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LIBERATION

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OPPOSE CON-CON PLOT TO LEGALIZE DICTATORSHIP

There was no doubt from the very start that the constitutional convention will never be the forum for the Filipino people's struggle for genuine national freedom and democracy.

Indeed, concrete events have thoroughly upheld the national democratic line that the constitutional convention is an unqualified tool of American imperialism and the big landlord-comprador classes presided over by the fascist dictator Marcos.

Several months of innocuous debates and futile paper work by this undisguised mouthpiece of the fascist dictatorship have merited the Filipino people only one consolation: the historic lesson has been made more clear than ever that only through the revolutionary struggle of the oppressed broad masses against imperialist and feudal exploitation can genuine liberation be assured.

It comes as no surprise, therefore, that the Marcos-dominated convention should fittingly climax its conspiracy against the Filipino people with a criminal plot to legalize and perpetuate the fascist dictatorship.

After weeks of intriguing silence about the proceedings of the convention, the dictatorship suddenly announced that the draft charter for a new constitution will soon be submitted to the people for ratification.



Under the conditions of martial law, it is obvious that this bogus charter will be "ratified" regardless of its provisions.

The fascist dictator Marcos, however, remains deliberately silent about certain key provisions of the pivotal "Draft Article of Transitory Provisions" designed no doubt at legalizing his indefinite dictatorial rule.

An examination of the provisions of this article (please refer to boxed item on page 2) will immediately reveal the dictator's naked intention of perpetuating himself in power for life.

Section 1 provides for the existence of a so-called ad interim National Assembly or a "transitory government" immediately upon

ratification of the bogus constitution. This "transitory government" can remain in existence indefinitely since there is no time limit whatsoever for the duration of its existence. It can exist for "20 days or 20 years" and for as long a period as is deemed necessary by the fascist dictator Marcos who will preside over this "transitory government".

Section 2 ensures the existence of a "transitory government" under the complete control of the fascist dictatorship. Not only is the US-Marcos dictatorship content with having murdered and imprisoned hundreds of progressives and oppositionists; it further makes sure that only the seasoned hirelings of the puppet regime will be privileged to grace the "transitory government", by automatically disqualifying even the handful of progressive delegates who refuse to vote for these patently anti-democratic provisions.

This same section furthermore rewards the mercenary members of the "transitory government" with the fabulous compensation due the regular members of the National Assembly under the proposed new constitution: ₱72,000 annual salary and a maximum annual allowance of ₱144,000 for travel, supplies, personnel, technical services and other expenditures.

Section 3 establishes beyond any doubt the fascist dictator's obsession with power. Mocking all known constitutional pre-

cepts, this provision invests the fascist dictator Marcos with the unprecedented simultaneous exercise of all the powers and prerogatives due the heads of state under two different constitutional systems.

Again, defying all known constitutional canons, this same provision also validates all the existing illegal proclamations, orders, and instructions issued by the fascist dictatorship and even all forthcoming ones.

In openly manipulating the constitutional convention to whitewash its innumerable crimes against the Filipino people and perpetuate the dictatorship, the US-Marcos clique has only served to emphasize further its complete isolation from the broad masses of the people.

Today, the constitutional convention stands as a monument to the futility of parliamentary and constitutional reforms in a semi-feudal and semi-colonial society. The progressive delegates in the convention have realized this, too, as they decisively leave the suffocating halls of the convention to join hands with the people's democratic forces.

The true constitution of the land shall be drafted when the broad masses of our people shall have gained complete political power from American imperialism, the big landlord-comprador bourgeoisie class, and the bureaucrat-capitalists. ●

DRAFT ARTICLE ON TRANSITORY PROVISIONS
(Or How to Legalize the US-Marcos Dictatorship)

SECTION 1. There shall be an ad interim National Assembly which shall exist immediately upon ratification of this Constitution and shall continue until the regular members of the National Assembly shall have been elected and shall have assumed office following an election called for the purpose by the ad interim National Assembly.

SECTION 2. The members of the ad interim National Assembly shall be the incumbent President and Vice-President of the Philippines, the members of both the Senate and the House of Representatives, and the delegates to the 1971 Constitutional Convention who have opted to serve therein by voting affirmatively for this article. (underlining supplied) They may take their oath of office after the ratification of this Constitution and shall receive from then on the compensation and other appropriations provided for in this Constitution for members of the regular National Assembly.

SECTION 3. The incumbent President of the Republic shall initially convene the ad interim National Assembly and shall preside over the session until the ad interim Speaker shall have been elected. He shall exercise the power vested in the President and Prime Minister under this Constitution and, notwithstanding the ratification thereof, may continue to exercise his powers and prerogatives under the 1935 Constitution.

All proclamations, orders, instructions and decrees promulgated or issued by the present Administration shall remain in force and effect unless amended, modified, or repealed by the ad interim National Assembly.

