

A SERVANT MEETS HIS MASTER



He Leaves Behind A Tense R.P.

By NANCY ROCAMORA

"You cannot kill all of us. There will be some who will be left to finish you!" President Ferdinand E. Marcos warned an army of invisible foes last August 8 while marking the 81st anniversary of the Philippine Constabulary.

In this hysterical tone, Marcos announced the formation of a 1,000-strong plainclothes force to patrol Manila armed with submachine guns. This undercover force was ordered to quash an alleged plot by Marcos' political opponents to launch "a nationwide series of strikes, bombings and assassinations." It is a plot, he said,

hatched by the militant labor movement, the communists and their international supporters.

Forty-one "suspected bandits" have been killed by the jeepney-riding marshals. Only seven suspects have been taken alive, and an edge of tension now clutches Manila.

CRACKDOWN

The country Ferdinand Marcos leaves behind during his first state visit to the U.S. in 15 years lies in the grip of one of the heaviest crackdowns since the declara-

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Marcos Gears Up for Dream Trip

By NENE OJEDA

Fifteen years was a long wait. But an invitation was extended and Ferdinand E. Marcos graciously accepted. In mid-September he will walk up the red carpet to the White House into Ronald Reagan's welcoming arms.

The Philippine dictator has long sought official recognition as a key U.S. ally in Asia, but has been kept at a diplomatic arm's length by a succession of U.S. administrations. It was only when the gun-toting Reaganites pulled into town that the once-chilly diplomatic relationship began to thaw.

The Reagan administration first expressed its approval of Marcos in Vice President George Bush's unforgettable praise last June, "We love your adherence to democratic principles and processes." Bush was referring to last year's June presidential elections which elected an unopposed Marcos to another six years of rule.

Visits by then Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger further indicated the new warmth in Philippine-American relations.

Like a son once disowned, Marcos

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By Nancy Rocamora

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ANG KATIPUNAN
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The Zionist Defeat in Lebanon

Despite Israel's success in achieving its immediate goal of driving the Palestine Liberation Organization out of West Beirut, the Lebanon invasion proved to be a strategic defeat for the Zionists. The Begin regime knows this very well and is uncharacteristically not crowing about its victory.

Even in military terms, the Zionist victory is unclear. Israel failed to annihilate the PLO despite having fielded an armed might equivalent to the forces it deployed during the 1973 war with several Arab countries. On the other hand, that the PLO managed to preserve its leadership and most of its ranks while inflicting 500 casualties (a conservative Israeli estimate) on the heavily armored and most modern army in the Middle East is a victory in itself.

In political terms, Israeli losses are immense. Its murderous bombings, the death and destruction it was responsible for, its maniacal insistence on drawing PLO blood and its arrogant disregard for international public opinion exposed Zionism's aggressive nature. The misguided popular sympathy for Israel has been seriously undercut even in the United States, Zionism's center for international support. Worldwide, the just cause of the Palestinians is beginning to get a fair hearing.

The United States also lost a lot politically. It has been exposed as the main trigger behind Israel. Even its mediation was seen as mainly a last ditch diplomatic effort to distance itself from its client's atrocious campaign and to prevent Israel's complete political isolation.

But the Lebanon crisis is far from over. Neither is the Palestinian issue a thing of the past. The PLO remains intact and its just struggle will persist. Israel has also not given up its expansionist and genocidal aims. Hardly had the first day of PLO evacuation begun

when Ariel Sharon gave away Israel's new intentions. "Syria is in trouble because our guns are just 20 miles from Damascus," he declared.

Indeed, Israel is preparing to open new hostilities in the Bekaa Valley and along Syria's border even as it is grooming a fascist, pro-Zionist puppet Christian government in Lebanon. The stage has been set up for its annexation of the West Bank and Gaza. Truly, war and expansionism is the lifeblood of Zionism's unjust cause. □

Guest Editorial:

Doggy Rights, YES! Human Rights, NO!

(This story appeared in New York's The Village Voice as "Man Eats Dog"—Editor.

The Reagan era will not, in all likelihood, go down in history as one distinguished by obsessive concern for human rights. Doggy rights are a different matter.

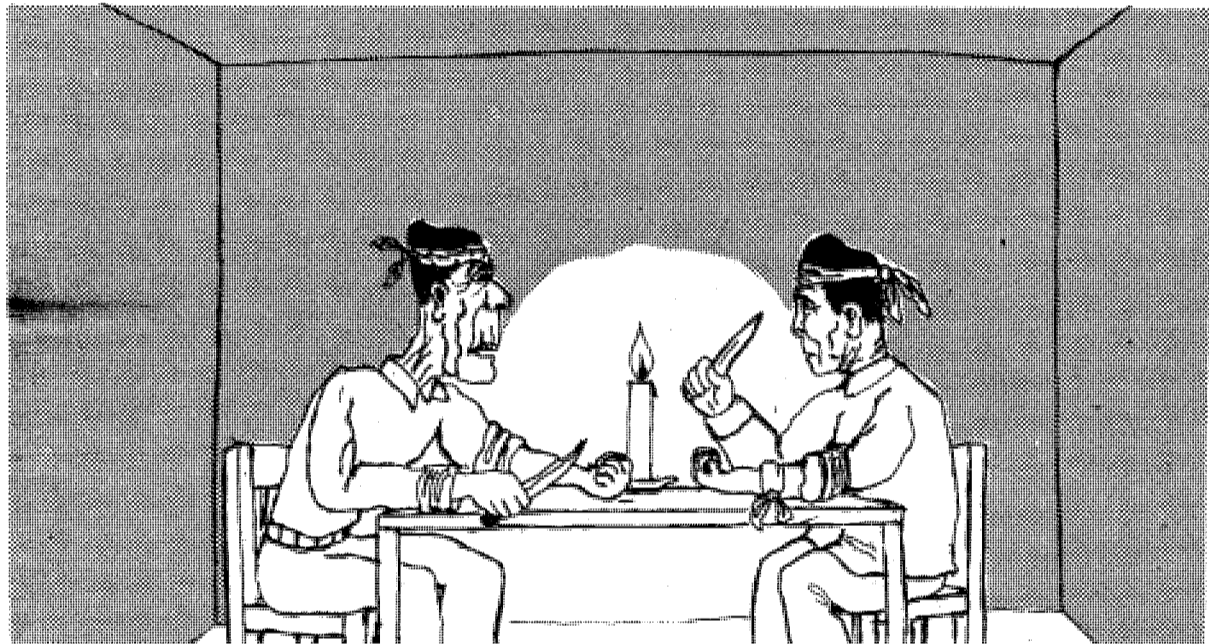
Back in January, the *National Enquirer* revealed the horrifying saga of persecution in the Philippines, where up to 500,000 canines a year are butchered in revolting condition, roasted, and turned into tasty cocktail snacks for the pampered elite of this *entrepôt* of U.S. imperialism.

By March 31st, the Mattoon, Illinois, *Journal Gazette* was headlining the big news, "Crane: Stop Dog Torture." Congressman Dan Crane, the *Journal Gazette* reported, had introduced HR 379, a resolution calling on Philippine strongman Ferdinand Marcos to prevent dogs within his realm from being tortured. These dogs, Crane averred, were experiencing "brutality and cruelty almost beyond comprehension." Crane said that if the Philippines were "to remain a member in good standing of the community of civilized

nations," it should clean up its act dogwise. Crane's press secretary alleged that Crane, owner of no less than three dogs himself, had become upset about the appalling situation in the Philippines after studying a horror file prepared by the World Society for the Protection of Animals.

It seems rather more likely that Crane, like any other sensible politician, had noted that the *Enquirer's* story had excited some 240,000 outraged letters from its readers, calling for action. Crane's resolution didn't get anywhere, but this week's *Enquirer* reports victory: "Tough new laws adopted in the Philippines—in response to a hard-hitting *Enquirer* exposé on the brutal dog meat market there—will save 500,000 dogs a year from being tortured and turned into cocktail snacks." The *Enquirer* claims that 50 traders in dog meat have been arrested since the laws were passed at the start of July, and quotes a "highly placed Philippine government official" as saying, "Never before has a single newspaper had such an influence on a domestic issue here This national disgrace has cost us tourists and damaged our image abroad Neither the President nor his wife will tolerate its continuance. They have been humiliated and embarrassed by the publicity in the *Enquirer* We in the Philippines want to give man's best friend the best protection dogs have in Western Countries." This is a pretty good quote, and it's sad that we will never know which high Philippine official spoke so graphically to the *Enquirer's* Tony Brenna.

They should send some of those dogs over to West Beirut. Maybe if some of them got killed in an Israeli air raid, the American public would become more incensed, even though Martin Peretz would probably take out an advertisement in the *New York Times* explaining that canine casualties were being vastly overestimated, that most of the victims were rabid Communist canines and that the Israelis were performing an act of selfless and humane public sanitation. □



Let's put it in blood: If you stand by me, I'll make sure you keep standing.

ANG KATIPUNAN

A socialist periodical for the Filipino community

Publisher: Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP)

Editor: Rene Cruz

Philippines: Emil De Guzman, Nene Ojeda, Nancy Rocamora

Filipino Community: Annatess Araneta, Vicky Perez, Venny Villapando

U.S./International: Vince Reyes

Art and Production: Wicks Geaga, T. Rocamora

Litter from Manila:

SUCCESSION



By INIDORO DELIHENCIA

How can the foreign press attack the President's new 1,000-man undercover police force as "licensed-to-kill" death squads aimed at intimidating the public into good behavior while the President is away in the U.S.? What nonsense! Don't these critics know that the special agents who ride public busses and jeepneys go plainclothes precisely so as not to alarm the public? I met agent Sgt. Bruno Asintado on a bus to Quiapo and indeed he was in tastefully tailored civilian clothes—loose-fitting beige polo shirt, matched by coffee-colored casual slacks, cuffless but highlighted by double-pleats at the beltline, perfect for that summer stroll downtown,

or for a night on the town. Shoes by Gucci. "Yes sir. We have orders to be as inconspicuous as possible," he said lifting his bazooka to make way for passengers scampering for the exit. And also orders to be courteous. His partner, Cpl. Tira, cool in his La Coste shirt, even apologized to a student who fainted when the barrel of Tira's Uzi submachine gun accidentally got stuck in the young man's nostril. So far, people have not complained and there's really no panic, the two agents concurred. The foreign press caught exaggerating again.

The Executive Committee which will take over when the President becomes incapacitated naturally or otherwise is now in place. I'm glad the President ignored criticisms of nepotism and appointed the First Lady to the committee to represent Metro-Manila and Womanhood. (I have already heard coffee shop critics distort this by saying it's just right anyway, most of Manila are in debt to her because she is a woman hood—but never mind these rumor mongers.) I completely agree with the KBL reaction to the appointment: "Her closeness to the President will invigorate and facilitate the consultative process." I asked the President about this. "God, I hope it does," he said. "Our consultative life has been suffering lately and it needs invigorating. Hand me that tube will you. It's no longer like when

Letters

Likes Cuba

I have been an off- and on-reader of your paper (depending on how often I get to my favorite Filipino store). Your paper offers a lot of views that other Filipino papers do not have and has always been very helpful in presenting an alternative opinion.

Your July feature story about a Filipino-American's tour of Cuba, gives a different perspective about life in a socialist country other than what is commonly heard of here in the U.S. That story was very reassuring because I have heard similar positive views from some of my Latin-American friends.

That's all I want to say, I just want you folks to know that this Filipino immigrant appreciates your paper.

Mauro Aguirre
Los Angeles, CA

More Power!

Please renew my subscription. I want to support your efforts in building a progressive Filipino community. Thank you and keep up the good work.

July Inay
Wapato, WA

we were much younger. Must be mid-life crisis you know. What do you think of this guy George Hamilton? Is he better looking than me? Give me that pill on your way out please."

I asked the First Lady how she would deal with the problem of succession. "I will negotiate with the Moros to convince them that succeeding is not the answer," she said. I asked about the task of the Executive Committee. "Oh, that succession. Well, I think the funeral should be simple and dignified. I don't believe in cremation either." And who does she think will replace the President? "Well, it's a tough decision to make, I may stay single for a while." There you have it—a First Lady that is forward-looking and ready to take over the affairs of the state.

When Malacañang announced it will introduce a national identification system based on the German model, I enthusiastically endorsed the idea. We need to keep a tight watch on subversives and undesirable elements and this model has historically proven to be extremely effective. But then officials clarified that they were referring to Germany after World War II. Now I'm not sure whether this system will be as good. □

In a major attack on the burgeoning Philippine labor movement, the Philippine military last month arrested 15 labor leaders in Metro-Manila. The arrests followed President Ferdinand E. Marcos' hysterical August denunciation of a conspiracy of "terror and destabilisation" to occur on or about the time he leaves for his state visit to the United States in September.

Arrested were top officials of the Philippines' militant trade unions. Felixberto Olalia, president of the 250,000-strong *Kilusang Mayo Uno* (KMU); Rey Capa, KMU vice-president; Cipriano Malonzo, Sr., president of the National Federation of Labor (NFL) and his son, Cipriano, Jr., and eight other labor organizers were arrested in a series of raids of union offices August 13. Crispin Beltran and two labor lawyers were arrested August 18.

All but Olalia and Beltran have been released. Both face charges of "sedition" and "inciting to rebellion." The regime claims that the two were planning a nationwide general strike preparatory to seizing state power.

Metrocom Commander, General Prospero Olivas claims that materials seized during the raids of the KMU, NFL and Philippine Alliance of National Labor Organizations (PANALO) support the subversion charges. Gen. Baltazar Aguirre, Chief of PC intelligence, adds that strikes are being planned not to seek higher wages and better working conditions for workers but to cause disruption and "wreck the economy."

