combined. The country's immediate need for power development was cited in the Presidential Letter as the reason for the project.

THE OPPOSITION

Marcos has been forced to suspend operations because the mountain people have been successful in making their voice heard—both in and outside the Philippines. The people have been both ingenious and bold, earthy and legal in their opposition. In the early stages of on-site surveying, engineers and surveyors were charged by a group of women armed only with garden tools. The women removed their clothes knowing that these lowland men could only flee in embarrassment. At Chico Dam III (Basaw, Kalinga) the people carefully and completely dismantled the engineers camp huts, an accomplishment that won 46 men, women and children a week's stay in the stockade. The Kalingas and Bontocs have consulted and gained support from anthropologists, lawyers and religious leaders; they have petitioned the President and sent delegations to Malacanang; they have even written to Robert McNamara objecting "most strongly to any assistance from the World Bank or any other entity to the Philippine government for this project."

Is all this simply the unreasonable stubbornness of an indigenous people unwilling to allow "progress" to take place? Stubborn, perhaps, but hardly illogical. They have cited both cultural-religious and practical-economic reasons against the building of the dams. Though the cultural-religious reasons are of vital importance to them, they realize that to anyone who is not a Bontoc or Kalinga, concepts springing from their living tradition would be difficult to grasp. Perhaps this is why they raise their cultural-religious issues most forcibly to Bishop Claver, himself a Bontoc, while with the President and government leaders, they stress reasons of a practical and economic nature.

At a meeting on April 25 attended by Bishop Claver, the people spoke of their tradition and what its destruction would mean to them. "Our fathers built all the rice fields you see. Now they are marked for destruction—and we with them;" "We cannot give up our heritage. It is something holy and we must hand it on intact to



Major Francisco Ver (r), an officer of the 1st PC Zone Home Defense Unit informs farmers in Kalinga Apayao of their relocation to make way for the Chico River Dam Project.

our children;" "We are planted here, rooted in sacred land. All our dead are buried here...."

On the practical side, many Kalinga and Bontocs have friends and relatives who were displaced by the hydro-electrification project in Ambuklaw, Binga, Pantabangan. They know that those who were once independent farmers are now squatters in Manila, reduced to wretched poverty. Furthermore, they are familiar with the land that has been earmarked for them to resettle on. Years ago, they tried to transform the projected resite area into rice terraces and for a variety of reasons, found this an impossibility. Because of this, they resent the government laying out the plan as if it were a feasible one.

They know that the dams will serve not only as a source of electrification, but also a means of irrigation for the vast stretch of land in the Cagayan Valley, land known to be owned by the Romualdez-Marcos, Enrile, and Puzon families. They know that this land is not likely to be used by small farmers for self-sustaining food crops, but rather by agri-business for cash crops. Thus, they resent the government's use of "development," and ask the question, "development for whom?" "Others will be developed, but we—we are expected to go up to the mountains and eat grass. We are men, not animals...."

THE PRESENT

The people's opposition was of such force that to continue to fly in face of it might have provoked a conflagration in the North. Perhaps this is why Marcos has chosen to take "more time to rethink the project and discuss the matter further with the people." He has stopped the survey, pulled out the foreign consultant involved in the project, suggested a sociological study and educational campaign in the area, and promised to consider other rivers for possible dam sites. It seems unlikely that the Bontocs and Kalingas will change their minds. A representative of the Development Management staff from Malacanang met with representatives of the people on May 22. His mollifying statements suggesting a "possibility of agreement" and a "temporary" suspension of operations were met with a polite but unmistakable steadfastness. "The people have already said they do not want the dam." "What more evidence do you want to be convinced that the people are really opposed to the Project?" And, simply, "The people do not want any dam along the Chico."

The Bontocs will not back down. "We are not going to allow the destruction of our homes and fields as long as the breath of life is still in us." At the same time, Letter of Instruction No. 220, signed by Pres. Marcos on Oct. 15, 1974, still remains, allowing for the "arrest of persons or person who shall interfere, prevent, obstruct or hinder said personnel in the performance of their duties or projects."

The Project is halted, but the problem remains. The Bontoc will not change, neither has the Project been abandoned by the government. If a solution is attempted through repression—the ordinary way of martial law governments—then the waters that bring "life" to the landowners of the Cagayan Valley may very well bring death to the Bontocs and the Kalingas. □

Editorial: A CONVENTION TO BUILD UNITY

The Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino warmly salutes the opening of the 1975 Filipino People's Far West Convention and congratulates all its organizers who worked very hard to make it a success. We know that these past 6 months have been spent in many long hours of planning, meeting, and outreach and we are certain that hundreds of Filipinos will attend and find it one of the best yet.

For 5 years now the FWC's have become an annual event for the progressive sectors of the Filipino West Coast communities. Although they always prove to be massive undertakings, such conventions are likely to continue in some form or another because they foster unity among Filipino people. In the last few years especially, these conventions have brought more and more Filipino Americans and recent Filipino immigrants together in a healthy and vital exchange of history and common experiences. As such, the FWC plays a key role in providing a forum to exchange ideas and develop a clearer understanding of ourselves and the problems we face as a minority.

VICTIMS OF DISCRIMINATION

The FWC therefore represents an awakening of our people to the multitude of social, economic and political problems we have encountered in the past and still face today. Whether we came to the U.S. in the 20s, 40s or 70s, Filipinos have been subjected to discriminatory treatment - given low paying jobs as field workers, kitchen helpers, factory workers or clerks and denied jobs in areas where we are qualified.