SECTION 4. The ad interim government, as established by the ad interim National Assembly, shall exercise all the powers, functions and responsibilities of the regular government as provided for in this Constitution. ●

15 CON-CON DELEGATES DEFY MARCOS

Not all the members of the constitutional convention can be intimidated by the US-Marcos dictatorship.

This came to light recently in a dramatic confrontation at the Con-Con over the controversial "Draft Article on Transitory Provisions" which seeks to provide legal cover for the perpetuation of the dictatorial rule of the fascist chieftain Marcos. (See Editorial for details.)

Reliable LIBERATION sources in Malacanang said a rigged plebiscite would be held January 15 next year, after which the dictator would announce the already pre-determined result that the electorate had "approved" it.

Delegate Jesus Barrera (1st District, Rizal), former justice of the Supreme Court and one-time chairman of the Civil Liberties Union of the Philippines, led 14 other delegates in voting against the patently anti-democratic provisions of the draft article.

Among other things, the draft article creates a "transitory government" with an indefinite period of existence.

Composed of the incumbent members of Congress, the delegates of the Con-Con who would vote for the draft article, and the Vice-President of the land, this ad interim national assembly would be presided over by the fascist dictator Marcos who would be vested with unlimited powers and prerogatives.

In a bold and incisive speech explaining his vote, Justice Barrera openly charged the Con-Con with seeking to establish a dictatorship, "a dictatorship that is more or less permanent and, what is worse, institutionalized in the fundamental law of the land".

Known for his nationalist and anti-imperialist rulings when he was with the Supreme Court, Justice Barrera ended his speech with this resolute message:

"...Friends have very guardedly cautioned me that these are perilous days, and very discreetly hinted that I should not speak against (it). But I am already an old man and to me as to all old people who have little else to hope for in this world, truth and conscience take precedence over expediency and precaution.

"And so, if this should be the last time my voice may be heard in this hall, let it be said, paraphrasing the philosopher Tasio

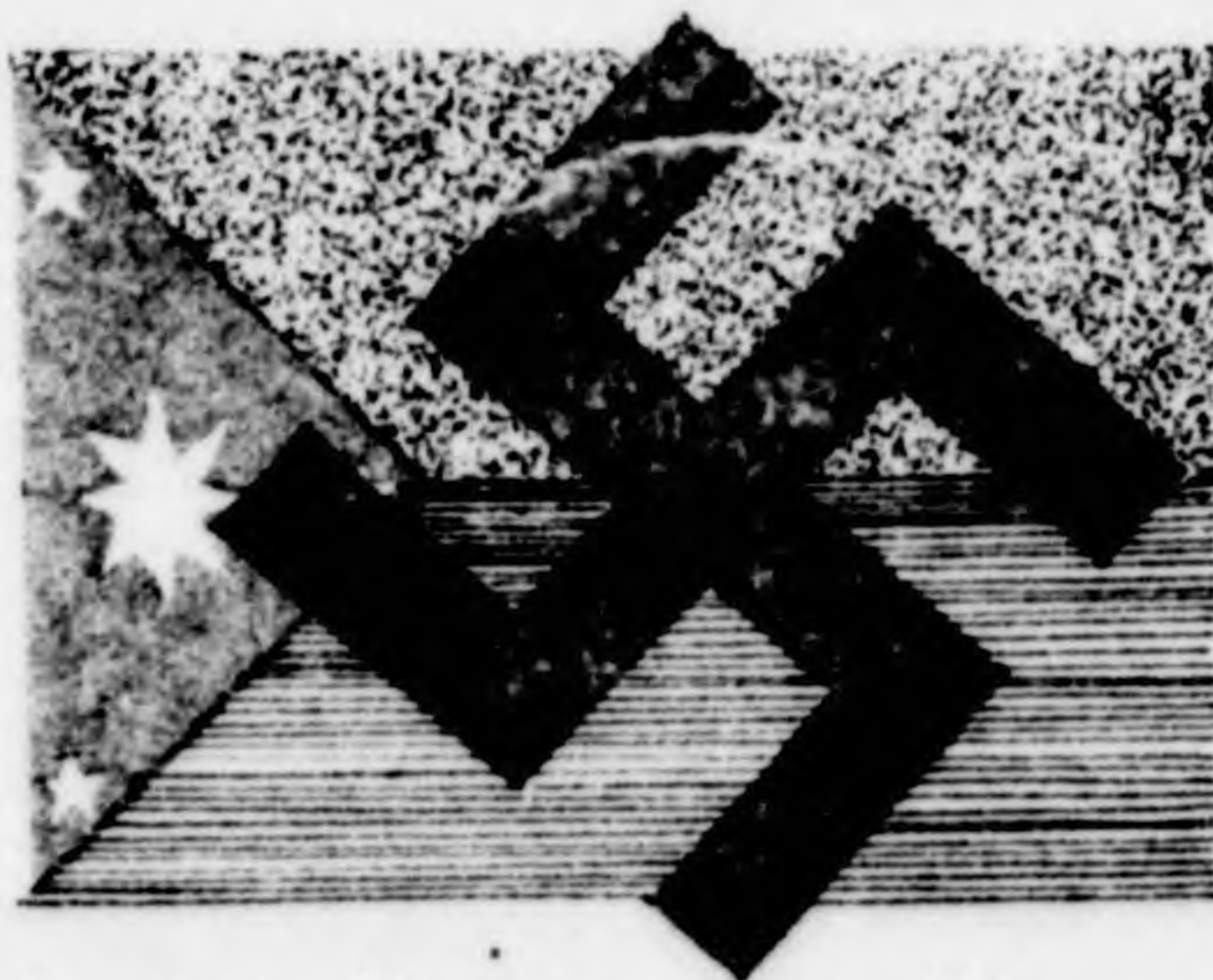
of the Noli Me Tangere, that 'not all slept or pretended to sleep in those dark days of our fatherland.'"