1000-STRONG UNDERCOVER FORCE

The plot was further alleged to consist

FM Cracks Down on Labor



Workers in the Bataan Export Processing Zone; 73% of workers joined June sympathy strike.

of bombings, assassinations and terror. Marcos lumped an additional list of "plot-ers" which included members of the elite opposition, intellectuals, subversives, and "terrorists linked with the Moro National Liberation Front." This "plot" served as the excuse for the formation of a special 1,000-strong force of undercover agents

to ride shotgun aboard Metro-Manila's public transportation.

DRAMATIC GROWTH OF THE STRIKE MOVEMENT

Marcos' hysterical tone suggested that the dictator is thoroughly shaken by the lightning-fast spread of the country's labor movement.

Dramatizing this growth was last June's sympathy strike by 13,325 workers in the Bataan Export Processing Zone protesting the arrest of 53 picketing workers. The number represents 73% of the BEPZ's work force. Only eighteen months earlier, the BEPZ remained largely unorganized and strikes in export processing zones were explicitly outlawed by Cabinet Bill No. 49 last May. Charges against the picketers were dropped immediately.

The most recent victory for Philippine labor was last month successful resolution of the nine-month Ding Velayo strike. Repeated attempts of management, with the help of the Philippine military force, to crush the strike were unsuccessful.

DICTATOR RUNNING SCARED

But the Velayo strike also served as the immediate provocation for the recent crack-down. Olalia was arrested while meeting with Labor Ministry officials and strike leaders.

The momentum of the growing strike movement in the Philippines has spilled beyond conventional industrial sectors. Thus last month, Philippine public school teachers threatened to walk off their jobs to protest continued unexplained wage cuts.

Marcos during his address to the opening session of the *Batasang Pambansa* last July appealed to labor for a freeze on all wage increases while business gets back on its feet. One month later, he unleashed the most severe wave of repression since his declaration of martial law ten years ago targeting labor in particular.

Marcos clearly understands the power of organized labor and the dictator is scared. □

U.S. Consul's View of Mindanao

Secret Memo Admits Situation is Worsening

On April 13, 1982, the US Consulate in Cebu dispatched a confidential report to the State Department in Washington. Entitled "Eastern Mindanao and An Ominous Future," the report was Commissioned by Washington in the wake of alarming developments in 1981.

On August 13, 1982, the Congress Task Force of the Coalition Against the Marcos Dictatorship released a leaked copy of the document to the press.

It took three months for a consular staff headed by Consul G. H. Scheinbaum to complete a field investigation of the Philippines' most turbulent region, Eastern Mindanao. Scheinbaum drafted what can only be described as a brutally frank assessment of the political prospects of the Marcos regime--an assessment that stands in blatant contradiction to the image of Ferdinand Marcos as a "stable, democratic ally" that both the dictatorship and the Reagan administration have sought to project.

The conclusion of the US Embassy report: "This may sound like a worst-case scenario, but present circumstances are not encouraging and the future is ominous."

DEPRESSED ECONOMY LEADS TO RISE OF NPA

The main reason for the deterioration of the Marcos regime's position in the region is the steady expansion of the New People's Army, the peasant-based military arm of the Communist Party. In almost all the Mindanao provinces visited by the consular staff, the NPA's growth was impressive--30 to 50 percent in terms of personnel in the last year alone, asserts the report citing Philippine Army estimates.

Indeed, the presence of the guerrillas was a day-to-day reality for the itinerant Americans; one vital highway, for instance, was "the scene of numerous incidents since early 1981 and . . . we were advised not to travel on that road."

Depressed economic conditions and displacement of farmers by agribusiness

are said to be partly responsible for the rise of the NPA. The area has been battered by the collapse of the domestic and international markets for copra and coconut oil, on which about three-fourths of the population is economically dependent.

"A general consensus among the area's business and professional people indicated that the major reason for the NPA successes is the poor economy . . . The belief is that the world economy will not recover soon and that local capital is running dry, except for the 'in' people who never seem to hurt." This "in" group admits the report, includes Marcos' cronies like Ambassador to Spain Manuel Nieto and business czar Rodolfo Cuenca, who expanded their plantations by pushing farmers into a "forced-sale type of situation."

RISING MILITARY ABUSE

Government neglect of the rural areas rates as a second reason for the guerrillas' inroads. "The NPA thrives on government inattention to basic needs in many (but not all) areas . . . Somehow the NPA filled the vacuum that existed." Such a political vacuum had characterized the area of San Vicente in the province of Davao del Norte before the NPA began organizing there five years ago. By 1981, the guerrilla network had become "more important than the local government structure."

The report points to military abuses perpetrated on civilians as the third key factor behind the NPA expansion. The document, in fact, is virtually a compendium of army crimes and corruption:

- "Regarding banditry, the Army and Constabulary Commands acknowledge that individual servicemen, and perhaps units, are involved since the types of weapons and clothing displayed, the manner of the bandits and their behavior all suggest that military are involved."

- Davao City, the largest city in the region, "remains potentially turbulent because of street crime and general lawless-



New People's Army cadre move to a new base; report finds revolutionaries expanding at a "slow but steady" pace.

ness, much (if not most) attributed to the military and ex-military . . ." The local commander himself is said to have "a weekly income of P5000 (\$600) from the (gambling) syndicates."

- A Maryknoll missionary was expelled from the country for accusing a colonel of abuses in a public meeting. The latter had "apparently enlisted the aid of his mentor, Antonio Florendo, banana plantation owner and friend of the First Lady (Imelda Marcos) who arranged for (Fr. Ralph) Kroes' expulsion."

- Cases of "salvaging" or unofficial execution of civilians "appear to have increased" in areas of insurgency.

The regime's methods of containing the NPA, the report acknowledges, include "strategic hamletting" or the forced relocation of peasants. This attempt to root out the guerrillas occurred in San Vicente where, according to church sources, at least 25,000 people were forcibly evicted from their homes. Yet the Embassy is pessimistic about the effectiveness of these savage tactics.

HAMLETING INEFFECTIVE

While troops now "saturate" key NPA areas, "We are not convinced that, should the military reduce its forces in these areas, the people and their local leaders

are now so committed to the government's cause that they will be able to resist a return to NPA influence." In other words, even Consul Scheinbaum cannot ignore the fact that the NPA is genuinely popular and has struck deep roots among the people in the area.

Political instability, guerrilla popularity, military corruption, strategic hamlets--all this evokes a parallel to the Vietnamese countryside in the early sixties--perhaps not coincidentally since Scheinbaum was assigned to Vietnam during that period.

The conclusion that can be drawn from the secret memo: direct intervention may be the only option for the US government.

The mechanism for such an eventuality is already in place: the US-Philippine Bases Agreement of 1979 has a clause which provides for the participation of US troops in off-base security operations--an area which can be arbitrarily defined to extend from one to two hundred to six hundred or more miles from base boundaries.

"This then is the real message of the Scheinbaum report," remarks Geline Avila of the CAMD. "A Vietnam or El Salvador-type situation is developing in the Philippines, and it will take more than military assistance to shore up the tottering dictatorship." □

Buod ng mga Balita

EMIL DE GUZMAN

MARCOS PROPOSES NATIONAL I.D. CARDS

President Ferdinand E. Marcos August 5 announced plans for a national identity card system for the entire Philippine population.

The system proposes to assign a single number to each citizen for life. This would be used for voter registration, taxation and recording of marriages, births and deaths. Marcos' *Kilusang Bagong Lipunan* insists that the system will simplify matters for record-keepers and citizens alike.

But the use of a national identity system is standard operating procedure under fascist governments which want to keep absolute control over the populace. In portions of the Philippines occupied by the Philippine military, citizens must show their tax receipts or *cedulas* to get past checkpoints to their fields.

Perhaps the most advanced use of the national identity card system is to be found in apartheid South Africa. Pass-book IDs are used to control movement of the country's black population. Anyone stopped by the police and unable to show his or her ID card is subject to immediate imprisonment. □

LICAROS SONS IN ₱19.7 M BANK HEIST

Two sons of former Central Bank (CB) Governor Gregorio Licaros, a one-time Marcos appointee, were recently charged with the ₱19.7 million June 6 robbery of the Legaspi City regional CB office.

Indicted for the largest bank robbery in Philippine history were Licaros' two sons, Abelardo and Gregorio, Jr.

Both allegedly helped mastermind the robbery. Two days after the hold-up, government agents swooped down on their Manila office building to recover ₱17.5 million of the money. One gang member, a former CB security guard, was killed while eight others were arrested.

The Licaros brothers claimed they tipped off government officials when three gang members tried to deposit a large portion of the stolen money in their bank, Home Savings, which is located in their building. But government agents said there was "enough circumstantial evidence to prove otherwise." □

FM BLOWS UP AT BBC

In his hysterical speech before the Philippine Constabulary last August 8 (see story, page 1), Ferdinand E. Marcos exposed an alleged conspiracy against his government. Perhaps the strangest aspect of the plot was its cast of participants: the labor movement, the elite opposition, the Moro National Liberation Front, and the British Broadcasting Company (BBC).

BBC had raised the Philippine dictator's hackles by producing a 50-minute film made for its series "Third Eye." The central character in the film is former Senator Jose W. Diokno who spent two years in a Marcos prison following the declaration of martial law in 1972. Diokno's comments are contrasted with clips of Marcos praising his regime's accomplishments.

Marcos is especially outraged because the film was produced with the full cooperation of the regime. Particularly galling is a scene in which Mrs. Marcos is shown distributing building titles. A camera swings behind the façades which frame the First Lady to reveal rows of incomplete structures. Diokno, voice over, comments, "This is true of most development projects—all show, no substance."

The outraged Marcos lashed out in all directions at once. A formal protest was filed with the British government. The British politely shurged off the protest, pointing out that, since the BBC is a private company, the government has no authority over it.

Internally, the regime subpoenaed Diokno and Jaime Cardinal Sin, prelate of the Roman Catholic Church, to explain their appearances in the film to the Supreme Court. Sin refused to accept the summons.

A recent news flash from the Committee to Oppose the Marcos Visit reveals that the controversial film is to be shown to the U.S. Congress via the Congress Inter-Circuit TV during the Marcos visit. □

SERGEANT ARRESTED IN DE LA PAZ MURDER

Two months after the brutal gun-slaying of Dr. Remberto "Bobby" Dela Paz, Philippine government officials announced the arrest of a military army sergeant as the principal suspect.

Bobby, as he was warmly called by friends, was gunned down in his own clinic located in Catbalogan, Western Samar, on April 23. A lone gunman pumped 22 shotgun blasts into his body. Seven and a half hours later, he died on the operating table (see *AK*, Vol. VIII, No. 7).

"Dr. Bobby" was a dedicated young doctor who, together with his physician wife Sylvia, practiced

medicine in the hinterlands of Samar for four years. He became controversial and disliked by the government because he was able to travel freely in NPA-controlled areas to treat his patients. His popularity grew widely among peasants.

The military first reported that the NPA was responsible for the doctor's slaying. However, a strong suspicion of military involvement led to public clamor for an investigation. Under fire, the Ministry of Defense finally formed a committee composed only of top military and defense ministry officials. Their first action was to offer ₱50,000 for the apprehension of the murderer.

On June 25, government officials named the suspect as S. Sgt. Arsenio "Jun" Alcantara who was assigned to Lao-ang, Northern Samar, in the Eastern Command (EASCOM) region of the AFP. Alcantara was identified by an eyewitness to the shooting.

However, many suspect that Alcantara may have been merely a hit-man for a group of military plotters who are now using him as a fall guy. □

FM BAILS OUT COPPER FIRMS

Like other top Philippine exports such as sugar and coconut, the Philippine copper industry is in bad shape. Two months ago, Marcos announced a plan to bail it out.

World copper prices at 64¢ per pound are now below the breakeven point of 75¢ per pound for most Philippine mining companies. By the end of April this year, 4,000 Filipino miners were laid off their jobs. Two companies, Baguio Gold and Western Minolco, shut down with Baguio Gold closing for good. Since then, three more firms have closed including Rodolfo Cuenca's CDCP Mining. Still others like Marcopper have started re-trenchment programs or planned to close their open pit mine.

Unlike the sugar and coconut industries which face a glut on the world market, the copper industry has been hurt by the current state of the economy. High interest rates and the general recessionary economy have forced slowdowns and slumps in the manufacturing sector. With more and more copper purchasers going out of business, copper prices have plummeted.

The Philippine government's bailout plans call for subsidies to tide companies over the price depression. All mining companies have signed contracts with the government-run National Development Company (NDC) to sell their copper at the breakeven point of 75¢ per pound for six months regardless of world prices.

As in other bailout plans, the regime thus plans to use tax money to keep the private sector afloat. Once again, it is the Filipino people who will foot the bill. □



Marcos Gears Up . . .

Continued from page 1

plans to be welcomed back into the fold with much fanfare. After the official stop at the White House, he speaks at the National Press Club, and will probably make an appearance at the U.S. Congress as well as before a United Nations session in New York.

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Reports are that he has also been invited to speak before the World Affairs Council in Los Angeles and that he plans to "visit friends" in San Francisco. It is also said that Marcos' other stops will include Hawaii and Alabama. (And the way rumors are going, he will also be "secretly checking in" at a dozen top hospitals in the country all at the same time.) At any rate, all mainland stops reportedly will take place between the 16th and 20th of September.

Formalities aside, Marcos' visit with Reagan will include serious business. At the top of the list is setting up the renegotiation of the U.S.-R.P. Bases Agreement well before it expires. The Philippine dictator is eager to see if he can wrangle a more favorable deal out of the Reagan administration than the \$500 million in military aid for five years' use of the bases won from Carter and company in 1979.