Such is the experience of most of the recently arrived professionals. As an immigrant people, Filipinos have been ill-treated and denied equal opportunities because we came from another country and have a different language, culture and social customs. Today in the U.S. we are witness to mounting anti-alien attacks and deportations; presently there are moves underway to try to deport thousands of foreign doctors who came here

as Foreign Medical Graduates (FMG's); 5,000 of these doctors are Filipinos. Anti-alien attacks are a problem Filipinos share with other immigrant peoples, especially the people coming from Mexico and other Latin American countries. The Immigration Dept. has threatened to deport 1 million Mexican people this year.

Our experiences as Filipino people not only disproves the "Statue of liberty myth," but the "melting pot theory" as well. The story of the second and third generation shows that no matter how long we're here, Filipinos never "melt" into becoming "full fledged Americans." This injustice can be traced to the racism in U.S. society, where colored skin becomes a "negative" factor in determining a person's life experience, i.e. educational opportunities, hiring and promotional opportunities, etc. Racism is like a cancer running throughout American society and every so often it breaks out into an open wound, such as in Boston where we witnessed Black children being stoned and prevented from attending school in a "white neighborhood." As Third World people we remain as "second-class citizens" from generation to generation; this denies not only our full participation in the functioning of the country, but also, the contribution in blood and sweat paid by generations of our people before us!

UNITED ACTION NEEDED

The Far West Conventions have in the past created good conditions for us to address ourselves to some of the concrete problems of racial and national discrimination which face the Filipino community as a whole. At such conventions, it becomes crystal clear that individual responses to the problems of discrimination are totally inadequate and what is required is united, collective action of the whole community. Although FWC's have provided some general common direction, the main shortcoming of the conventions' are that they seldom have gotten past the "talking stage." This is the most commonly heard criticism of the

FWCs; and hopefully this year we can all take steps to correct this.

The strongest and most durable unity we can build is through joint activities. We need to ground our general perspectives in more concrete resolutions which we feel can actually be accomplished. We should be determined to effect changes and strengthen the progressive movement in the Filipino community. We can do this by struggling to implement the FWC resolutions in the different Filipino West coast communities. Let's put an end to the frustrating practice of coming together each year to talk about the same problems, with very little progress to report!

FILIPINOS - PART OF THE WORKING CLASS

We see that our fight, as Filipinos against racial and national discrimination, is a part of the struggle of all Third World minority peoples and should be linked up. But at the same time, we also find ourselves in the midst of an ever deepening crisis of the whole capitalist system. The full brunt of this crisis is being felt by the working class of the United States, of which most Filipino families are part. Today we see the social fabric of American society coming apart at the seams, with spiralling inflation, mass unemployment, lay offs, speed ups and deteriorating social services.

In these hard times, it is rare to find anyone who is still foolish or blind enough to apologize for the monopoly capitalist system. As the working people are groaning under the weight of increased hardships, the corporate managers and bankers squeeze us tighter and stalk the world looking for new profits! The ugly features of capitalism are becoming clearer to us each passing day. More and more people are asking, "Can we forever tolerate this vicious social system?"

The capitalist's so-called "right" to exploit is being met with stiffer resistance, as the workers' strike movement in the U.S. has reached its highest point since the 1930's. Overall, the people's movement in America is broadening and our struggle as Filipino people is part of this larger working class struggle.

We should not lose sight of this broader perspective because it gives us added strength as we approach the Far West Convention and the hard work of drafting and implementing its resolutions.

FILIPINOS ASSAIL SCHOOL BOARD FOR DISCRIMINATION

LOS ANGELES—The Los Angeles Board of Education was confronted last July 17 by 150 Filipinos and other Asians who charged the district with discrimination. The case of Mrs. Bellafor Pacheco, a Filipina who was unjustly fired from her teacher's aide position last Feb. 25, was brought to the Board's attention for review and immediate compensatory action. The Board, however, ignored the issue and did not respond once to the grievances presented.

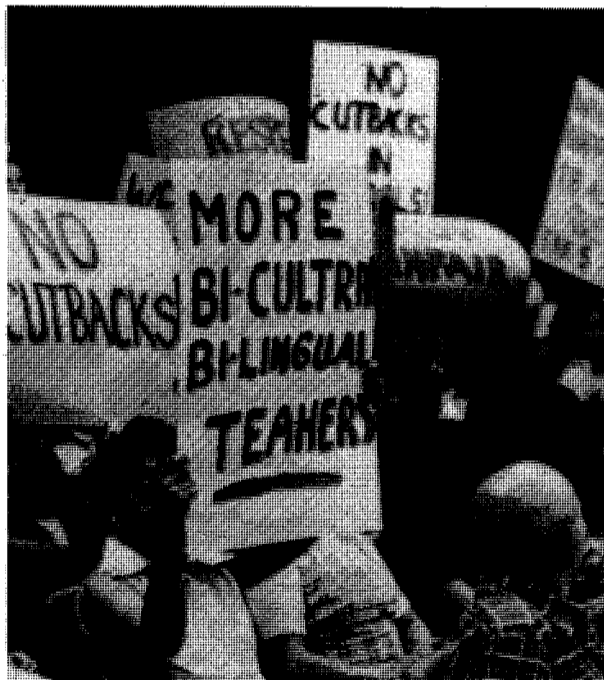
A teacher in the Philippines for over 23 years, Mrs. Pacheco began working as a teacher's aide in East L.A. in November 1973, just three months after her immigration to the U.S. After a series of discriminatory actions she experienced, Mrs. Pacheco filed grievances with the school principal, and then the school board. When it was clear they were not concerned, and in fact had her dismissed, a community support group was formed.