The other delegates who dared defy the US-Marcos dictatorship by firmly voting against the draft article were Dakila Castro, Juan T. David, Marcelo Fernan, Andres Flores, Leon Garcia, Ramon Gonzales, Sedfrey Ordoñez, Rolando Piit, Aquilino Pimentel, Decoroso Rosales, Jose Santillan, Jose Suarez, Margarito Teves, and Pedro Yap.

Before the voting, the fascist dictator Marcos had taken action against other prospective dissenters in the convention by incarcerating known Marcos oppositionists like Delegates E. Voltaire Garcia II, Napoleon Rama, Alejandro Lichauco, Teopisto Guingons, Jose Mari Velez, and Bren Guiao.

Other progressive delegates who had eluded the stormtroopers of the fascist dictatorship during the initial phases of the white terror have already gone underground to join the broad masses of the people in a firm resolve to end the US-Marcos dictatorship.

Meanwhile, the clerico-fascist bloc of some 15 members in the Con-Con voted affirmatively for the draft article and unanimously decided to stick it out with the convention "until such time as the futility of representation shall have become apparent." ●



Familiar Words 40 Years After

THE STREETS OF OUR COUNTRY ARE IN TURMOIL. THE UNIVERSITIES ARE FILLED WITH STUDENTS REBELLING AND RIOTING COMMUNISTS ARE SEEKING TO DESTROY OUR COUNTRY . . . YES, DANGER FROM WITHIN AND WITHOUT. WE NEED LAW AND ORDER. WITHOUT IT OUR NATION CANNOT SURVIVE.

ADOLF HITLER 1932

FASCIST TROOPS SMASHED IN MINDANAO

The truth is out.

The reactionary AFP has suffered 519 fatalities in the Marawi City raid by Mindanao liberation forces and in continuing armed assaults by freedom fighters on AFP installations in that region.

Elsewhere, anti-fascist people's forces wiped out three squads of mercenary troops in three ambushes in Mountain Province.

Belying the report of the Marcos tabloid, Daily Suppress, that the fascist forces of the dictatorship had lost only three men in the Marawi City action, LIBERATION war correspondents reported that the AFP was being routed in one military operation after another.

The correspondents said that aside from the 519 AFP men killed in Mindanao, 236 of the puppet forces were also wounded.

US Imperialism's Aid

The dictator Marcos and his lapdogs in the AFP general staff have been so appalled by the continuing reverses of their puppet troops that they have turned to their US imperialist masters for emergency assistance, it was reported.

LIBERATION sources in the AFP said the US Air Force has assigned two of its transport planes to help transport the casualties back to Manila.

These same sources said that in pursuance of the Nixon Doctrine, an American aircraft carrier recently landed 36 tanks and about 50 trucks for use of the 1st (Tabak) Infantry Division and other reactionary units now carrying out the US-Marcos clique's campaign of suppression against the Filipino people.

People's War Will Triumph

Members of the Corpus-Tagamolila Movement in the AFP pointed out, however, that these military "hardware" are of little consequence in the face of a resolute people's war.

They cited the living example of the heroic people of Vietnam who have waged victorious struggle against the most sophisticated weapons in the arsenal of US imperialism and against the mercenary forces of the puppet Nguyen Van Thieu regime.

The escalation of fighting in Mindanao and the abject failure of AFP units in that

region to "contain" the liberation forces could be gleaned from a reliable report that of the three battalions of marines in the AFP, two have been dispatched to that area.

This was held significant because the marines are regarded in the AFP as an "elite" reserve force which is called out only in the most urgent circumstances.

The triumph of the freedom fighters also could be discerned from a between-the-lines



reading of Marcos' own Daily Suppress.