Second only to the bases and military

assistance in importance is another form of assistance from Uncle Ronnie: a joint pledge to pursue together the fight against "international terrorism." The "international terrorists" in this case being the U.S.-based opposition to the Marcos dictatorship and the weapon the U.S.-R.P. Extradition Treaty currently before the U.S. Congress. Warrants of arrests for a number of Marcos oppositionists based in this country (including this newspaper's editor) have already been issued by the dictator.

The treaty will formalize an already existing trend toward cooperative persecution of the anti-Marcos resistance in the U.S.

In November 1981, the Reagan administration called for a Federal Grand Jury investigation into activities of anti-Marcos forces here. Since that time, the U.S. press has raised the possibility of cooperation between U.S. and Philippine intelligence in the murders of two union leaders in Seattle last year. Members of the Union of Democratic Filipinos, Silme Domingo and Gene Viernes were also active in the anti-Marcos movement in this country.

MINOR IRRITANTS

Minor irritants, of course, remain between the two allies. Aside from Mrs. Marcos' recent warnings to the U.S. press



Activist hands Ambassador "Kokoy" Romualdez CAMD leaflet.

about "shabby treatment," the most consistent grumblings come from the pen of Teodoro "Doroy" Valencia whose daily columns in the Manila papers often reflect exactly what's on the dictator's mind. Valencia recently cautioned Marcos against the indignity of begging for favors. Valencia also complained that America seems to offer better trade agreements to Japan, the "war-time enemy."

First Lady Imelda Marcos, while frenziedly preparing for the trip, has also made threatening noises about "turning to the Soviet Union or China" for aid—a threat political observers consider empty.

The Marcoses are clearly worried about

the impact of Reagan's "Caribbean Plan" on the already ailing Philippine sugar industry. The plan calls for favorable trade agreements with that region while tariffs remain on Philippine sugar. A further source of conflict, according to Shielah Ocampo of the *Far Eastern Economic Review* is U.S. dissatisfaction over a viable succession plan in the event of Marcos' death.

But the differences remain of clearly manageable proportions and relations between the two governments are rosier than ever. In spite of his recent illness, Marcos is only too determined to make the trip. It

Continued on next page

By NANCY ROCAMORA

The Philippines' Marcos does not intend to be treated shabbily in the U.S. where the Filipino opposition is planning massive protests, remarked Imelda Marcos August 24. She coyly reminded the press that the Soviet Union and China were eager to come to the aid of her country.

Ferdinand Marcos can emit as much nationalistic rhetoric from his sickbed as he wants but deep in his heart, wants to see and be seen with Ronald Reagan.

The dictator's first state visit to Washington in 15 years means a lot to his sense of security, and all his talk of taking up with the White House "the issue of U.S. exploitation of the Philippines" is but the beggar dignifying his presence at the soup-line. When Marcos visits Washington, it is Mohammad coming to the mountain.

Marcos has always enjoyed economic and military support from the U.S. But he has long sought the open endorsement necessary for establishing his legitimacy internationally. He was particularly frustrated when his strongman techniques ran afoul of even the meagre human rights standards of the Carter administration. Now, at last, the U.S. under Reagan is ready to tell the world of its unreserved support for the Philippine dictator.

That Ronald Reagan has important stakes in receiving Marcos is not so readily apparent. Reagan, after all, is President of what remains the most powerful nation in the world today. Ferdinand Marcos is only one of many Third World dictators—at first glance. But the mountain has as much at stake in the rendezvous as the eager prophet.

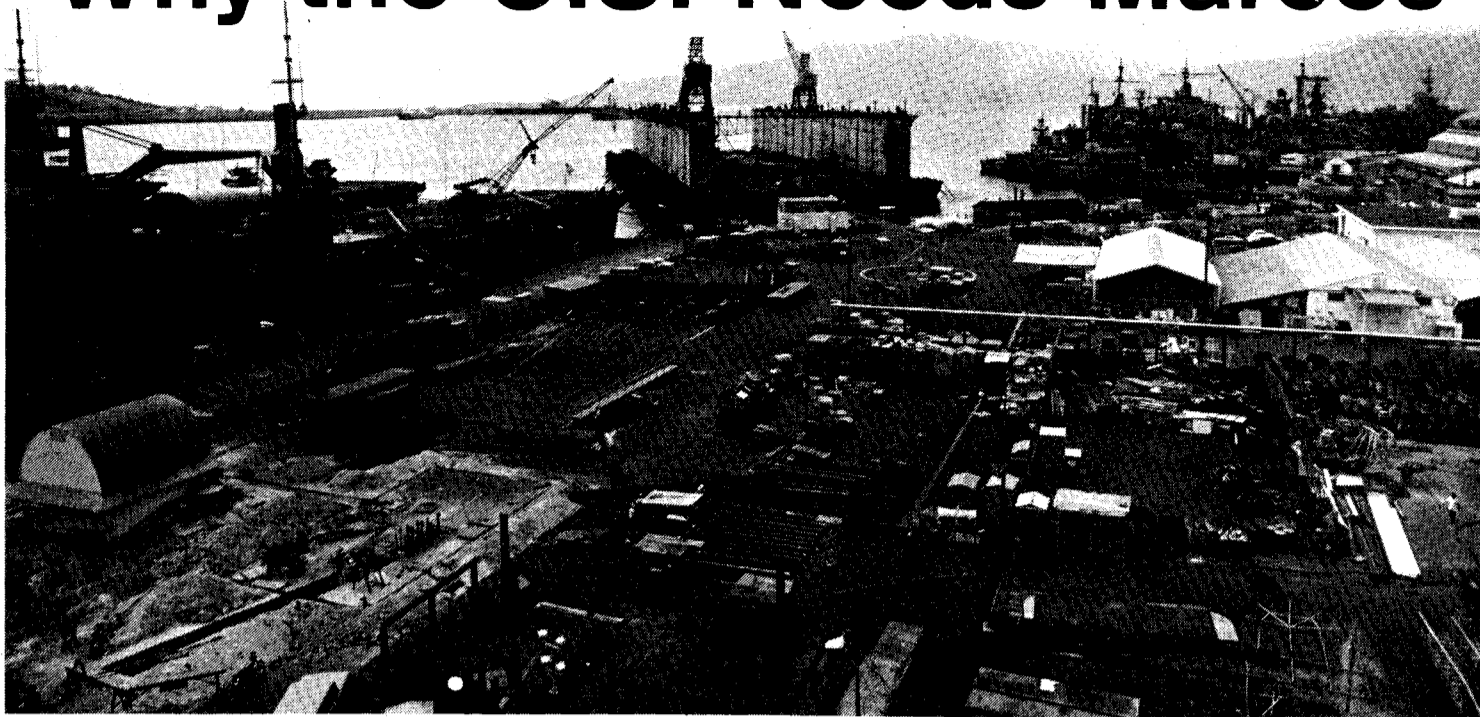
To begin with, Reagan has made it abundantly clear that his administration intends to be kind to dictators. Immediately after his inauguration, he welcomed the notorious Chun Doo Hwan of South Korea. One month later he rolled out the red carpet for the Argentine junta's presidential appointee. Most recently, he certified the human rights record of the Salvadoran government under the leadership of right-wing terrorist d'Aubisson.

And then Ferdinand Marcos is not just any dictator, nor is the Philippines just any piece of real estate. This American neocolony of 48 million people plays a key role in U.S. defense strategy locally, regionally and globally.

Politics and geography determine the special character of the Philippines for the U.S. American military bases in this island nation have always played a key role in the U.S. defense strategy for Asia. The elaborately equipped Subic Naval Base in Olongapo, Bataan, is seen by some as "probably the most important complex in the world, if considered in terms of the U.S. policy of naval projection." Clark Air Base in Angeles City, Pampanga, the second largest U.S. air base in the

Commentary

Why the U.S. Needs Marcos



U.S. military strategists consider Subic Naval Base a valuable piece of real estate.

world, is no less impressive.

The Philippine bases took on additional importance for the U.S. at the end of the Vietnam War when the balance of forces in Southeast Asia shifted abruptly. Soviet access to the excellent U.S.-constructed naval facilities at Cam Ranh Bay presented a new worry to American military strategists.

The Reagan administration's confrontational approach to foreign affairs lent the Philippine bases yet an added significance. As U.S. Defense Chief Caspar Weinberger carefully explained during his April swing through Japan, Korea and the Philippines, the new U.S. defense strategy for containing Communism rests on six pillars. These include rearming Japan, modernizing the Korean military, and providing military assistance to China to "contain" the Soviet Union and do the work of defending North Asia, a task previously assumed by the United States.

A consolidated and strengthened ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations), consisting of the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand, is to contribute to this strategy by confronting and "containing" Vietnam and insuring that Soviet access to regional sea lanes does not interfere with U.S. priorities. Subic and Clark "have therefore become that much more important to the U.S.," notes the *Far Eastern Economic Review*.

For ASEAN, the new classified U.S. defense guidance stresses the need to "further the capacity of member countries to support the projection of United States power to the Indian Ocean and . . . [the Persian] Gulf." Clark and Subic are to

serve once again as U.S. springboards for intervention not only within the region, as during the Vietnam War, but in areas far away such as West Asia, North Africa and, if necessary, even in distant South Africa.

The Philippines is essential to Reagan's new confrontational diplomacy. But why the aggressive stance to begin with?

For all its aggressiveness, the U.S. today is, in fact, on the defensive.

Successful national liberation struggles have slowly eaten away at the area of U.S. dominance. The last ten years have seen not only Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, but Nicaragua, Angola, Zimbabwe, Guinea-Bissau, Iran, Ethiopia, Grenada, and Afghanistan, move completely out of the U.S. orbit.

For the U.S. successful national liberation struggles could only mean the loss of more and more markets, raw materials and cheap labor. More, the inherent antagonism between international capitalism's impulse for expansion and the poorer nations' desire for independent development means that the only realistic course for newly liberated countries is toward socialism.

By the mid-seventies, U.S.-cultivated elite democracies and stabilization programs had proven completely incapable of checking the rise of revolutionary movements in Third World countries. Dictatorial rule has therefore become the norm in areas traditionally dominated by the U.S.

Human rights diplomacy under Carter, while successful in "distancing" the U.S. from its client dictatorship, proved contra-

dictory to the interests they both share. Reagan ideologues are thus convinced that the U.S. should make no apologies for the repressive rule of its Third World allies. They are convinced that only brute force internally through dictatorial regimes and externally via direct U.S. intervention—can keep a client nation in the U.S. camp. They have conveniently glossed over the lesson of Vietnam that once the process of national liberation has been set in motion, all that brute force can do is slow the pace.

Ronald Reagan thus needs Ferdinand Marcos today just as he needs d'Aubisson of El Salvador, Pinochet of Chile, Chun of Korea, or the brutal apartheid regime in South Africa. They are the only allies he feels he can genuinely trust to keep the lid on movements for social and economic change.

But because Reagan wants to insure that the U.S. remains free to intervene anywhere in the world to counter national liberation struggles and to confront the socialist camp, Marcos is a particularly special dictator. Embracing the torturer of Manila is part and parcel of a unified aggressive U.S. diplomacy which includes the nuclear arms build-up, the anti-Soviet pipeline crusade, the bankrolling of Israel's cluster bomb war against the PLO, and the intensifying attempts to destabilize Nicaragua.

The red carpet is being prepared in Washington for Reagan's top ally in Southeast Asia. As things get rougher for the U.S. internationally, the strategic Reagan-Marcos alliance can only go deeper. □

Marcos Gears Up . . .

Continued from previous page

shows well in the lavishness of his preparations.

BUYING HIS OWN WELCOME

As in his Hawaii visit in 1980, Marcos has already dispatched an advance press relations team to whip up a good boy image for the U.S. media. Heading this contingent is none other than Marcos' crony and brother-in-law Ambassador Eduardo "Kokoy" Romualdez.

Meanwhile, the Philippine National Media Production Center is busy finishing up flashy literature and press packets to be distributed during the visit. Among them are hundreds of history books "authored" by Marcos himself and hardbacks for coffee table display.

Before this, tens of thousands of the tabloid *Philippine Monitor*, written and printed in Manila, have been distributed free in Filipino communities since June.

LECHON AND RELIGION

A particularly important target for the regime is the Filipino community. Philippine consulates in major cities are working to

stir up interest in the visit. As during the Hawaii visit, food, fun, religion, and deception are being used to draw people to pro-Marcos events. Some examples:

- In Washington, D.C., Marcos' main stop, the build-up started as early as June 12, when the Philippine Embassy sponsored a barrio fiesta celebrating the country's independence. Currently, parties honoring different community leaders, associations and sectors are being held twice a week. (Press and diplomatic receptions are held every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.)

- Busloads of Filipino residents from the outlying districts of Virginia and Maryland were brought to a high mass in Tagalog celebrated by Imelda's confidante, Julio Cardinal Rosales in Washington, D.C. with promises of free food. Rosales suggested that a warm welcome for Marcos was a religious responsibility. He also delivered a homily extolling the Romualdez family's virtues. Rosales repeated his mass in New York and San Francisco and is expected to tour the country.

- 2,000 Los Angeles residents were treated to a fiesta recently which featured, as a main course, 36 tasty lechons. Bused in from the suburbs, many were not even aware of the purpose of the celebration. Similarly, in Seattle, movie star Boots Anson Roa drew 1,000 Filipinos to a

bangus and *lechon* feast at the end of which she and the consulate staff led the singing of the New Society anthem.