One of the first moves was to inform the Filipino community and launch a petition/letter writing campaign. In March 1975, formal complaints were filed with the Fair Employment Practices Commission (FEPC) and Equal Employment Opportunities Commission (EEOC). Then last month, the hearing was set and many supporters-Filipino teachers, students, professionals, community workers and others from the L.A. Asian community—jammed the hearing room of the Board of Education to present her case and demand justice.

DISCRIMINATION CHARGED

Despite the support groups' temporary failure to shake the Board loose from its insensitivity and bureaucracy, Mrs. Pacheco and her supporters are determined to follow through on the case, as it is "a broader fight for workers' rights, bi-lingual/bi-cultural education and an end to discrimination in the schools.

Speakers from the support group demanded a formal apology, removal of termination from her present files, reinstatement into her proper position in a location nearby, and payment of medical bills incurred during this period as a result of these experiences. Mrs.



Mrs. Pacheco's support group

Aquino, teacher of linguistics at Cal State L.A., and a member of the Fil-Am Educators Assoc., spoke out aggressively, citing statistics showing the incompetence of the LA Unified School District to provide adequate and relevant education to Filipinos. Other speakers included: Mrs. Helen Brown, a teacher with LAUSD and member of the Fil-Am Ed. Assoc., Mrs. Remedios Geaga, President of the Fil-Am Community of L.A., and Mr. Rafeal Orpilla of KDP

NO RESPONSE FROM BOARD

However, the board announced that they would not give any opinions on the case during the hearing, as it was under investigation by the FEPC. So throughout the presentation, the Board maintained an official bureaucratic silence, which stifled the overall presentation. In addition, no one from the support group asserted the necessary leadership to demand that the Board respond to the issue, allowing them to "slip through" the heated presentation: everyone left angry at the Board's gross insensitivity.

Despite the support groups temporary failure to shake the Board loose from its insensitivity and bureaucracy, Mrs. Pacheco and her supporters are determined to follow through on the case, as it is "a broader fight for worker's rights, bi-lingual/bi-cultural education and an end to discrimination in the schools." □

Far West Convention

(continued from front page)

SECTORAL CONFERENCES

To build up this unity, the organizing process of the FWC, which displayed much initiative and creativity in its outreach, produced many activities directed towards the community to launch the convention. The most unique activity has been the preparatory work done in "sectoral conferences" which focused on Filipino community problems in housing, youth, education, labor/employment, students and health. This phase of preparations allowed for sharing ideas and experiences as well as studying the major questions and trends affecting Filipinos in that area.

As a result, regional and conference reports, resolutions, resource persons and facilitators for the FWC workshops have been prepared by cores of organizers from each area.

FWC—FOUNDATION FOR ACTION

All this preparatory work has been undertaken in order to build the "working" character of the Convention. Unlike the past, where nothing preceded the FWC's, these conferences provided the basis to develop the format and program as well as select skillful workshop leaders. This objective approach will help the Convention to be a better learning process so that all of us can more profoundly understand the misery and problems that confront the Filipino people in the U.S. and in the Philippines.

The FWC is not seen as the final step, but rather the foundation upon which we can begin to implement united action in the Filipino community. With the participation of hundreds of people in the Convention, we can formulate resolutions to fight for our democratic rights against racial and national discrimination, injustices and inequality.

It is in this spirit that the goals and objectives of the 1975 Filipino People's Far West Convention can be met and become a major turning point in our united and common efforts to genuinely implement the slogan, "Serve the People." □

Sept. 22 Actions to Expose Plight of Political Prisoners...

(continued from page 1)

the Sept. 22 joint action undertaken by the anti martial law movement: At the same time, destitution faced by the political prisoners and their families calls for all patriotic Filipinos to render immediate financial assistance to them. Lastly, we realize that the martial law regime cannot last without the backing of the U.S. government through US. aid, an end to which we must continuously demand. With this in mind we greatly encourage united actions on Sept. 22 to be organized accordingly:

1) We encourage all local anti martial law groups and individuals to meet immediately and jointly organize forums, teach-ins, cultural events and community dinners for Sept. 22. These activities should bring to light the conditions of political prisoners and therefore, expose the truth behind the "smiling" facade of the Marcos regime.

2) During these activities, funds should be raised for the political prisoners and their families. The pamphlet produced by the Coordinating Committee's Documentation Staff in L.A. is available for purchase along with buttons and posters and hand-made necklaces creatively fashioned by the political prisoners from soup-bones. These materials can be ordered by the Documentation Committee for Philippine Political Prisoners, 762 N. Virgil Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90029. All checks should be made out to Philippine Political Prisoners Fund at the same address. All funds raised will be sent to political prisoners and their families through the National Council of Churches, Philippines-Ministry for Political Prisoners and their Families, and the Association of Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines.