Whereas the dictator's propaganda organ had earlier tried to make it appear that the Marawi City raiders were disorganized and in flight when AFP reinforcements arrived, it was forced to admit later that the freedom fighters launched two more attacks subsequently.

Most of the casualties of the reactionary AFP were attached to the 9th Infantry Battalion.

People's Forces Gain

Freedom fighters also have been chalking up gains in other parts of Mindanao, especially Cotabato and Sulu where reactionary forces could operate in the countryside only at the risk of getting ambushed by the aroused masses.

Liberation forces also were posting victories in Isabela, Central Luzon and the Bicol region. Correspondents reported that

the people's forces continued to hold the initiative in these areas, and were inflicting heavy losses on the people's enemies.

A report from Mountain Province said puppet troops had lost three squads in three ambushes sprung by guerrillas.

Another report said partisans bombed a gathering of soldiers in Pampanga, killing eight officers and men.

Military Hospitals Overcrowded

With the people's forces on the offensive and decimating the mercenary troops in the countryside, there had been overcrowding in military hospitals, especially the V. Luna General Hospital in Quezon City.

AFP authorities have tried to conceal the extent of their losses, to no avail.

For instance, ambulances carrying wounded soldiers move about during the curfew hours and lights are put out at the gate and driveway of the V. Luna General Hospital upon the arrival of the casualties.

But the people in the vicinity have not been fooled.

A source in the AFP Medical Corps admitted to a LIBERATION staffer that as people's war spreads like wildfire throughout the land, not all the military hospitals will have the facilities to treat wounded mercenary troops. ©

FOREIGN NEWS COMMENT

FAR EAST ECONOMIC REVIEW:

"The Americans, by their silence over President Marcos' decision to impose martial law, have encouraged President Park (of South Korea) to do likewise. They have allowed the death of democracy in the Philippines because martial law protects American private investments.

THE SUNDAY TIMES (LONDON):

"(The declaration of martial law) is part of a long planned ploy by President Marcos to extend his term of office ... His second term as president does not end till November, 1973, but he needs the time left to destroy the constitutional fences and the massive political opposition that stands in his way.

"Martial law seems to be the precursor of an attempt to establish a full-fledged dictatorship in the Philippines."

SAN FRANCISCO SUNDAY CHRONICLE:

"He says that he is doing it for the good of the people. The people suspect that he is doing it for the good of Marcos. Filipinos have seldom trusted their politicians and they see no reason to start now." ©

'NEW SOCIETY' PERSECUTES WORKERS, URBAN POOR

The "New Filipino", so the sonorous voice on the radio intones, enjoys peace of mind.

If that were so, then the "New Filipino" is a rare breed indeed since he is not to be found among the workers and others like him who, since martial law, have been daily haunted by the twin specters of hunger and persecution by the military.

Since issuing General Order No. 5, which prohibits rallies and demonstrations and strikes and pickets, the dictator Marcos has brought out in bold relief the fact that under the decadent Philippine society, the working class is singled out for exploitation and oppression.

Oppression under martial law has found expression in the arrest and imprisonment of trade union leaders and the harassment of workers who would assert their right to organize themselves and present a united front in dealing with the big capitalists.

Among the militant union leaders who have been arrested is Domingo Mamangon, head of the Elizalde Steel Company (ELISCO) Labor Union who is now detained at Camp Crame along with Roberto Ordoñez, president of the Herald Publications Employees Union.

Felixberto Olalia Sr., president of the National Federation of Labor Unions (NAFLU), has been the victim of a particularly vicious form of fascist intimidation which is now a standard tactic of the military regime.

Olalia's son was arrested in his place and has been threatened with bodily harm unless he surrenders.

Other Labor Leaders Hounded

The persecution of workers, particularly those in the trade unions, goes on from day to day throughout the country, but especially in the Manila-Rizal area where the

big factories and other industrial establishments are situated.

In this area, the fascist PC Metrocom often conducts raids in quest of labor leaders who, in the dictatorship's view, have engaged in "conspiracy" by helping arouse, organize and mobilize the workers into asserting their rights.

While the labor leaders are rounded up or otherwise hounded by the uniformed goons, the exploitation of the workers intensifies.



For instance, Chrysler Philippines in Cainta, Rizal, has raised the quota of cars produced per day from the pre-martial law level of 4 to 8.

While doubling its exploitation of the workers, the management has refused to raise their wages. Instead, they are compelled to remain within company premises until all additional work is finished.

Urban Poor Persecuted

In Rizal province, as well, the forces of the fascist chieftain Marcos are especially alert in suppressing dissent and in dealing summarily with the poor.

Activists continue to be picked up, after the arrest and mauling of Sonny San Agustin and Boy Enaje soon after the declaration of martial law.

Vendors who had been making a living at the Pasig public market for 20 years were forcibly evicted under the guise of a fascist "law and order" ruling.