- To provide intellectual justification for Marcos' rule, a select group of 50 "Philippine experts" will gather at Georgetown University on September 11. Ray Kline, a CIA operative, a portion of whose career was graphically illustrated in the movie "Missing," heads the seminar for the arch-conservative Institute for Strategic and International Studies. Co-sponsoring the seminar is a research outfit for Malacñang. This group has been deceptively labled a division of the highly respected University of the Philippines.

OPPOSITION HITS BACK

An estimated \$2 million was spent by Marcos for his Hawaii trip. He is expected to spend much more than that this time.

U.S.-based oppositionists, however, are equally determined that Marcos gets a welcome of a different sort. The elite opposition led by the Movement for a Free Philippines has chosen to counter the consulates' religious thrust by sponsoring a prayer vigil during the visit. But the more militant Committee to Oppose the Marcos Visit (COMV) headed by the Coalition Against the Marcos Dictatorship and the Philippines Solidarity Network promises

rousing protests and pickets nationwide but most especially in Washington. COMV has earned the endorsement of a score of civil libertarian, church, union, and progressive political leaders.

The Committee already has shown that it can stand up to the consulates' attempts to win over the community. Most consulate-sponsored gatherings and receptions have been saturated with leaflets denouncing the visit and the deception being used to win community support.

In all cases, the consulates have responded true to form. Activists have been intimidated by government agents who snap photographs and confiscate leaflets. (See story on harassment, page 5.) The embassy in Washington, D.C. in one instance panicked and summoned a 10-police car contingent to intercept two leaflets posted at the doorway during a party.

But the opposition is not intimidated. "It's not only Marcos who regards this trip as the chance of a lifetime," comments Geline Avila of CAMD. All the limelight and exposure Marcos will get during this visit may just work against him, she suggests.

"After all," says Avila, "when you place a pile of garbage under bright lights, it just stinks more strongly—and more people know about it." □

Activists Report Harassment as FM Visit Nears

Organizers of the protest around the September 16 state visit of President Ferdinand Marcos have reported growing harassment of their organizing activities by Philippine and US security agencies. The harassment ranges from disruptions of telephone calls, to abuse by Philippine agents at demonstrations, to secret surveillance of their activities.

"In the last few weeks," said Geline Avila, coordinator of the Coalition Against the Marcos Dictatorship, "we have witnessed an upsurge of attempts to disrupt our lawful political protests. We know that the Philippine dictator does not want to see his first state visit to the US marred by demonstrations—and he is trying to use the same tactics of repression against the Filipino community here as he uses against the people in the Philippines to intimidate and silence the opposition."

Avila noted several examples:

- In Vancouver, police raided the home of two leading members of the Coalition Against the Marcos Dictatorship (CAMD) after the organization had mounted two successful press conferences denouncing Imelda Marcos' Philippine National Exhibit which opened in that city. "The police came to our house in the middle of the night and demanded to know if we were the people who had written a letter protest to the organizers of the exhibit,"

Boying Bagon said. A letter left at a post office, presumably by Filipino agents, claimed that information about "ammunitions" was available at a certain phone number which turned out to be Bagon's. He said that they were taking legal action against this attempted frame-up and violation of their civil rights. Vancouver and other Canadian newspapers have been reporting extensively on the developments in this case.

- In San Francisco, members of the CAMD and the Philippine Solidarity Network leafletted a mass at St. Mary's Cathedral given by Philippine Cardinal Rosales, Imelda Marcos' personal religious advisor. Philippine security agents verbally abused the leafletters and took leaflets away from people entering the Cathedral.

- Philippine security agents are posted outside the offices of the National Committee to Oppose the Marcos Visit, Washington, DC, noting the arrival and departure of organizers. An activist's car windows were also smashed by unknown vandals. Activists are receiving mysterious telephone calls at all hours of the day and night. Their own phone calls are being cut-off, and tape machines are highly audible in the background. Similar disruptions of phone lines have been reported by CAMD chapters in other cities.

- Philippine Embassy officials are questioning reporters and others about anti-Marcos activists by name. At the same time, in Manila, two pro-government newspapers attacked the CAMD-PSN as "anti-American," "Soviet-inspired" groups plotting to violently disrupt Marcos' visit. Activists here claim that this front page attack is an attempt to provoke further surveillance and harassment from US agencies.

Avila noted that the harassment of anti-Marcos activists in the US is not a new phenomenon, but that it has been stepped up for the visit (See related story, p. 7).

The 1.5 million member Filipino community in the US is also under the gun of the newly formulated US-RP Extradition Treaty, now pending ratification in the Senate. Marcos has already cited 15 US-based opposition leaders as targets for extradition, including Rene Cruz, editor of the opposition newspaper Ang Katipunan.

A federal Grand Jury, sitting in San Francisco, is fulfilling Secretary of State Haig's 1981 promise to Marcos—to investigate "Filipino terrorists." Already one person has been jailed for refusing to testify, and another's home was raided by the FBI.

The June, 1981 murders of two anti-Marcos labor leaders, members of the Union of Democratic Filipinos (KDP), in



Geline Avila

Seattle have also been linked to cooperation between the US and Philippine intelligence agencies.

"Despite the Treaty, the Grand Jury and even these violent attacks on our movement, we will not stop demonstrating against this visit nor from all our attempts to expose and oppose this brutal U.S.-backed regime," Avila said.

"We are just learning how quickly our First Amendment rights of political expression fade when our protests interfere with the reactionary Reagan Foreign policy of support for dictatorships."

"But despite these moves by Marcos and Reagan, we will not be silenced," Avila concluded. □

He Leaves Behind . . .

Continued from page 1

tion of martial law on September 22, 1972. The signs are everywhere.

- The president has called for a national identity card system which would assign each citizen a single number for life. (See story, page 4.)

- Observers in Manila report frequent *zonas*, nighttime neighborhood round-ups and searches, in Tondo, Manila's largest slum and home of much of the city's labor force.

- The Supreme Court July 24 upheld the dictator's right to continue his rule by presidential decree even after the so-called lifting of martial law.

- Jose Diokno and Jaime Cardinal Sin were subpoenaed to the Supreme Court for "illegal activity." The two appeared in a new TV documentary by the British Broadcasting Corp. which Marcos claims is part of the plot to destabilize him.

- Finally, and most ominously, a wave of arrests has hit the country's burgeoning labor movement. The chairman of the militant Kilusang Mayo Uno, Felixberto Olalia, 79, was arrested and remains in prison for sedition and inciting rebellion. (See story, page 3.)

One day after the arrest of Crispin Beltran, KMU's vice chairman, Marcos went on national TV and told reporters that the threat he had warned of on August 8 had been dissipated, "if it had existed at all." Whether the threat ever existed or not, 41 suspected "bandits" were dead, key labor leaders were in prison and the entire population was stunned by the President's hysterics. Marcos had issued a clear signal to the opposition: while he clinks glasses and signs agreements in Washington, all had better stay in order.

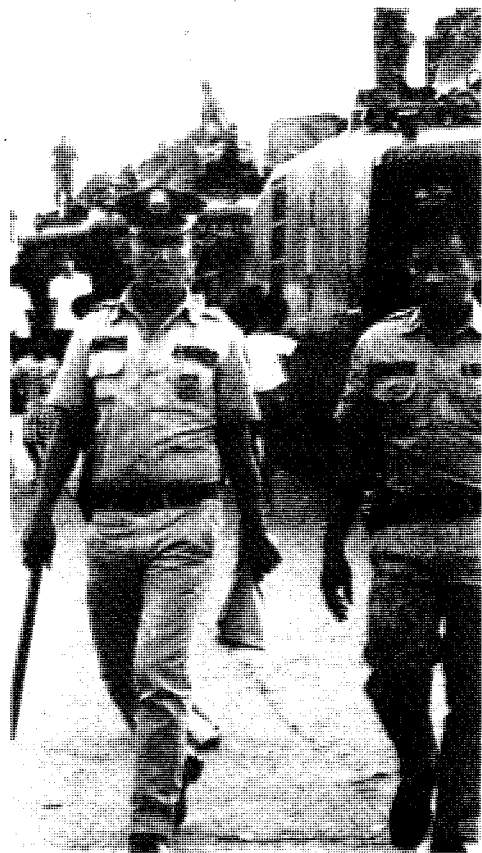
CHALLENGE FROM LABOR

The crackdown, from Marcos' perspective, is absolutely essential. He is faced with a rising level of popular dissatisfaction, and with a militant protest movement.

A number of issues contribute to Marcos' alienation and that of his chief backer the U.S., from the Filipino people. But most

visible, is the gathering momentum of the Philippine labor movement.

Statistics from the Philippine government's own Ministry of Labor and Employment (MOLE) for the first four months of this year reveal that compared to last year, the strikes this year hit larger companies and lasted longer. Industry thus lost 3.4 million man-hours for January through



Metrocom agents on the prowl: 1,000 new "undercover agents" terrorize Manila population. (AK Photo File)

April this year as compared to 1.8 million man-hours during the same period of 1981.

Marcos issued a plea to labor last July for a freeze on all wage increases. But workers are unlikely to comply as they are the ones knocked flattest by the country's severe economic crisis.

AILING ECONOMY

Some 50,400 workers lost their jobs during the first six months of 1982 due to layoffs, shutdowns and industrial retrench-

ment. 13,300 more suffered cuts in income due to reductions in workhours or job rotation.

But while workers are losing their jobs or bringing in less, the cost of goods are climbing. During the first three months of 1982, costs rose at an annual rate of 10.9%.

The pinch Filipino workers feel daily is a reflection of the sad state of the Philippine economy as a whole. A New York-based outfit which provides political risk forecasts for multinational clients rates the Philippines as the second worst investment risk in Asia. "What we have there is some sort of stabilized instability that could persist for the duration of our five-year forecast," says Frost & Sullivan's William Coplin.

The investment scene is bleak indeed. All three of the country's top industries—sugar, coconut and copper (see story, page 4)—are floundering as are a number of conglomerates owned by top Marcos cronies. Costly government bail-outs mean that the Filipino people, via their tax monies, are keeping these cronies afloat.

The nation's balance-of-payments tally admits that, for the first half of 1982, the country paid out \$675 million more than it received. The foreign debt, as of March 1982, was \$15.85 billion and climbing.

SUCCESSION OBSESSION

On top of this increasingly volatile economic situation, the regime's political fitness is the topic of much speculation given the state of the dictator's physical health. Hazy succession laws under the new constitution have caused much concern among regime supporters both at home and in Washington.

Marcos' recent hospitalization for pneumonia two days after he appeared on TV to prove his physical fitness will further fuel the rumors that he is afflicted with a debilitating and ultimately fatal disease. Many in Manila see the recent appointment of the First Lady to the 15-member Executive Committee as part of an effort to preserve the family dynasty even after Marcos' death.

The Executive Committee, of which only 11 slots have been filled to date, was created as part of "normalization" and in response to prodding from the U.S. for a succession plan.

In the event of Marcos' death or disability the committee is to hold an election within 60 days. His successor is to come from the Committee.

Despite initial talk of including opposition figures to provide for a "broad-based transition government," the committee represents a cross-section of Marcos loyalists.

In addition to a number of pro-Marcos old-style politicians, the committee consists of three main factions. Its chairman, Prime Minister Cesar Virata, Industry Minister Roberto Ongpin, and Budget Minister Manuel Alba represent the Marcos technocrats, highly favored by the U.S. Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and the newly-appointed Roberto Benedicto, are among the most powerful Marcos cronies.

Mrs. Marcos, her staunch supporter, Assemblyman Ronald Zamora, and daughter Imee sit on the Committee to guard the family fortune. Imee was appointed July 23 as a member with "observer" status.

Though Executive Committee members are all pro-Marcos, it is plagued with growing unease. Many believe the ambush and attempted assassination of former vice-president and current Minister of State Emmanuel Pelaez, a committee member, to be related to his squabble with Enrile over the coconut levy. Also, it is common knowledge that there is no love lost between Enrile and Mrs. Marcos who cultivates her own faction in the military.

While the regime's backers are stewing over the succession problem, they are confronted with a bigger problem: a growing "subversive" tide in the countryside.

OMINOUS FUTURE

A report by no less than the U.S. Consul in Cebu, G. H. Scheinbaum, notes a "slow but steady" growth of the New People's Army on the island of Mindanao (see story, page 3).