3) We would also encourage that a specific

portion of any event should be provided to encourage participants to write letters to the U.S. Congress expressing indignation at the Marcos regime's treatment of political prisoners, that all the more, U.S. military aid should be cut off. The letter writing coincides with a new set of hearings on U.S. Foreign Aid that will convene in September. Detailed instructions on the letter writing campaign will be distributed by the Coordinating Committee.

The importance of strong unity of the anti martial law movement on Sept. 22 can never be overemphasized. We must show our determination to fight for the freedom of the Filipino people, no matter how many fascist "anniversaries" it may take. We urge everyone to unite and deliver a unified blow to the Marcos dictatorship on Sept. 22. □

Amb. Sullivan Invites More U.S. Investors to R.P.

Special to the Ang Katipunan

On July 11, some 200 leaders of U.S. industry and finance with interests in the Philippines gave a luncheon in honor of Ambassador William H. Sullivan at the Plaza Hotel in New York City. The affair, featuring Irish stew at \$25.00 a plate, was sponsored by the Far East America Council of Commerce and Industry, Inc., the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce, Inc., the Asia Society, Inc., and the Philippine Association, Inc. Among those sitting at the head table with Ambassador Sullivan were William E. Tucker, president, Caltex Petroleum Corporation, G.J.G. Docters, president, Mobil East Inc., Richard A. Fenn, vice president, the Chase Manhattan Bank, Buhl T. Burgoyne, chairman, Union Carbide, Eastern, Inc., and Jean de Rochefort, vice president, Irving Trust Company.

Addressing himself to the situation in the Philippines, the Ambassador declared that there was no end in sight for the Muslim rebellion, nor did he believe any expansion of the conflict likely. A second problem noted was the present trade position of the Philippines, weakened by the fall in world prices for the major raw material exports—copper, sugar, lumber—and by the inflationary pressures of Arab oil.

As for U.S.-Philippine relations, Ambassador Sullivan declared them to be entering a new period of maturity and stability. Philippine requests for a restriction in the area of the military bases could be satisfied, and a comprehensive agreement on trade and economic matters was scheduled for negotiation in the coming year.

Citing the Philippine desire for more U.S. investment and trade, Ambassador Sullivan closed by inviting the assembled tycoons to visit Manila, where, he said, the Embassy had already been expanded to take care of new U.S. business. □

Marcos Attempts Bribery Cover-up . . .

(continued from front page)

was led by Mr. and Mrs. Steve Psinakis. Mrs. Psinakis is the daughter of the late Don Eugenio Lopez and sister of imprisoned Eugenio Lopez, Jr. The Lopez family has been working to free Lopez Jr. since his imprisonment in 1972.

DISCREPANCIES IN MARCOS' "REVELATIONS"

However, Marcos did not comment on the fact that there was a witness (a S.F. lawyer) to the phone conversation in which Marcos' aide, de Vega, reaffirmed Marcos' offer to "help" Mijares and didn't question Mijares' reference to the bribe money.

Mijares challenged Marcos' "revelations" Aug. 3 on a live S.F. Bay Area television program, Open Line, which was originally set by Mijares to publicly debate an official spokesman of the Marcos regime. However, the Philippine Consulate cancelled out at the last minute and avoided the confrontation. Appearing alone, Mijares cited numerous examples of the "graft and corruption" that he witnessed while working for the Marcos regime. The bribe attempt he explained was just an extension of the same underhanded Marcos' activities in the Philippines.

The Psinakises, who Marcos claimed were involved in the alleged assassination plot are also planning to sue Pres. Marcos, Amb. Alconcel (the Philippine Consul in S.F.), and the other Philippine officials involved for libel and conspiracy to commit libel. They contend that the assassination plot was pure fabrication to distort the Lopez family's attempts to free

Lopez, Jr. and to conceal the "injustices and violations of all human rights committed by Mr. Marcos and his government."

FRASER CALLS FOR INVESTIGATION

However, Marcos and his representatives not only have to account for their claims in the libel suit, but Sen. Donald Fraser (D-Minn.), who headed up the Senate body that heard Mijares' testimony against the dictatorship, has called for an investigation of the bribe attempt. If true, Fraser said, it may constitute a "deliberate, unlawful attempt to prevent the subcommittee from gaining access to certain information, and to influence the course of the subcommittee proceedings." The action is punishable by five years imprisonment. Federal agents assigned to investigate the alleged scandal, however, have found it difficult to locate Amb. Alconcel who set up the joint bank account to transfer the bribe money to Mijares. Alconcel has been on a "leave of absence" from his post at the S.F. Consulate, though reliable sources report he has an open-dated ticket to the Philippines at Philippine Air Lines.

Marcos has now sent his Foreign Undersecretary, Jose Ingles to Washington, D.C. to "investigate" the situation. Ingles has been passing out copies of Marcos' "revelations," and has reportedly been seen in the Capital with Alconcel.

But despite Marcos' efforts to whitewash the scandal, the bribery attempt expose has severely tarnished his "smiling martial law" image. The very fact that he claims Mijares his double agent is itself an admission of his regime's espionage and bribery activities to infiltrate the anti martial law movement. □

KDP Holds Successful 2nd National Congress

Under the slogan, "Isulong ang Pakikibaka" (Forward in the Struggle), the second National Congress of the Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino was successfully convened last month when 150 members from 16 chapters and leadership bodies gathered to sum up two years of experience, formulate a political programme and constitution and elect a new national leadership.