In Barrio Brookside, Pasig, residents held a mass meeting to denounce the US-Marcos dictatorship after they were arbitrarily declared as "squatters" and their homes were marked for demolition.

In Pasig and Taytay, the military regime has set up "anti-communist league" chapters where present-day "Makapilis" hold sway. It is the function of these groups to conduct

witchhunts and identify for arrest nationalist and progressive elements and all those opposed to martial law.

Not content with physically intimidating activists and other anti-dictatorship elements, the fascists have resorted to cheap "psy-war" tactics in the vain hope of justifying their continuing atrocities and isolating the activists.

Fascist Intrigue Exposed

In Taytay, for example, a Miss Estrella

Cruz, owner of a subdivision, received a note saying, "KUNG HINDI MAGBIGAY NG P3000, MAY MASAMANG MANGYAYARI". The note purportedly was signed by the local chapter of the Samahang Demokratiko ng Kabataan.

Residents familiar with the national democratic objectives of the SDK reported this to the local SDK chapter which lost no time in conducting an investigation into the matter.

The culprits were later identified to be minions of the fascists themselves who not only wanted to discredit the SDK but also wanted to make money on the side.

A manifesto was subsequently circulated and a house-to-house campaign was conducted to warn the people against further fascist intrigues.

This is why the administrators and student body of the St. Catherine's Academy knew immediately that it was the handiwork of the military when somebody called up identifying himself as an activist and threatening to blow up the school.

In the light of the dictator's acts of suppression, heroic acts are becoming commonplace among the urban poor.

In Barrio Ferrera, Bacas, for instance, the residents saved an activist from impri-

sonment by fighting off a team sent to arrest him.

And residents of the entire barrio of Hulo in Pililla dared the fascists to do their worst by painting with apog (lime) anti-martial law slogans right on their own walls.

These are the "New Filipinos" who abound today. Hunger and persecution haunt them everyday but they are undaunted as they fight for their liberation. ©

WORLD BANK REPORTS WORSENING BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

Paid hacks of the US-Marcos dictatorship continue to hoodwink the people on the realities of the present regime, distorting it on the one hand, and keeping silent about it on the other.

This is particularly true of business writers and bullhorns of Tatal's ilk who assume an air of authority on the subject of our economy. Invariably, they try very hard to impress the public with jargon and juggled figures in portraying a rosy future for the economy.

For instance, they foresee a more favorable trade balance under the US-Marcos dictatorship.

But even an imperialist appendage like the World Bank has warned the puppet regime of the pitfalls of its economic plans which do not conform with present-day "realities". The warning was contained in a report prepared by an eight-man mission headed by Parvez Hasan.

According to the report, the revised Four Year Development Plan (FY 1972-75) of the Marcos regime does not take into consideration the "sharp deterioration in terms of trade", which amounted to 16% in 1971.

Presiding over a semi-feudal and semi-colonial country, the puppet Marcos regime can hope to check the worsening terms of trade only by increasing exports, assumed to grow at 11% in the Four Year Plan. The WB report calculates a growth of only 5% at best. That is, if expected gains in nickel, bananas and "manufactured exports" are realized, which is unlikely.

The other areas of maneuver left to the puppet regime are to cut imports and obtain foreign aid.

The problem of imports, of course, is compounded by the sinking value of the peso

and heavy external debts which are due to be repaid.

If the puppet regime is to honor its accumulated debts, it must be ready to pay \$430M annually until 1975. Thus, for every dollar earned, \$0.28 must be used to service foreign debts.

As to imports, the WB mission estimates that even if these were reduced to "basic essentials", the puppet Marcos regime will have to obtain about \$180M annually in the form of commodity assistance for the next four years to keep the "industry" from stagnating.

If aid is not forthcoming, industrial growth can be maintained only if foreign exchange committed to repayment of debts is diverted to more productive capital investments.

The gravity of the situation is reflected in the over-all economic growth rate which has gone down to 3% and is even below population growth.

In appraising the difficulties that lie ahead for the puppet Marcos regime, the World Bank at the same time stresses that it cannot do without much needed foreign aid and foreign capital investments. Specifically, it hints that without the economic prop provided by the US, the days of the puppet Marcos regime are numbered.

American aid and investments, of course, are meant to keep the country a neocolonial bastion of American imperialism.

But even with massive US economic aid, the days of the US-Marcos dictatorship are surely coming to an end as the people's forces chalk up victories to hasten its downfall. ©

CRIME MARCHES ON

Not a few of those who suddenly lost their jobs as a consequence of martial law have resorted to desperate means to keep their families from starving to death.

A couple who were on their way home from Sto. Domingo church were held up in their car by two such men. The middle-aged hold-up men were relatively well-dressed and spoke English fluently.

They repeatedly apologized: "We are very sorry we have to rob you but we lost our jobs and we have many children."