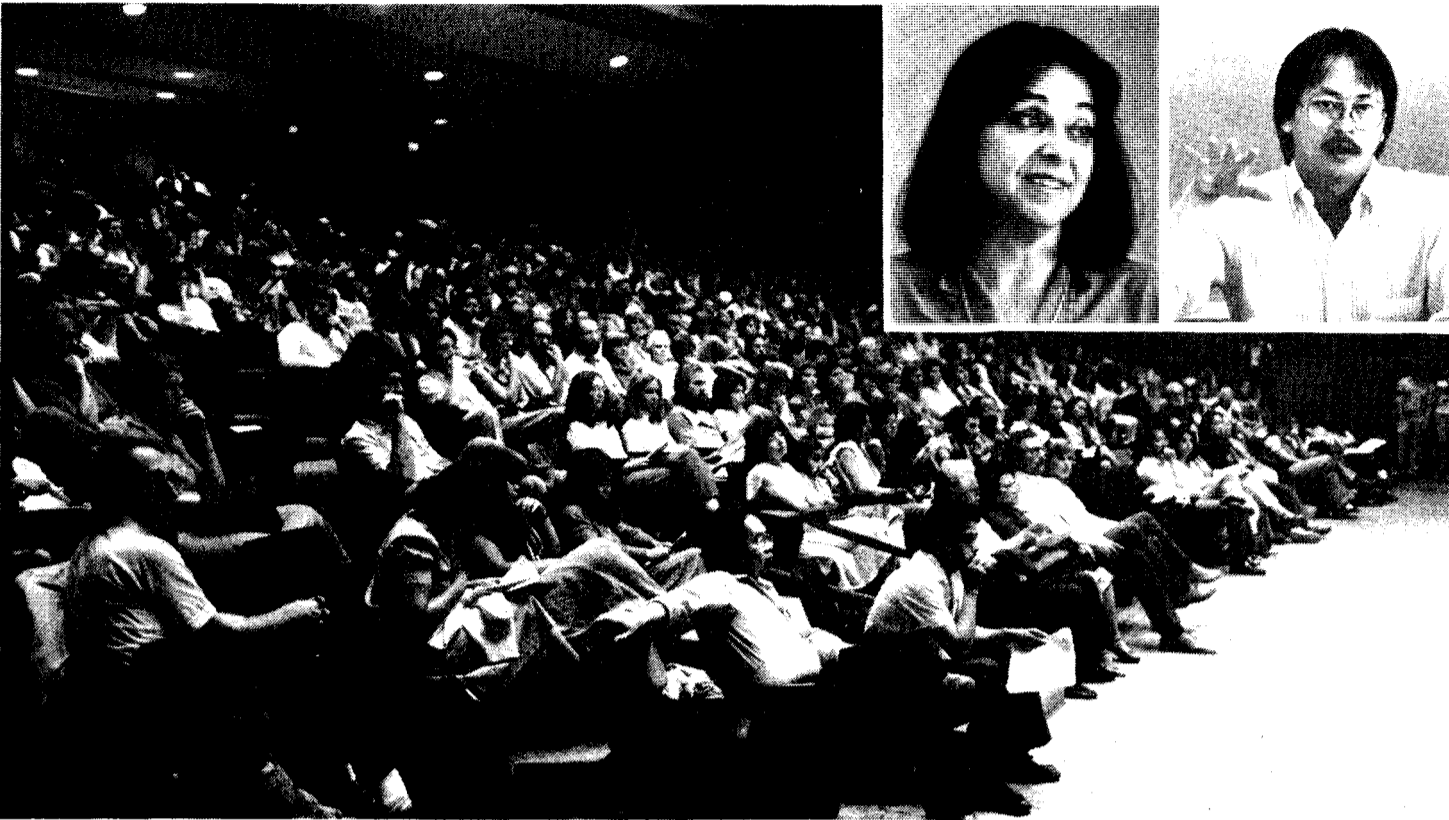
"Present circumstances are not encouraging and the future is ominous," concluded Scheinbaum in his report on Eastern Mindanao. It is a conclusion that probably applies to Marcos' future in general.

While Reagan's no-holds-barred support will no doubt inject new life into the troubled veins of the Marcos regime, the polarization within Philippine society is proceeding apace.

It is a complex historic process involving economic and political, domestic and international forces. One that Reagan's anointed one, Ferdinand Marcos, is incapable of reversing—or even halting. □

Seattle Justice Drive Enters New Stage

'Manila Connection' Suit Readied



Hundreds turned out at Seattle forum that featured speakers Rene Cruz (r) and Isabel Letelier (l).

By VENNY VILLAPANDO

A civil suit accusing the Marcos government of responsibility for the murders of Seattle KDP activists and trade union leaders Gene Viernes and Silme Domingo will be filed soon on behalf of the victims' families, a spokesperson for the Committee for Justice for Domingo and Viernes disclosed recently.

The suit, which also targets high-ranking U.S. officials and Philippine military operatives, will seek damages for the violation of the slain victims' civil rights. It will also seek relief from harassment, surveillance

and infiltration on behalf of anti-Marcos activists of Filipino descent living in the U.S.

"At this point, we do not have the liberty to disclose all our information due to the sensitivity of this case," said Elaine Ko, coordinator of the Justice Committee.

"However, one thing is clear, Gene and Silme were avowed anti-Marcos activists whose work with the KDP (Union of Democratic Filipinos) has become an outright threat to the regime and we have a solid case," Ko added.

The Marcos government's hand in the killings was publicized for the first time

last May by *New York Times* columnist Tom Wicker in an article, "The Manila Connection."

Because the suit will bring the campaign around the case to national proportions, the Committee for Justice is setting up central information centers in the Bay Area and Washington, D.C. in addition to its current headquarters in Seattle. Committees for Justice are also being organized in New York and other parts of the country.

TEACH-IN ON POLITICAL MURDERS

As a prelude to the suit's filing, the

Justice Committee held a teach-in August 6 attended by 150 supporters. The teach-in scrutinized the politically motivated murders of former Chilean ambassador to the U.S. Orlando Letelier and Ronni Karpman Moffitt. Letelier, a former Foreign Minister and Defense official of the Allende government and Moffitt, his co-worker in the Institute for Policy Studies were killed by a car bomb in Washington's embassy row in 1976.

Letelier was imprisoned by the Pinochet regime following the 1973 coup. After his release and expulsion from the country in 1974, he returned to Washington, D.C. and continued his opposition to Pinochet.

The night before the teach-in, some 400 people viewed the film about Letelier's assassination, "The Dead Are Not Silent," and listened to introductory remarks about useful analogies between this political murder and the slayings of anti-Marcos activists Domingo and Viernes. Cindy Domingo, Silme's sister, opened the event.

At the teach-in the next day, Isabel Letelier explained in detail how Chile's dictatorial regime carried out the murder of an important opponent residing in the U.S.—her husband.

Mrs. Letelier, herself a prominent activist for human rights in Latin America, explained that after several years of independent investigation, she and the Moffitt family filed a civil suit where they disclosed that the Chilean secret police (DINA) worked with hired rightwing Cuban exiles to plan, organize and implement the assassination.

In addition, Mrs. Letelier revealed that the CIA—which has close ties with DINA and the Florida-based Cubans—attempted to cover up the case, and mislead the official investigation. The CIA initially claimed the murders were done by anti-Pinochet leftists to create "martyrs" for their cause.

The Letelier civil suit prompted a U.S. court to "hold that a foreign government is not immune from lawsuits that allege responsibility for negligence, or for inten-

Continued on page 8

John Starnetz

Infiltration Plan Exposed

How Activists Got Marked for Death

As the Committee for Justice for Domingo and Viernes prepares its civil suit, two distinct but related factors emerge at the core of the Justice Committee's accusation that the Marcos regime was responsible for the murders: an exposé that revealed the Marcos government's plan to infiltrate the U.S.-based opposition; and the threat posed by Gene and Silme's militant work as anti-Marcos activists in the U.S. labor movement. The recent government crackdown on the *Kilusang Mayo Uno* and Marcos' hysterics about a "labor plot to seize power next year" highlights the second factor.

INFILTRATION PLAN EXPOSED

"Ever since he [Marcos] tore up the Philippine constitution and declared martial law in 1972," wrote Jack Anderson in his August 11, 1979 *Washington Post* column, "his undercover agents have spied on and harassed anti-Marcos dissidents who sought refuge in this country."

In his disclosure of a secret report to the Senate, Anderson stated that as early as May of 1973, Philippine intelligence agents began arriving in the U.S. to monitor, infiltrate and neutralize anti-Marcos groups here."

The report added ominously that U.S. intelligence agencies did not rule out the possibility of violence by the Philippine agents."

HISTORY OF ACTIVISM

To seasoned "radicals" like Gene and Silme, who were members of the Union of

Democratic Filipinos (KDP), Anderson's revelation was nothing new. Political intimidation and harassment of KDP members came in various forms—from Marcos agents training their cameras on activists' faces during demonstrations, to blacklisting, to outright threats of physical harm.

But the KDP continued its anti-Marcos campaigns over the years much to the



Silme Domingo

dismay of Philippine consulates around the country. In 1979, there were confirmed reports that even the FBI had been surveilling the KDP, and that the intelligence agency maintained dossiers of its leading members.

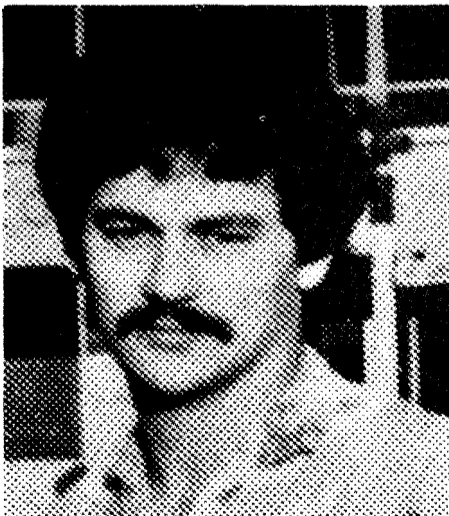
Committee for Justice spokespersons assert that Anderson's exposé destroys Philippine consulate denials of intelligence operations here. Also, they claim that this

infiltration program "set the stage" for the anti-Marcos movement to experience various types of harassment and disruption.

"Gene's and Silme's deaths were logical consequences of the existence of these intelligence operations," Elaine Ko explained.

THE LABOR-KMU ANGLE

As the surveillance of KDP activists heightened, Silme and Gene were also stepping up the formation of a reform movement within the Alaska Cannery Workers Union, Local 37. In the process, they often crossed paths with the union's "old guard" leadership, namely now-ousted president Tony Baruso, a Marcos loyalist who has been honored publicly by the Philippine government. (Baruso is now a prime suspect in the activists' murders and owned the murder weapon.)



Gene Viernes

It is Gene's and Silme's anti-Marcos work within the union and its international that most likely got them noticed by the regime and its agents. The two have always conducted education work within the union.

In early 1981, Gene visited the Philippines with the purpose of establishing formal links with the Philippine labor movement, via the *Kilusang Mayo Uno*

(KMU-May First Movement), long watched by the Marcos regime as a potential threat.

There, Gene held meetings with the top echelon of the KMU leadership including president Felixberto Olalia. These were the same people who were arrested recently by the regime.

Marcos' latest crackdown on the Philippine labor movement hinged on his claim that there existed a plot by the labor movement to overthrow the government through "economic sabotage, bombings, assassinations, and general strikes."

In addition, he made a fantastic claim that this plot has international connections, including contacts within the British Broadcasting Company (BBC), and international unions.

Because of Marcos' claims, Committee for Justice officers say there is reason to believe that Marcos may have concluded that the KDP through Gene and Silme was in the midst of this international conspiracy.

Mike Withey, Justice Committee lawyer, stated there are "specific reasons to believe Gene was surveilled while he was in the Philippines." After Gene left the country, a Filipino unionist he met with was fatally shot on a picketline.

Furthermore, shortly after Gene came back to the U.S., he and Silme represented Local 37 at a huge International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union convention in Honolulu.

There a bitter floor fight erupted as they pushed strongly for a resolution to send an ILWU-sponsored delegation to the Philippines to investigate labor repression there. Gene also read a letter from Olalia to the ILWU in the course of the heated debate.

Pro-Marcos delegates were incensed and vehemently tried to block the resolution. In the end, Gene's and Silme's resolution won, the first time pro-Marcos unionists lost a major battle within the U.S. labor arena.

A few weeks later, Gene and Silme were shot dead. □

'Operation Jobs' Victims

Filipinos Talk of Stay in INS Detention Center

By SALVADOR MORANO

While recent dragnet raids conducted by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) struck fear and terror among entire minority immigrant communities, Filipinos by and large, were "spared" from this experience.

Of the estimated 5,000 alleged undocumented aliens arrested nationwide from "Operation Jobs" last April, an overwhelming number consisted of Mexicans and very few were Filipinos.

The Filipino community therefore, is largely unaware of the experiences undergone by undocumented workers from other minorities who end up in the hands of the INS. However, a distressed Filipino couple have agreed to provide a glimpse of the harrowing experience of undocumented aliens who have been seized for deportation.

"They are treating us like criminals," wept Josefina Israel when interviewed by the *Los Angeles Daily News* at an immigration facility in Pasadena, California. She and her husband, Ireneo were arrested along with hundreds of others during a wave of immigration raids five months ago.

The Israels who are still here after their visitors' visas expired in 1969, have two U.S.-born daughters, one 12, the other 5 years old. Ireneo worked as a machine operator for 12 years, while Josefina worked in a bank for 8-1/2 years.

Their search for the "American Dream"

ended when the INS caught up with them. "We're hoping for the case to be reopened on the grounds of extreme hardship for the children," said Josefina.

The other detainees at the facility are in situations far more despairing. While the Israels could write to every local and state officials they could remember (they even wrote to President Reagan) to appeal for help, other detainees are not even aware of their rights and do not know what to do.

Many have failed to gain release simply due to their limited knowledge of English, and to lack of information and access to legal services.

INS officials also actively demoralize detainees. When the Israels asked an INS official to set bail for their case, the response was "Not a mountain of money can get you out."

More than a hundred detainees, mostly Salvadorans and Mexicans were locked up in the same facility as the Israels. Some were caught during "Operation Jobs" raids, others at the border near San Diego.

Some stayed a few days, while others have been confined for six months. Their release depended on how soon they could post bail and get a U.S. citizen to sign for them.

One old woman who has reportedly been detained for over six months, with no means of raising bail and no one to vouch for her, has become a regular employee of the detention center.

The detention center is run by a white



Threatened with deportation, the Israels plead for justice.

director, but the attendants and guards are from Central America.

Meals are inadequate and tasteless, and beverages are often watered-down. During weekends, only two meals are offered.

Ireneo noticeably dropped 14 pounds. His wife lost weight too. They met inmates who knew hunger even before being detained. Mostly in the countries they were trying to run away from. "They say there is no food in their country. No jobs. There is civil war," related Ireneo.

While the inmates could talk among themselves, no communication or visitors from outside were allowed—with the exception of lawyers. No newspapers, radios,

or letters were allowed.