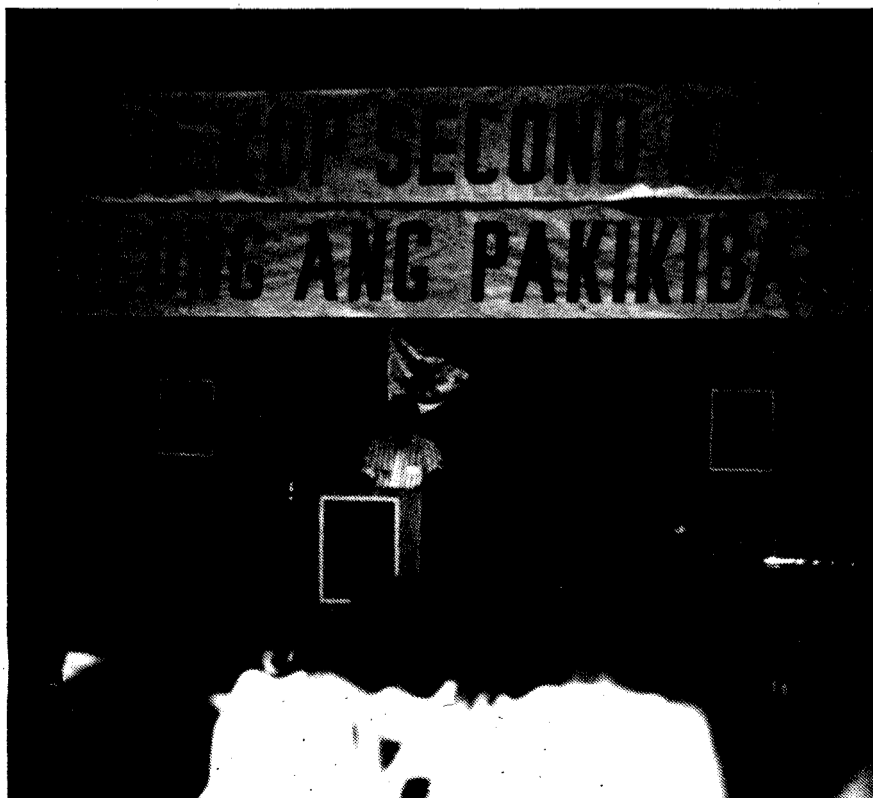
The evening of July 25 marked the opening of the Congress with cultural presentation attended by 700 people who joined with KDP to celebrate the Congress as a victory for the Filipino people and progressive movement as a whole.

The Congress was called into session Sat. morning, July 26, with the reading of solidarity messages from fraternal organizations around the country. On this first day, held in open session in the presence of over 100 invited observers, KDP members spoke from their local experiences as they reviewed KDP's political, organizational and ideological work over the past two years. The

tion-wide aspect, activist character and broad range of practice of the organization in the struggle against the US-Marcos dictatorship and for the rights of the Filipino minority in the U.S. were consistently underscored throughout the Congress proceedings.

That evening and the following day the Congress delegates in closed session reviewed and passed the constitution and political program on national democracy and socialism and elected a new 15-member national council.

The 2nd National Congress represents the organizational consolidation of KDP as a mass revolutionary organization which has drawn into its ranks many of the most committed and politically conscious Filipinos in the U.S. The KDP Congress, which facilitated the broadest possible democratic participation of the mass membership, has set a firm foundation of unity and struggle within the organization and was a major victory which will move the KDP forward in its continued struggle to "serve the people." □



National council member chairs a mass discussion during one of the plenary sessions. The National Congress is the highest decision making body and convenes every two years.

BEHIND "BIG MAC"

BANKS PROFIT FROM N.Y.C. CRISIS

By Sherry Valparaiso

N.Y. CITY—The Municipal Assistance Corporation, dubbed "Big MAC," which was supposedly formed to "bail the city out of its debt problems," is actually a guise to cover up the steady take over of New York City by the Wall Street banks. This new state agency, created to solicit buyers for the municipal bonds which the banks had refused to renew, is now dictating their buying conditions.

Indicative of MAC's demands is its official reform program which states, "drastic immediate cuts are necessary . . . accompanied by a long term, rigorous program . . . What is required is fundamental rethinking of the level and quality of services this city provides its citizens. . . In order to achieve the required fiscal austerity . . . it is indispensable that productivity be increased."

Essentially, "Big MAC's" cutback demands are aimed at the city workers. On August 3rd, N.Y.'s unions representing 175,000 city workers "voluntarily agreed to a wage freeze after tasting a spoonful of Mayor Beame's "remedy to the crisis" in which 19,000 workers were laid off. For those unions that balked at the proposed wage freeze, Beame received City Coun-



Rohatyn (l), implicated in ITT's 1972 bribe of the Nixon administration and MAC's Financial Director, meets with union bosses. Meanwhile garbage piles higher in Brooklyn streets: who's responsible for N.Y.C.'s mess?



cil emergency power and imposed the freeze anyway.

The layoffs and wage freeze, however, are only a portion of the attacks that city workers have been forced to bear. A 10% wage cut for the remaining city workers, heavier work-loads, tuition charges at City University, and a 49% increase in transit fares have been added to Beame's "horror list" of austerity measures.