The couple were asked to drive to a secluded spot where they were divested of ₱150.00.

Similar isolated cases are bound to proliferate as unemployment instigated by the US-Marcos dictatorship increases. ©

WORLD PRESS DECLARES 'WAR' ON DICTATORSHIP

Newspapers around the world have collectively raised a clenched fist and have declared open war on the US-Marcos dictatorship in view of its obdurate refusal to restore the civil liberties it has summarily "suspended" under Proclamation No. 1081.

The newspapers agreed that warfare against the US-Marcos fascist clique was the only recourse open to them following unmistakable indications that the dictator has no intention whatsoever of allowing the mass media to reopen and to release journalists and writers imprisoned on his orders.

The latest of these manifestations are the projected opening very shortly of a "central news bureau" through which only news favorable to the dictatorship would be released, and the publication of an "official" propaganda organ.

The newspapers around the world which have served notice of open hostility towards the dictatorship are banded together under the International Press Institute and the Press Foundation of Asia.

Their representatives had cooled their heels at Malacanang and had waited patiently while they were subjected to the most humiliating run-around by the US puppet Marcos and his cohorts Enrile and Tatal.

The latest delegation to make representations with the dictatorship on behalf of the Philippine mass media was that of the IPI composed of Reynold MacDonald of Australia and Lord Dennis Hamilton of Britain.

IPI Demands

They had demanded that the imprisoned writers and journalists be released immediately or charged in court, and that the padlocked offices of the newspapers and magazines and of radio and television be reopened without any further delay.

The only word they could get from the dictator was that it was not certain if and when charges would be filed against the incarcerated media men and women. Meantime, they would continue to languish in the military's detention stations, some of them in solitary confinement.

The Press Foundation of Asia, of which Joaquin (Chino) Roces is the president, had also been told the same thing after being promised by the dictatorship that the mass media would be allowed to resume operations upon the creation of a "press consultative

panel" which would act as a "self-regulating body" within the mass media.

Roces Says No

Roces saw through the deception inherent in the "consultative panel" which was to be dominated by such robots of the dictator as Enrile and Tatal, and promptly thumbed it down.

Not only that, Roces rejected an offer for his release from Camp Crane unless all other media men and women are released first.

The latest report is that the PFA would now pull out its headquarters from Manila in gesture of protest, and join hands with the IPI in waging a worldwide information campaign against the US-Marcos dictatorship and its many nefarious acts of oppression and suppression against the Filipino people.

Centralized News Dissemination

Meantime, LIBERATION sources in Malacanang said the fascist chieftain Marcos is going through with plans to set up a "central news bureau", an agency intended to "deodorize" the dictatorship and "sell" it to the Filipino people and the rest of the world.

Under this agency would be a national news bureau, a foreign news bureau with sub-bureaus in Asian capitals and in such other cities as Bonn, London, Montreal, Washington DC, New York, Los Angeles and Chicago, and such appendages as a movie censorship bureau, a mass media control bureau, a printing services bureau, etc.

This network would eventually disseminate propaganda for the US-Marcos dictatorship through an "official" paper to be maintained with public funds. It is projected to be published either late this year or early next year.

As planned by Malacanang, according to the LIBERATION sources, the "central news bureau" would be under the department of public information and would be headed by Tatal.

He would later relinquish his position as public information secretary to La Union Congressman Jose Aspiras, former press secretary.

Media Closed Permanently

Even as the US-Marcos clique kept a tight gag on what used to be the country's

mass media, the following developments came about:

1. The fascist chieftain Marcos continued to turn a deaf ear to the Department of Labor which had submitted to him a confidential study pointing out that as many as 40,000 persons had been thrown out of their jobs as a result of the closure of the mass media.

2. Following a complaint by a newsman that military intelligence agents were harassing members of the National Press Club, the dictatorship mounted a new campaign which might lead to the dismantling of the nationwide association of journalists.

3. The board of directors of the Manila Times Publishing Co., Inc., voted last October 26 to dissolve the corporation following the dictator's refusal to allow its employees to form a cooperative to take over ownership of the firm's publications (Manila Times, Taliba, Daily Mirror, Sunday Times Magazine and Daily Mirror Magazine).

4. The Lopez-owned Manila Chronicle prepared to distribute separation pay to its employees as Vice President Fernando Lopez continued to wait, seemingly in vain, for an appointment with the dictator.

5. Saying that "it is an honor to be in the arrest list of Mr. Marcos", the defiant editor of the Philippines Free Press, Teodoro Locsin, has elected to dissolve his

corporation rather than re-publish under the terms of the tyrant.

People's Media Proliferate

Meantime, while the IPI and the PFA will be calling the attention of the rest of the world to the many abuses of the US-Marcos dictatorship, the newly established people's media will keep the Filipinos abreast of developments in the motherland.