The Israels were fortunate to have been released after community pressure, especially from the church they were active in. Friends raised the \$15,000 bail, and prevailed upon the INS to give them back the right to work in the United States.

Other inmates were not as fortunate. They are totally at the mercy of the INS. The Israels are only among the few Filipinos who have experienced the anguish of threatened deportation, and the intimidation of detention.

The experience is a harsh reality common to many Haitians, Mexicans, and Salvadorans in this country. □

Suit Readied

Continued from page 7
tionally wrongful acts by those governments in the U.S."

HIGHER INTERESTS

Other speakers noted that the parallel between the Letelier/Moffitt murders and the Domingo/Viernes slayings where foreign governments had a direct interest in eliminating outspoken critics residing in the U.S.

"We must examine the vast political, economic and military stakes the U.S. government has—both in Chile and in the

the Reagan administration for 1982," she said.

Given the high stakes involved, Avila said the U.S. has historically played an active role in suppressing revolutionary and nationalist movements that threatened the government's stability. She stressed the close coordination between the U.S. and Philippine military and intelligence apparatuses, noting that the Marcos government could not have carried out the Seattle assassinations without the foreknowledge of U.S. intelligence agencies.

"The whole system of brutal repression

Marcos' wanted list, said the recent efforts by the Reagan administration to revise U.S. extradition laws could stifle "all solidarity movements," not only the Marcos opposition ranks here.

He said that in addition to physical elimination, extradition will be another weapon "which will be resorted to by our movements' enemies in defense of the common interests of the U.S. government and its client regimes."

Cruz painted a scenario likening extradition to political assassination.

"The Marcos regime identifies the target and makes the contract—that is the extradition request. Its agents here (Philippine consulates) set up the legal hit. The U.S. government, in particular the Secretary of State, carries out the contract and is rewarded by Marcos' undying loyalty."

"It's all legal and clean," Cruz stressed, "but it has the same intent as a political murder—terrorize a whole opposition

movement." Cruz added that the regime's determination to use extradition to suppress its opponents here reveals the basis for it to resort to political murder.

Cruz also warned that other immigrant communities will "sooner or later feel the same terror, as the U.S. enters into treaties with more client dictatorships."

He warned that solidarity movements here in support of the Nicaraguan government, the Salvadoran and other national liberation movements are targets of U.S.-coordinated repression as they not only discredit U.S.-allied dictators, they also frustrate the consolidation of U.S. public support for an aggressive policy of intervention that Reagan wants to pursue.

A community reception for Mrs. Letelier and the other speakers was held in Chinatown and featured guests from the Latin American liberation support networks, from the African National Congress, and church and peace networks. □



Seattle forum.

Philippines—if we are to gain a better understanding of the political motivations behind the murders of Letelier and Moffitt, and the shooting of Gene and Silme," said Geline Avila, coordinator of the Coalition Against the Marcos Dictatorship.

She noted that as in Chile, the U.S. has vital economic and military interests in the Philippines. More importantly, the U.S. military bases are a key hub in the U.S. global military strategy. The dictatorship enjoys various types of support including "another \$140 million slated by

and denial of basic rights in the Philippines result from the need of the U.S. to protect its vital interests. The Philippines repressive apparatus is a creation of the U.S.," Avila said. "That the U.S. government could not give the green light or look the other way while crimes like the Letelier, and Domingo-Viernes murders are committed is no surprise."

TREND OF REPRESSION HERE

Rene Cruz, editor of *Ang Katipunan* and one of the 40 so-called subversives on

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By ANNATESS ARANETA

Repressive Immigration Bill: Senate OKs Simpson-Mazzoli

Acclaimed as the most drastic "immigration reform" since the Walter-McCarran Act of 1952, the controversial Simpson-Mazzoli Bill passed the Senate on August 17.

The passage was immediately denounced by minority groups as repressive and discriminatory. The bill is also known as the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1982.

In San Francisco, a group called the Bay Area Committee Against the Simpson-Mazzoli Bill criticized the bill in a press conference saying it does not represent reform but the tightening of control over immigration and the imposition of controls over immigrants when they are already here.

"The interest of the Simpson-Mazzoli Bill is to control and curtail the number of immigrants coming into the U.S., and to insure that those who come are those who could provide cheaper labor for U.S. industries," said Wilma Cadorna, BACASM member representing the Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino. "The bill gives U.S. industries a way to meet their costs and become more competitive internationally," she added.

Billed by its authors as a way to "greatly reduce the incentive represented by the temptation of employment in the U.S.," the Simpson-Mazzoli Bill contains major policy revisions that include employer sanctions, so-called "amnesty for undocumented" immigrants, and set limitations to annual permanent immigrant entries into the U.S.

Support for the bill is overwhelmingly high in Congress, and the Reagan administration is behind it all the way. In what amounts to only token opposition, a few liberal politicians criticized certain portions of the bill, but did not oppose it.

Despite numerous proposed amendments to the 166-page bill, it received the Senate's vote of approval (81-18) without any major alteration in its anti-immigrant, anti-labor features.

TRICKY EMPLOYER SANCTIONS

Among others, the Simpson-Mazzoli Bill provides a \$1,000 to \$2,000 fine for employers who knowingly hire undocumented workers, while slapping a \$5,000 fine in addition to a five-year prison term on aliens found with false documents.

It similarly requires employers to prove that they checked the credentials of prospective workers by asking for either a United States passport or two other identification documents when considering job applicants.

"The danger in the employer sanctions is that employers could use this as a ruse to discriminate, particularly against Hispanics," noted Marc Van Der Hout, an immigration attorney and member of the National Lawyers Guild.

"Even employers not opposed to hiring minorities or undocumented workers will hesitate when hiring these people," he added.

BACASM notes that the employers' fines are small enough that the sanctions



BACASM members Ruth Picon (l) and Mariano Contreras (r) address community forum.

only provide employers who continue to hire undocumented workers for cheap labor, extra leverage for controlling their work force in addition to the threat of calling in the INS as a tool in labor disputes. By asserting that they are "taking a risk" in hiring undocumented workers, employers can exact a pledge of "good behavior" from their undocumented employees.

In addition to employer sanctions, the bill calls for the creation within three years of a uniform system of identification, possibly through the use of national identity cards and a computerized data bank.

Sen. Alan Cranston (D-CA) previously balked at this measure saying, "Any system that leads to the requirement that citizens be identified, no matter how you do it, or what you call it, boils down to an internal passport system that will sooner or later be abused by the government."

Civil liberties groups note that this system smacks of the pass-card system used in racist South Africa.

FAMILY REUNIFICATION

Another major provision would set an annual ceiling of 450,000 visas given to immediate relatives (spouses, parents, and children of U.S. citizens) for the purposes of family reunification.

Fifth preference visas (allowing the entry of brothers and sisters of U.S. citizens) will be eliminated, along with part of the second preference (unmarried children over 26 years old of U.S. citizens).

The thrust of these restrictions is to limit the number of immigrants who can become permanent members of the workforce, and allow the immigration of only those deemed most socially productive, i.e., those of an age range who can

work and would not be a "burden" to society like the elderly are viewed.

Canada and Mexico will be given a ceiling of 40,000 immigrants each, with any unused quotas available only to either of the two countries. Other countries, however, are limited to 20,000 entries annually. The only noteworthy change in this measure is that the quota does not include refugees as originally allotted.

GUEST WORKERS

The Simpson-Mazzoli Bill includes an expanded Guest Worker Program designed to streamline the contracting of 300,000 foreign temporary workers, depending upon the needs of U.S. industry.

Charles Jeszeck, research director of the California Labor Federation called this program "unacceptable" because it requires aliens to work and pay taxes, but prohibits them from accepting such public benefits as social security, welfare, or worker's compensation, for the duration of their work in the U.S.

The program will be a boon to businesses. They will in effect be given an unstable group of workers who can serve as scabs in times of labor disputes and who have no choice but to accept the conditions and low wages employers are willing to offer. These guest workers will also be difficult to unionize. They can be dismissed after their contracts are over. Their families will not be allowed into the U.S. and the government will not be socially responsible for them.

AMNESTY... OR TRAP?

A controversial provision that earned the ire of community groups is the two-level "legalization" provision that purportedly gives amnesty to undocumented workers. Those who have lived in the U.S.

continuously before January 1, 1977 are eligible for permanent resident status, while those who arrived between January 1, 1977 and January 1, 1980 would be eligible for temporary resident status. After three years, they may be eligible for permanent residency.

While both groups will be required to register with the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), they would be prohibited from receiving public benefits for three years.

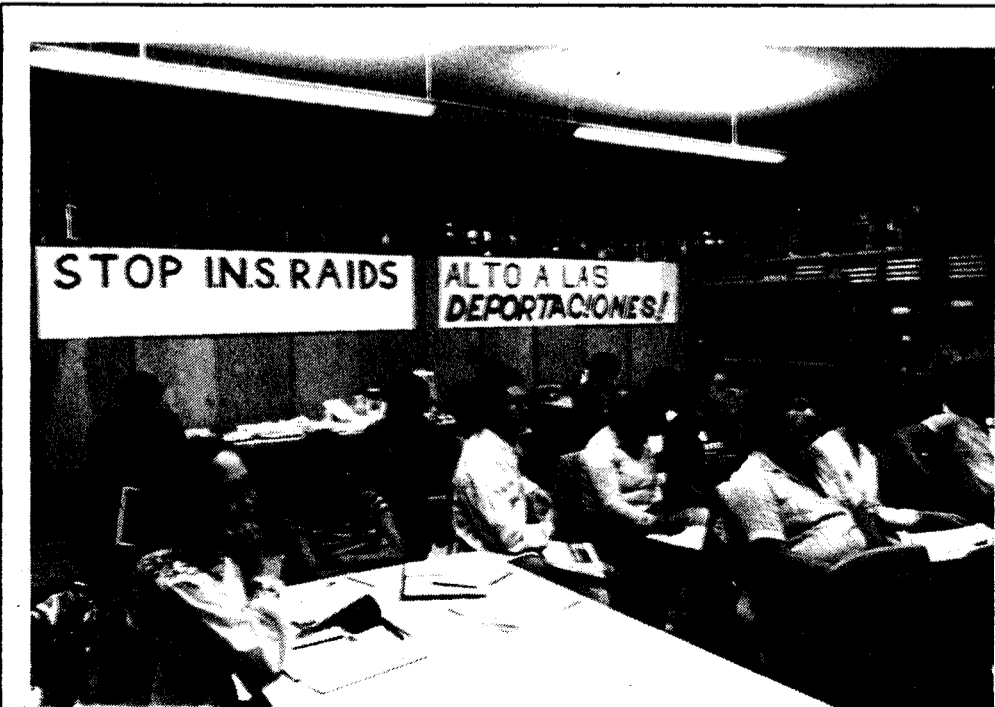
Bill Tamayo, BACASM member and lawyer for the Asian Law Caucus, denounced this provision as vague and subject to arbitrary actions by the INS. "There is no guarantee that the alien would eventually be given legal status. What it does guarantee is that the alien would identify himself to the INS!"

POLITICAL ASYLUM RESTRICTED

Only 14 days are provided for application for political asylum from the beginning of deportation/exclusion proceedings. Judicial review of decisions is eliminated. INS officials are now authorized to review asylum cases, while the Attorney General is vested with the ultimate power to decide the fate of political asylum applicants.

This provision bolsters government efforts to bar the entry of refugees from U.S. allied repressive regimes such as Haiti and El Salvador. Refugees from socialist countries are treated quite leniently, making it clear that political asylum is mainly an extension of U.S. foreign policy.

After the Labor Day recess, the bill will undergo final discussions in the House Judiciary Committee, and final approval is expected before the end of this year's Congress in December. □



The Bay Area Committee Against the Simpson-Mazzoli Bill teach-in in Oakland.

Defeat the Simpson-Mazzoli Bill! What You Can Do

In light of the recent passage of the Simpson-Mazzoli Bill in the Senate, BACASM (Bay Area Committee Against the Simpson-Mazzoli Bill) is urging all concerned people to register their protests through the following:

- Send a mailgram or telegram to Congress opposing the bill. All mailgrams should be addressed to:
Congressman Peter Rodino
House Judiciary Committee
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 200
- Sign up and circulate petitions prepared by BACASM. All petition sheets can be secured and should be returned by September 6 to:
Bay Area Committee Against the Simpson-Mazzoli Bill

c/o NFIRO, P.O. Box 28102
Oakland, CA 94604

- Set up and sponsor BACASM presentations to your groups or organizations.
- Come to teach-ins scheduled for San Francisco and Oakland informing you about the far-reaching implications of the bill and your rights as citizens and immigrants.

BACASM, a broad-based committee representing labor, community, and progressive forces, has been active in rallying opposition against this dangerous piece of legislation.

For more information, call Lillian Galedo at (415) 465-9876 or Wilma Cadorna at (415) 239-4721. □

Movie Review: "Minsa'y Isang Gamu-Gamo"

U.S.-R.P. Relations: From the Eyes of U.S. Base Town Folks

By EDWIN BATONGBACAL
San Francisco Correspondent

The Filipino film industry is a mere reflection of the ideas and values that dominate Philippine society. This industry has a permanent penchant for heavy Hollywood-type themes that mirror pervasive colonial mentality.

Once in a while, a film stands for its intelligent content and artistic depiction of real life. Such a film is a rare occurrence indeed. "Minsa'y Isang Gamu-Gamo" ("There Once Was A Moth . . .") now available in the U.S. is one such rare occurrence. It is the sober flipside of the usual dance-fever-macho-boy-gets-bikini-clad girl film fare.

"Gamu-Gamo" portrays the lives of people who live outside Clark Air Base, in Pampanga province in the Philippines.