THE WORM IN THE BIG APPLE

The key figures in the Municipal Assistance Corporation are not state legislators or other elected officials, but Wall Street financiers. The executive director of MAC, Hubert Elish, who the N.Y. Post has called the "new and unelected mayor of New York," is also the director of the First National City Bank. MAC's finance director, Felix Rohatyn of International Telephone and Telegraph, was implicated in 1972 with the illegal funneling of \$400,000 to the Nixon administration to buy favorable treatment for ITT in an anti-trust suit.

The third and perhaps most powerful of the Wall Street clique is William Ellinghaus, president of New York Bell Telephone Co. and a close associate of the Morgan Banking group. As Chairman of the Municipal Assistance Corporation, he has been in the forefront, launching MAC's brutal demands on the city.

Beame however, is promoting his own favorite for chairman—Richard Shinn, president of the \$32-billion Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. The Mayor, through his aides, has suggested that Shinn "will defend the city's interest against the bankers"—a ridiculous notion considering that Shinn is a director of the Rockefeller's Chase Manhattan Bank!

The entire New York crisis was engineered by the banks to deliberately shut off credit to the city in order to carry out this well-calculated offensive against the working class. As the U.S. economic crisis deepens, however, what is happening in New York is simply a drastic example of what probably lies ahead for other American cities. □

U.S. BLOCKS VIETNAMESE FROM U.N.

By Polly Parks

On August 11, the U.S. cast a solitary veto in a 13-1 Security Council vote and blocked the admittance of North and South Vietnam into the U.N. The veto provoked sharp criticisms from other U.N. members who charged the U.S. with attempting to revive Cold War practices and exercising a "tyranny of a minority." North and South Vietnam will be allowed only observer status to the next session.

The U.S. justified its veto as a response to the Security Council's earlier refusal to discuss the admittance of South Korea. The U.S. maintained that as long as Pak Jung Hi's South Korea was not admitted, South Vietnam would not be admitted either. Other Security Council members declared, however, that the U.S. was really frustrated by its defeat in Indochina and was using the Korea question as pretext for excluding the two Vietnams.

U.S. DENUNCIATION

Commenting before the Security Council's

vote, PRG ambassador Dinh Ba Thi and Ambassador Nguyen Van Luu of the DRV denounced the U.S. scheme to block their U.N. seats. Giving full support to the position of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Ambassador Thi stated that the Pak regime does not represent the South Korean people. The tens of thousands of U.S. occupation troops, he said, prevent the people from exercising their self-determination.

It is of primary importance, the Vietnamese representative continued, to take into account the views of the DPRK, which opposes UN membership for the puppet regime in the south. The DPRK view, he said, was upheld by the history of the UN with respect to divided nations. Only when there is a common position on the question, do both parts of a divided nation become members of the UN, as was the case with the two Germanies. When they were admitted to the UN, he observed, there was no linkage to any other question. Thus, it was unreasonable and illogical for the U.S. to propose such linkage now. □

DARE TO STRUGGLE...

SAN QUENTIN SIX BRUTALIZED

Defendants have been beaten and gassed by prison authorities in the San Quentin Six trial which opened July 28 in Marin County, Ca.

The six - Fleeta Drumgo, Hugo Pinel, Luis Talamantez, Johnny Spain, Willie Tate, and David Johnson - are accused of murder, conspiracy and kidnap in connection with events surrounding the assassination of prison activist George Jackson on April 21, 1971, by San Quentin prison authorities.

The defense maintains that the indictments against the six are an attempt to cover up the state's brutal murder of Jackson, and that the recent beatings of the six were carried out to cause the defendants to act in such a manner as to prejudice the jury. □

JOANN LITTLE ACQUITTED

Joann Little, a 21 year old Black woman on trial for the death of a white jailer, was acquitted of all charges against her on August 15 in Raleigh, N.C.

Throughout the trial, Little contended that she had acted only to ward off the jailer's sexual attacks; the ice

pick he used to make her submit to his assaults becoming the tool of his own death.

Little said the significance of the acquittal was that it recognized the "right of women to self-defense." □

FBI TERROR AT PINE RIDGE

The FBI has embarked on a terror campaign against the local Oglala Sioux population following the June 26 shooting incident at Pine Ridge, S.D., in which one Indian and two FBI agents were killed.

FBI agents, armed with automatic M-16 military rifles and using armor-personnel carriers, raided houses of AIM sympathizers and held incommunicado persons they deemed potential material witnesses to the shooting. Residents described the raids as "calculated to terrorize" in which the Indians "have no rights left, thanks to the BIA, FBI, and other governmental agencies." □

THREE PSP MEMBERS HELD

Demonstrations were held in New York City and San Francisco on July 15 and 17 in support of Angel Gandia, three members of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP) who are being Johnny Sampson and Raul Garcia,

held incommunicado by Dominican authorities on charges of drug trafficking and transporting 3 guerrillas into the Dominican Republic. The only evidence against the three militants are confessions which they signed after being tortured by the U.S.-backed Balaguer regime. □

UFW HITS COCA COLA

A rally by over 450 farm workers was held July 9 in Auburndale, Florida, to protest the arrest of Mack Lyons, director of the United Farm Workers (UFW) in Florida.