Of late, there has been a proliferation of underground publications, including the Taliba ng Bayan (People's Vanguard), Resistance, Bangon (Arise), Ulos (Stylus), Ang Mamamayan (The Citizen), The Free Filipino, Ang Pahayagang Pilipino (The Filipino Newspaper), Bagong Moog ng Maynila (New Bastion of Manila), and Tinig ng Kalayaan (Voice of Freedom).

While such Marcos owned and controlled propaganda outlets as the Daily Suppress, Times Journal and Channel K-9 insist on spreading their lies, these people's organs will persist in telling the truth. ●

APP GREED KNOWS NO BOUNDS

The PC-Metrocom may have eliminated the penny-ante tong collectors around Manila, but only to install themselves in their place. And they are doing it on a bigger scale, too.

In Caloocan City, Metrocom bandits have usurped the extortion racket of the Big Four, whose victims include petty capitalists such as sari-sari storeowners.

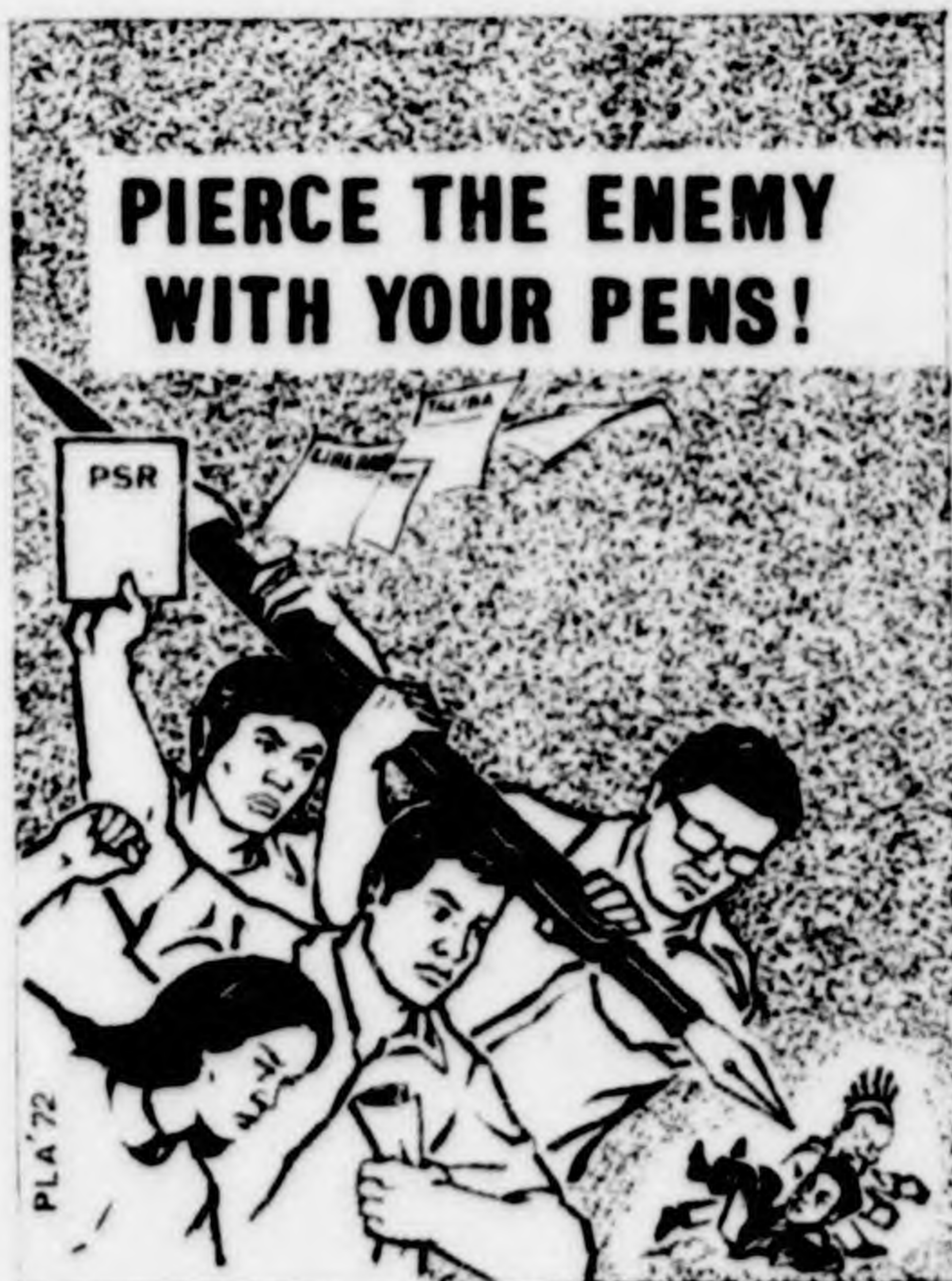
Even Kuomintang white-slavers and maintainers of gambling dens openly grumble against the steep "quotas" exacted from them by the APP bandits.