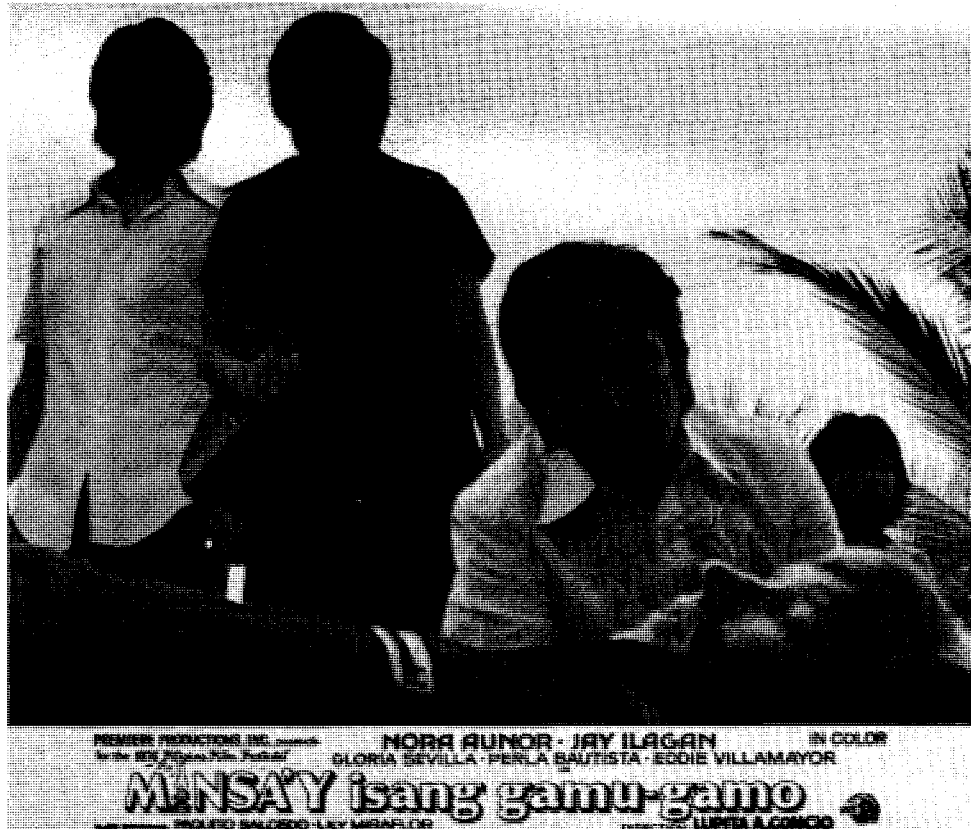
The movie accurately depicts how the U.S. base defines life around it. The day-to-day livelihood, the dreams and aspirations of the people of the town of Angeles, Pampanga are profoundly shaped by the presence of Clark.

Corazon de la Cruz, played by Nora Aunor, is a recent nurse graduate preparing to go to the United States under an

exchange visitors program. Together with Boni, her boyfriend who has applied for the U.S. Navy, she has one big chance to take her family out of the hardship and uncertainty of life in the Philippines. In one scene, Corazon, her brother Carlito, her mother and grandfather dream about the life they will be enjoying in the U.S.—the chocolate candy as big as one's arm, the apples so abundant they rot in the refrigerator, the snow, etc.

These wonderful dreams are shattered with each act of injustice committed by base personnel. Three scavenger boys playing in Crow Valley, a target practice area for U.S. jet fighters, are killed by gunfire. The children's parents are unable to get justice because the target practice area is "off limits." The killings are labeled "accidents" by base authorities. Boni's mother is accused of pilfering PX goods and is strip-searched. Finally, Carlito is shot dead by a base guard just as Corazon is about to leave for the U.S.

Boni's mother's grievance complaint and Corazon's search for justice for her brother are met with harassment and futility. The Philippine justice system is incapable of prosecuting U.S. servicemen who commit crimes. The Philippines has



Courtesy of Apollo Theatre

no jurisdiction over what happens in the bases, even if crimes were committed against Philippine citizens.

The film draws out the tension between co-opted Filipinos who sidle up to the Americans at every opportunity, and those who are awakening to certain realities. By focusing on the oppression of Filipinos living around Clark Air Base, the film also sharply illustrates the national oppression of the whole country.

The Filipinos' "colonial mentality" and the forms and subtleties of this consciousness are accurately portrayed, such as the "blue seal" mentality, as well as the internalized forms of oppression demonstrated by the Filipinos' incapacity to rise above their dependency on the base.

The film also highlights the trauma of immigration. Corazon is compelled to go to the U.S. for purely economic reasons. She is gripped by a sense of foreboding,

and by the fear of losing her national identity.

The film's weakness is that it fails to present an alternative to the downtrodden life it portrays. The perspective Corazon's grandfather provides, though agitational, is inadequate. His sentiments are nationalistic but lacks the political conclusion that should be drawn out: that injustice in the hands of the American military can only be redressed by the eradication of U.S. political and economic domination over the entire nation.

This weakness however, is understandable, given that "Gamu-Gamo" is a commercial film produced under repressive conditions. Given the mindless character of most commercial Filipino films, "Gamu-Gamo" should be seen especially by those who need it most—Filipinos who maintain an uncritical view of U.S.-Philippine relations. □



Sugar workers in North Negros Occidental.



NPA in Northern Luzon.

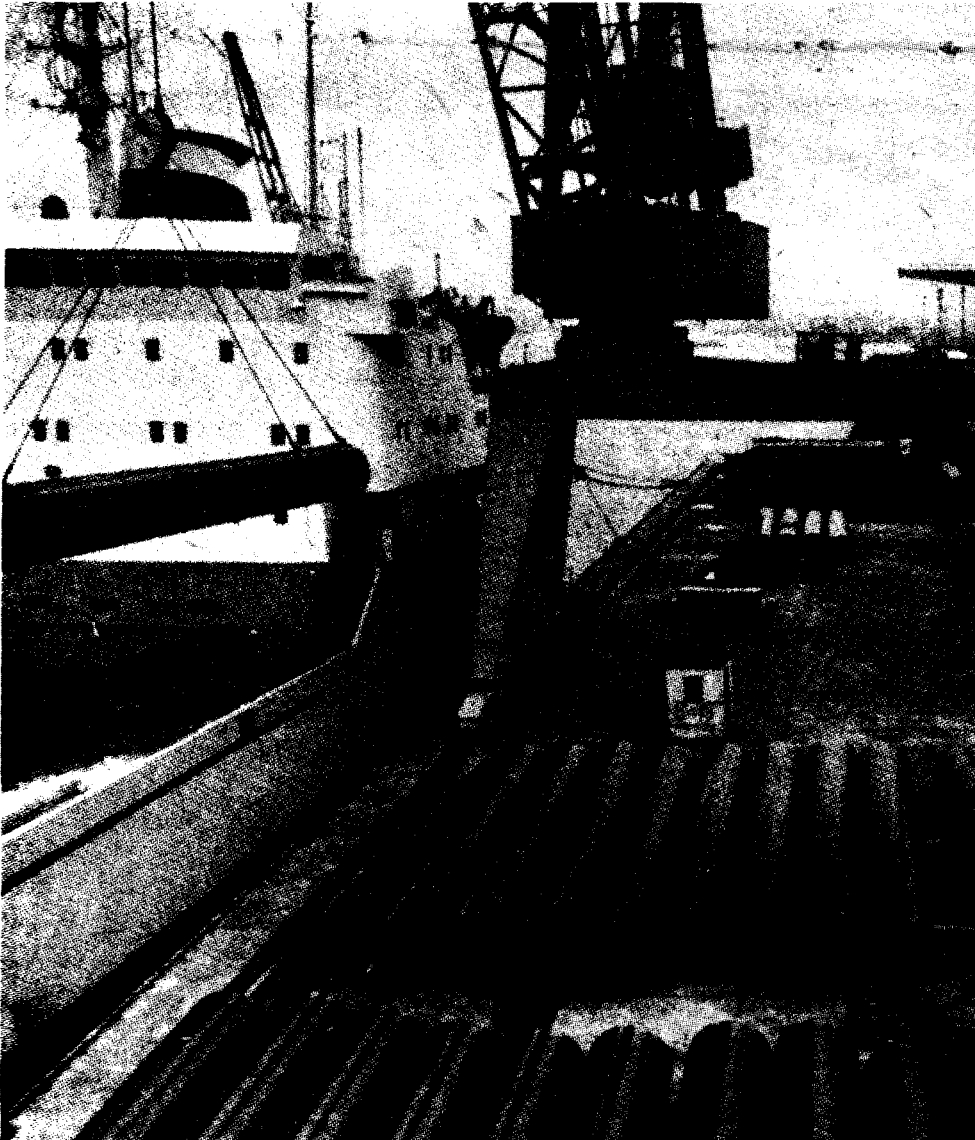
'Fighting for Freedom— The Philippine Revolution'

"Fighting for Freedom—the Philippine Revolution advances" proclaims a recent exhibition of 52 black and white prints by San Francisco-based photo-journalist Lenny Limjoco, 28. The exhibition was held at the Chinatown Neighborhood Arts Gallery in San Francisco.

Limjoco's work is the product of his travels in the Philippines between 1978 and 1981. Limjoco lived with farmers in Central Luzon, squatters in Manila, fishermen in Samar, Muslim refugees, and NPAs in their camps.

"These photos are my contribution to the Philippine revolution," explained Limjoco who has worked hard to document the lives of workers and peasants, parents and children, organizers, and members of the New People's Army. □

U.S./INTERNATIONAL



West German-manufactured pipes for the Soviet gas pipeline being loaded in Hamburg, Germany.

U.S. and W. Europe Allies at Odds

Soviet Pipeline Fuels Rift

By VINCE REYES

Ronald Reagan's born-again Cold War diplomacy has taken on a target which it may just find itself unable to hit squarely: the Soviet pipeline. For the pipeline, once constructed, will serve a need in Western Europe which the US simply cannot.

The pipeline conflict has not taken the classic position of tough square-off between Moscow and Washington. Instead it has meant a rift between the US and its traditional allies who are irritated at US arm-twisting over their vital energy supplies. Western Europe needs the fuel; the US would like to see the project fail. No other issue in the recent past has so thoroughly divided the capitalist camp.

LONGEST PIPELINE IN THE WORLD

The Soviet pipeline has been called the "Deal of the Century" between Western European and socialist-bloc countries. The project represents the largest business agreement between a socialist country and the capitalist world. When completed, the pipeline will represent \$10 billion in foreign exchange for the Soviet Union and it will supply up to 30% of Western Europe's energy needs with Soviet natural gas.

If its construction is unfettered, the Soviet pipeline promises to become the longest and most advanced project of its kind. Beginning in the Northwest Siberian oil fields of Urengoy, it will reach 5,000 kilometers (3,125 miles) to supply West Germany, Italy, France, Austria, Belgium, Switzerland and the Netherlands with 40 billion cubic meters of natural gas. The pipeline is scheduled to begin pumping in 1984.

Part of the \$25 billion needed to complete the project has come from credit extended to the Soviet Union by banks of West Germany, Great Britain, France, Austria,

and Japan late last year. In February and March of this year, a large contract with a West German firm for the delivery of 22 compressor stations for the pipeline was signed. For every dollar worth of imported equipment, the Soviet Union has invested approximately 3-4 rubles.

FROM CONFRONTATION TO COEXISTENCE

For the Soviet Union, the pipeline fulfills a number of purposes. The income it will generate promises to increase domestic productivity, expand employment and strengthen the economies of Eastern Europe.

But the pipeline plays an important political role as well. Trade on this vast scale will help the Soviets break through the historic hostility of their Western European neighbors and move relations from a tone of continual confrontation to one of coexistence.

COLD WAR TARGET

Easing the tension along its western

border is crucial for Soviet stability. Aside from the brief alliance against Hitler during World War II, the Soviet Union has been the target of destabilization efforts by the capitalist camp since the 1917 victory of its revolution. Following the war, the West, led by the US turned its guns on the USSR and launched the Cold War.

Cold War politics aimed to strangle the economy of the socialist bloc. Tactics included the development of the atomic bomb and the formulation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) specifically as a defense front against the Soviets. Confronted by the bristling military strength of the West, the USSR was forced to divert millions of dollars from the effort to rebuild the economy into a build-up of military defenses.

At the same time, the effort to ward off attack and complete destruction by the West, has meant that Moscow has had to walk a diplomatic tight rope. "Detente" or the normalization of diplomatic relations, has meant a lowering of tensions over the years. The pipeline represents another key step towards peaceful coexistence.

A QUESTION OF CASH

But why the sudden thaw? Western Europe has not altered its political system. What is the significance of the pipeline to the West?

It all comes down to a question of cash. The cost of gas has risen by over 350% in the last two decades. Europe, where energy is in short supply, imports its oil and gas. Piping 1,000 cubic meters of gas over 3,000 km. will cost half what it does to ship a ton of coal over the same distance by ship.

Cheaper energy means cheaper manufactured goods. A crack at the gas deposits of Urengoy means that Western European manufactured goods will be able to compete more favorably with those of the US.

DRIVING A WEDGE

US Undersecretary of Defense Fred C. Ikle at a Senate Subcommittee hearing in July called the pipeline "threatening to the unity of the Atlantic Alliance." Any wedge driven into the anti-Soviet front hurts an old Cold Warrior like Ronald Reagan to the marrow. The nations of Western Europe are particularly vital members of that front.

From a purely business perspective as well, Europe's shift to a new fuel market hurts.