Lyons, staging a hunger fast to dramatize the union's demand that the Coca Cola Co. negotiate a new contract for its 2,000 farm laborers, was arrested in front of Coca Cola's Auburndale offices on charges of trespassing. The UFW's old contract with Coca Cola expired in January of this year, and the farm laborers have been working under a day to day extension of the old contract since then. □

PLIGHT WORSENS FOR VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

Vietnamese refugees are unwittingly becoming scabs in a labor strike at Julius Goldman's Egg City in Moro Park, Ca. Egg City, the world's largest egg farm, was struck by the United Farm Workers (UFW) last April and the Teamsters union has since

tried to break the strike, using Vietnamese from the local refugee center in Weimar.

In Guam, U.S. troops armed with clubs broke up demonstrations of over 450 Vietnamese who walked out of refugee camps July 24 and 25 demanding repatriation. Over 500 more rallied in the camps demanding return to their homeland. □

FELICIANO FREED

Puerto Rican activist Carlos Feliciano was released July 9 in New York City after serving more than 3 years on numerous charges of alleged bombing plots in 1969. Feliciano, long time fighter for Puerto Rican independence, has always maintained that the charges against him were fabricated by U.S. authorities to stifle the Puerto Rican independence movement. □

IRANIAN STUDENTS STAGE HUNGER PROTEST

A hunger strike by 47 Iranian students began July 25 in San Francisco to protest the growing repression of Iran's 40,000 political prisoners and to bring public pressure on the Shah to permit an investigation of Iranian prisoners by a team of international observers. The students allege that at least 12 torture killings have occurred in the last 8 months under the Shah's regime. □

World in Focus

PANAMA CANAL TALKS BREAK OFF

Negotiations between the U.S. and Panama over the return of the Canal Zone to Panama have broken off. The current impasse stems from opposition by a caucus of right-wing U.S. congressmen who plan to stop the treaty's ratification. Their latest tactic, in late July, was to cut-off funds for continuing the talks.

The caucus is moving to keep U.S. control of the Canal for its strategic military and economic importance in Latin America. The Zone's 550 sq. miles contain 14 nuclear equipped U.S. military bases including the Southern Military Command and schools to train Green Berets and foreign police in "counter insurgency" tactics. The U.S. maintains complete autonomy in the area and derives \$100-M profit in tolls in return for a measly \$2-M yearly payment to Panama.

Panama's populist Pres. Omar Torrijos has charged the U.S. with "trying to maintain a colony in a country that has no desire to be a colony," and warned "that when peaceful means are closed off to a people they must resort to the kind of liberation struggle that Ho Chi Minh waged."

U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger is now frantically trying to resume negotiations, assuring right-wing Congressional and Pentagon critics that the new treaty will still allow the U.S. to defend and operate the canal for a substantial period of time. □

POLITICAL CRISIS DEEPENS IN INDIA

NEW DELHI, INDIA - Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi solved her election fraud conviction by having the Parliament retroactively legalize the electioneering acts for which she had been found guilty. The conviction catalyzed her June 21 "state of emergency" declaration.

Massive arrests are also continuing with now over 60,000 political prisoners jailed. It is difficult, however, to get a precise figure as press censorship is still in effect. Five foreign reporters have been deported from India since June 21 for refusal to sign a mandatory statement to abide by the censorship edict. □

OAS LIFTS CUBA BLOCKADE

The 14 year attempt of the United States to isolate Cuba was brought to a close when the Organization of American States (OAS) voted to end its economic and diplomatic embargo to the island nation.

The decision, made last July 29 at its meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica, frees OAS member nations to restore full trade and diplomatic relations with Cuba. The resolution passed 16-3 with 2 abstentions, the U.S. voting with the majority and the ultra-rightist military regimes of Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay voting against it.

Momentum to end the blockade of Cuba had been rapidly building over the last two years. Eight Latin American countries had already restored ties with Havana, pointing to the growing anachronistic nature of the embargo. Over half of the countries in the OAS voted to lift the blockade last November, but lacked the two-thirds majority necessary to pass. Then in early July a rules change was enacted to allow lifting the sanctions by a simple majority vote, paving the way for the resolution's passage.

The U.S. decision to vote with the majority was a recognition of this trend and follows closely in the wake of highly embarrassing revelations of several CIA assassination attempts on Cuban Premier Fidel Castro and other nefarious CIA activity in Latin America. According to ex-CIA agent Phillip Agee, the CIA used covert political force to make Latin American government's break ties with Cuba and support the 1964 OAS embargo.

U.S. attempts to isolate Cuba date back to January, 1961, when the Eisenhower administration broke ties with the Castro government for nationalizing U.S. industry. As Cuba became explicitly socialist, the U.S. in 1962, enacted its own blockade, carried out numerous attacks against the Castro regime, most notably the CIA invasion at the Bay of Pigs, and forced the expulsion of Cuba from the OAS in 1964.

The U.S. still maintains its own embargo against the Castro government and there has been no indication by the U.S. State Department as to any change in status of Cuba-U.S. relations. However, as a prerequisite to opening any discussions reevaluating relations, the Cuban Foreign Ministry requires: 1) the U.S. must unconditionally lift its embargo and 2) acknowledge that it has no right to intervene directly or indirectly in matters concerning the sovereignty of Latin American countries. □

C.I.A. IN PORTUGAL...

Riots Spark New Gov't Crisis

By Victor Uno

LISBON, PORTUGAL — Large scale anti-communist riots in numerous northern cities over the past month have presented the leaders of the country's ruling Armed Forces Movement (AFM) with its gravest crisis to date. The demonstrations have ransacked over 40 Communist Party headquarters, resulting in the injury of hundreds and death of at least four persons.

Underlying this crisis has been the increasing divergence between the Communist supported AFM and Portugal's non-communist political parties on the direction and character of the country's future. While all parties espouse socialism for Portugal, the AFM, through its July 9 plan of establishing "people's committees" of workers and neighborhoods, wants to build "mass participation in the Portuguese revolution," while the Socialist Party prefers indirect participation through a Western European-type parliamentary government.

Viewing the proposed "people's committees" as an attack on the Constituent Assembly, which they dominate, the Socialist and Popular Democratic parties withdrew from the military-civilian coalition government July 17, bitterly attacking the remaining Communist Party and AFM leadership close to the Communists, most notably Portuguese Premier Vasco Goncalves. The military subsequently abolished the Cabinet July 25 and set up a three man military committee to run the country without any direct participation by the country's political parties.

Since the formation of the triumvirate, the Socialists have launched a vehement anti-communist campaign, rallying thousands before bonfires of Communist literature and inciting attacks on Communist Party headquarters. The Catholic church, which had close ties to the deposed fascist Caetano regime, has joined the attacks, especially in northern Portugal where it holds much influence.

CIA INCITES HYSTERIA

Ex-CIA agent Phillip Agee has also revealed that the CIA has been active in fostering anti-communist hysteria to "create enough chaos"



Anticommunist rioters outside CP offices.

to "divide and weaken the AFM" and to promote "moderate" political parties who would support "a strong right-wing military government . . . Chile-style." At the CIA's disposal to create splits in the AFM are detailed files on over 3,000 Portuguese military personnel who were trained in the U.S. Heading CIA operations in Lisbon is John Morgan who served under rightist governments in Brazil (1966-69) and Uruguay (1970-73) and promoted "death squads" and political assassinations.

The CIA is also active among exiled members of the fascist Caetano regime as well as "moderate" opposition parties to provide the groundwork for a reactionary coup in Portugal. Exiled Gen. Antonio de Spínola, who led one of two previous coup attempts, has recently been travelling in Europe for the expressed purpose of unifying the exiled groups in an attempt to return to power. It has also been reported that Spínola met with representatives of the Socialist Party.

The present turmoil in Portugal has recently been complicated by an open split in the military. Officers led by moderate Melo Antunes and radical Otelo Carvalho, who claim backing of 85% of the armed forces, have called for the resignation of Communist-backed Premier Goncalves. While such a move may temporarily abate the anti-communist hysteria, the split within the AFM could jeopardize its ability to fully restore order. □

CIVIL WAR THREATENS ANGOLAN INDEPENDENCE

By Polly Parks

ANGOLA—Despite the June 21 peace agreement among the three Angolan liberation movements, factional fighting has re-emerged and escalated to virtual civil war. Who started the latest round of violence is unclear, but the result left the capital city of Luanda with over 500 dead as the National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA) and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) withdrew Aug. 11 from the city, leaving it firmly in the hands of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA). Portugal is also evacuating the remaining 200,000 Portuguese who had jammed the city during the fighting.

All three groups, however, are faced with re-creating an alliance to bring stability to the country in the next few months before its independence on Nov. 11. Portugal, who surrendered its colonial control over the mineral-rich country last January, had called the 3 groups together to form a transitional government for independence.

ANGOLA' LIBERATION FORCES

The MPLA is the oldest of the liberation forces, established since 1961, and maintains the largest mass base area, mainly in western Angola. Upon the formation of the transitional government, the MPLA instituted "people's power" programs through neighborhood committees and trade unions in Luanda. The recent fighting flared up after the MPLA accepted an arms shipment from the USSR, which violated a peace agreement among the three groups.

The FNLA, led by Holden Roberto, is based in Zaire and supported by Holden's brother-in-law, Zaire President Mobutu. Since the in-

fighting renewed, the U.S. State Dept. privately acknowledged that this is a movement "we can play ball with." The FNLA also maintains the largest of the armies, bolstered in part by the late '74 defection of Daniel Chipanda, Vice-Pres. of the MPLA along with several thousand guerrillas. Late in '74 the FNLA began receiving training and arms from China, but this ended with the signing of the peace agreement.

The third liberation movement, UNITA, is led by Jonus Savimbi, who split from the FNLA in 1966, charging it with "flagrant tribalism" and connections with the CIA. Although drawn into some fighting, UNITA has carried the slogan "no civil war" and worked to restore order in Luanda. This peace-keeping role has gained UNITA a good deal of support in Angola and outside the country--and the description as a "moderate socialist group."

UNITY NEEDED FOR INDEPENDENCE

The factional fighting has been going on long before the formation of the transitional government in January. Through the Organization of African Unity (OAU) has made no preferences among the liberation groups and has consistently sponsored consultations among them, cooperation and unity has failed to develop.

The current factionalism seriously jeopardizes Angolan independence. Angola is the last and richest colony of Portugal to be liberated and outside economic and political interests are not relishing the thought of losing out on the exploitation of its natural resources. This has been spurred on by mounting consternation at the independent non-aligned road the other former Portuguese colonies, Mozambique and Guinea Bissau, have taken. □