The Soviet gain is a loss to the US whose corporations control the more expensive Mid-Eastern oil supplies. Given the economic crisis of capitalism, however, Western Europe cannot afford anything but the best bargain in town. And the US simply has nothing better to offer.

REAGAN PULLS OUT THE STOPS

The pipeline showdown intensified last December when Reagan banned US companies from any direct participation in the project. At that time, the US President claimed the ban was a response to Soviet support for the Polish regime. The ban cost 20 US companies \$1.2 billion in business and put tens of thousands of US citizens out of work.

On June 19, Reagan went beyond forbidding US companies to supply products

and technological equipment for the pipeline. He ordered foreign subsidiaries of US companies to break their pipeline contracts and forbade sale of goods with US parts or parts made under license from US companies towards the completion of the pipeline by Western European and Japanese companies. "Violation" would be subject to fines and/or imprisonment.

On August 26, the Reagan Administration pulled out all the stops and blacklisted two French firms for defying the embargo. The crackdown banned the companies from receiving any US goods. Dresser-France, a French subsidiary of Dallas-based Dresser Industries, Inc., had ignored Reagan's earlier warnings and shipped 3 pipeline compressors manufactured under U.S. license to the Soviet Union. Cresot-Loise had "aided and encouraged and abetted" the delivery of the compressors. The shipments however, were made under orders from the French government.

Other companies in Great Britain, West

The anti-pipeline crusade is an integral part of Reagan's Cold War politics.

Germany and Italy have indicated Reagan's actions will not stop their shipments to the Soviets.

"UNACCEPTABLE INTERFERENCE"

Reagan's sanctions have evoked a tide of indignation among traditional US allies. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher publicly criticized the US sanctions and indicated that British firms may ignore them.

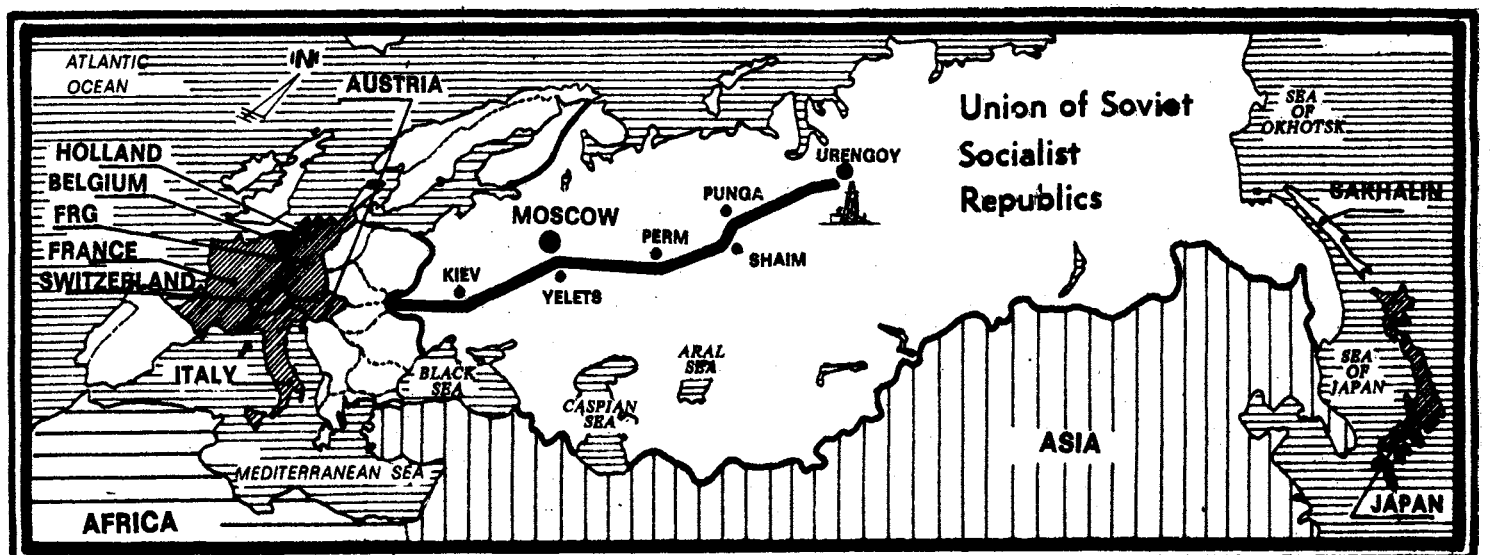
West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt stated that "The pipeline will be built and the British, French, the Germans, and other Europeans will stick with the agreement which their firms have been making with the Soviets." The European Common Market has called the US ban "unacceptable interference" in European Economic Community Affairs.

GOOD BUSINESS MEANS PEACE

The biggest guy on the capitalist block is clearly having trouble keeping its allies in line.

The hard line on the pipeline does little for the Reagan administration's image with the people of Western Europe. There, a growing peace movement has already targeted the US for its behavior as a warmonger, placing Europe in the forefront of a possible nuclear confrontation with the Soviet Union.

The anti-pipeline crusade is an integral part of Reagan's Cold War politics. But Cold War politics are most effective when the US and Western Europe work together to put pressure on the Soviet system. Reagan's dilemma is that his allies, to satisfy their own capitalist needs, cannot go along with him. Good business sense for the countries of Western Europe today means advancing the cause of peace—whether they like it or not. □



By VICKY PEREZ

In the Filipino Community the topic of abortion is usually discussed in hushed tones. The prevention of a potential birth conflicts with traditional Catholic upbringing and with deeply ingrained feudal values: the blessedness of motherhood, the sole purpose of marriage and sex being procreation.

But regardless of traditional moral pressures more and more Filipinos have adopted various forms of reproductive control anyway. Abortion is no longer out of the question, though it is accompanied with much guilt and secrecy.

There are compelling reasons for a more practical approach to reproduction that even "morally correct" Filipinos cannot deny. Family planning and the control of reproduction are becoming recognized as key factors in economic survival. After all the number of mouths to feed and the cost of bearing and raising children have long been factors in deciding whether families will stay above the poverty line.

With most Filipinos filling the lower strata of the job market, many of whom are realizing an annual income two to three times lower than the national average, the right to control reproduction should be an issue of significant importance—especially as two-breadwinner families are becoming the norm.

Already, Filipino women are extremely active in the workforce. From 1960 to 1970, Filipino women's participation in the workforce jumped from 36% to 55% and was expected to reach 70% by 1980. Filipino women represented the highest percentage of women in the workforce nationally for any group of women. Their ability to remain breadwinners hinges on the right to practice control of reproduction.

However, a heated society-wide battle has broken out over reproductive rights, with powerful forces pushing for the illegalization of abortion in particular. The assault has reached Congress but the main forces behind it are active on the grassroots level. The social and economic consequences of this assault cannot be ignored. The access to safe abortions is an issue of survival for working class and minority families.

The legislative assault on abortion rights is at its highest peak since legalization in 1973. Four bills are presently awaiting Senate action. The "Human Life Federalism Amendment" sponsored by Senator Hatch (R-UT) and the "Human Life Statute," sponsored by Senator Helms (R-NC), if passed will each define life beginning at conception, making all abortions and some forms of birth control illegal. The "Funding Restructure Bill" sponsored by Senator Hatfield (R-OR) restricts all federal funding for abortions, abortion referrals, and the training of medical personnel to perform them.

The orchestrators of this anti-abortion drive are from the Right—the New Right, the fundamentalist "Moral Majority" and the hierarchy of the Catholic Church. The strength of their campaign has every demagogic politician jumping to court conservative votes.

Disgruntled with the current state of affairs in the U.S., the Right has launched a massive crusade to restore "American tradition and morals." They claim to champion the fight against what they see as the cause of the crisis in American society—the destruction of the "model family." This family is one in which "father knows best." He is the sole breadwinner and head of household; the woman is the subservient wife and childbearer.

One of the biggest threats to the "model family" is the fact that women are entering the workforce and subsequently taking control of their reproductive capacity, choosing whether they want to be wife and mother, or not. If women will not conform to their "proper" role voluntarily, then legislature will force them by depriving women the right to control their reproductive capacity, by denying them safe abortions, contraception and sex education.

This social "code of ethics" for women was also the focal point of a crusade in

The Criminal Drive to Criminalize Abortions



"The access to safe abortions is an issue of survival for working class and minority families."

Germany under Hitler. The campaign to return society to "tradition" as an antidote for economic despair, propagated the philosophy of "kinder, kuche, kirche" as the responsibility of all women—"children, kitchen, church."

The rightwing attempt to define the morality of reproduction masks the real issue for working class women. For the vast majority of women, joining the workforce and control over reproduction are related concerns that determine their ability to survive economically. Over the past few decades, the value of a person's income has steadily declined. A single breadwinner's income has become less and less capable of supporting a family. Coincidentally, the war boom days of WWII, until recently, led to the consolidation and expansion of finance and industry creating a need for workers in the administrative (clerical, secretarial) and service (hotel, food, nurses, teachers) sectors.

Women steadily entered the workforce to produce a second income of their own by filling these sectors. Women presently make up 42% of the entire labor force, representing over 51% of the female population over 16 in 1980. For minority and poor families whose average annual income rarely exceeds \$10,000, women's participation reaches 70-80% of their population.

Female single heads of households, dependent on a sole income, are also on the rise. In 1970, one in five households were headed by women; in 1980, one in four; for minorities, almost one in every two. Women heads of households make up half of the families federally defined as

"poor," growing at a rate of 100,000 per year.

Employment, however, does not ensure escape from poverty. On the average, a woman's income is equivalent to 59¢ to every dollar earned by a male. Thus, employers maximize their profit by hiring women. Women have been segregated to the low paying, dead-end jobs, comprising 80% of the lowest positions in the clerical and service sectors. These jobs are also the most unstable because of their vulnerability to economic fluctuation.

Minority women are even more limited in economic opportunities because of occupational segregation resulting from racism. On top of being concentrated at the bottom rungs of the job ladder, the unemployment rate for minority women is twice the national average.

On top of the responsibilities of maintaining a job, many women must assume primary responsibility for the home and kids. Since this is seen as her function anyway, society pays little attention in providing assistance, such as low cost childcare, infant or afterschool care. Frequent absences from work to handle family aggravates economic instability.

Under these circumstances, the ability to stay above economic blight is greatly dependent on reproductive control. With the necessity of working and the unstable underpaid nature of women's work, a pregnancy, whether wanted or not, can spell economic or emotional disaster for many women and families.

Only three in every ten women have access to paid maternity leaves. As a result, the majority of women who get

pregnant, are forced to leave their jobs and lose training or educational opportunities. Leaving and re-entering the workforce, she is unable to accumulate seniority, benefits, or gain experience. The "in and out" character of her participation in the workforce reinforces her and her family's instability.

For minority families, half of whom are headed by single mothers, reproductive control is even more critical. The jobs they hold do not bring them near the national average income of \$22,000. Already minority women, however, have the least access to reproductive control. Because of the racist impact of government cuts, the first programs to be axed are those serving minority communities; community clinics, day care, safe abortion, education, etc. They are also the target of forced sterilization and contraceptive drug experimentation.

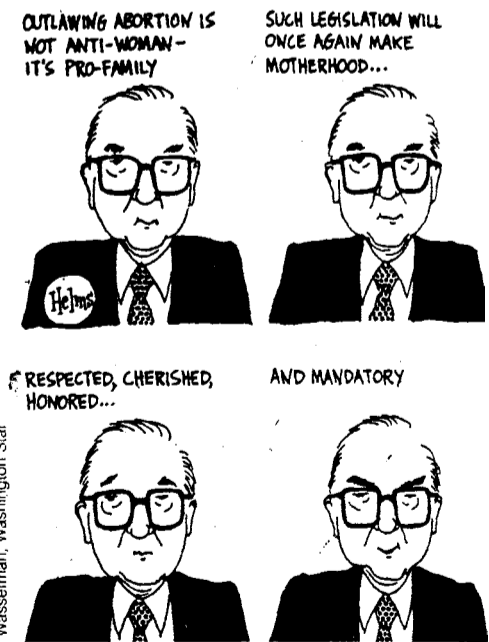
Thus, minority women fall victim to a double-edged sword. On the one hand, they are denied the means to control reproduction. On the other, they are blamed for needing assistance.

Given the harsh economic realities women must face, even the most repressive laws will not stop women from using contraception or having abortions. Prior to the legalization of abortion, an estimated 200,000 to 1.2 million illegal abortion were performed a year - 1,200 daily. An estimated 5,000 deaths occurred each year as a result of bungled or self-induced abortions. With its legalization, there were four times fewer deaths from supervised abortions than from deliveries under the safest conditions.

The rightwing assault is being tolerated, if not encouraged, not just by politicians but by this country's ruling circles for some good reasons. For one, they strengthen the efforts to consolidate "American unity" in the face of the U.S.' growing isolation in world politics. The Right's cries for old traditions, oppressive though they may be, are useful weapons in this ideological drive.

For the captains of industry, there is also good money in the attacks on women's reproductive rights. The view that a woman's place is in the home has become a convenient justification for the use of women as a cheap labor source. With an economic crisis on—over 10.5 million already unemployed—codifying women's roles as mothers first can reinforce their use as an underpaid, exploited sector. As Queens College economics professor William Tabb notes, the effect of the Reagan era is the "creation of a veritable army of women who would potentially be available to work under extremely exploitable conditions."

What will the working class, minority communities in particular, get from the



abolition of reproductive rights? It means more years of watching families grow while incomes shrink. It means women having to resort to the worst jobs out of economic desperation. It means an increase in the rate of divorce, as fewer families can live up to the "model family" prescribed by the wealthy who can afford it. Realistically, it will mean hundreds if not thousands of women will die from trying to take the basic right to control reproduction into their own hands. □