These APP wolves ply their heinous "trade" not singly but in packs. Extortion is even compounded, for different APP wolf-packs pounce on the same sari-sari storeowner. And on the same day at that!

Somewhat subtler, but still in the same league of extortionists, are the "New Society" market mulcters.

Stall owners of the Sta. Ana market were suddenly surprised when agents from the Mayor's Office accompanied by Metrocom bandits asked them to fill out forms for the re-registration of their stalls. They were charged ₱10.00 each as a sort of "registry tax" in accordance with "New Society" requirements.

To be sure, these uniformed predators will think up something else once they have run out of markets. ●



It seems that the APP has caught on the fad started by "You Know Who" in filching expensive jewelry.

But unlike their "Ma'am" who sent for the jewelry, APP jewel fanciers recently swooped down on a jewelry shop near the corner of J.P. Rizal Ave. and Pasong Tamo street in Makati on the pretext of looking for firearms. It was only a modest shop, compared to Velayo's which "You Know Who" victimized.

The APP fascist troops did find a gun, although it was not high-powered. They took it with them, along with the diamonds of the jeweler.

Like their "Ma'am", the APP marauders picked out only the expensive gems, but unlike their mentor, they did not bother to send a thank-you note.



People's Liberation Artists (PLA '72)

TALE OF A SMELLY DEAL

While thousands of ordinary workers and government employees continue to lose their jobs since the imposition of martial law, many corrupt associates of the dictator go unmolested as they flagrantly persist in their old ways.

A typical smelly deal now going the rounds of government offices involves Nereo Andolong, head of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office and notorious crony of the dictator.

It appears that soon after the great Central Luzon floods, a subordinate of this high-ranking government official put up a fly-by-night firm (Midland Corporation) and offered to sell P35M worth of "tuyo" (dried fish) to the Department of Social Welfare.

A public relations man identified with sugar interests "facilitated" everything at the DSW where he had strong connections.

Later, it was discovered that the "tuyo" delivered to the DSW was rotten.

If the official of the charity office decides to talk, he is liable to implicate his boss who claims to be a lieutenant colonel in the PC reserve force.

Be that as it may, it seems that Andolong has nothing to fear, since he had long ago bought his insurance from the dictator.

LETTER FROM THE STOCKADE

Up to now, I still find it quite difficult to think and write as before; it is inspiring enough, though, to think that the torch still burns. With each day that passes, the resolve to consider this confinement as the finest opportunity yet to be of service to the people becomes firmer.

Initially and recurringly, the bug of sentimentalism bites; it used to hurt; now -- somewhat -- it soothes. In a way, to realize that most of you should not come over to visit us reminds me that the number of detainees in that larger prison of the "New Society" is too big to contain.

The situation has changed drastically but our tasks loom larger, demanding greater devotion and utmost selflessness. Now more than ever, there are more sophisticated myths to shatter. Millions have to be made to realize that the Emperor wears new clothes.

IN TIMES OF DIFFICULTY, WE
MUST NOT LOSE SIGHT OF OUR
ACHIEVEMENTS, MUST SEE THE
BRIGHT FUTURE, AND MUST
PLUCK UP OUR COURAGE.

Ipaabot mo sa lahat ng mga kasama
ang aming pagbati at pag-asang magesa-
sama tayong muli sa tunay na Bagong
Lipunan.

Camp Crane Stockade
October 11, 1972

WHY HOODLUMS REPORT TO CITY HALL

Like Taiwan's dictator Chiang Kai-Shek who made use of Shanghai's secret societies of gangsters during the civil war in semi-colonial China, the dictator Marcos has been using this tactic by threatening and coercing ex-convicts and known criminal outfits to support his dictatorship by acting as "New Society" makapilis to pick out activists and labor unionists.

Known leaders of criminal bands like those of Sigue-Sigue, OXO, Bahala Na, Batang City Jail and heads of syndicates like the Big Four, Octopus and the 7th Fleet Gang are being picked up, bribed, threatened and coerced to turn their armed followers into informers and "spotters" in their respective territories.

They are to report weekly or anytime they obtain reliable information on the whereabouts of those opposing the US-Marcos dictatorship.

Progressive segments of the lumpen proletariat who were participants in 1970's first quarter storm and those who have associated themselves with activist friends and relatives have been arrested, tortured and jailed.

Those who were able to escape the daily raids are now bent on linking their armed aggrupations with the revolutionary underground to do their share in the revolution-

STUDENTS, TEACHERS UNFAZED BY DICTATORSHIP

Militant student-youth and teachers all over the land continue to befuddle the stormtroopers of the US - Marcos clique with their endlessly creative attacks and bold defiance of the dictatorship.

At the UP in Diliman, hare-brained intelligence agents who threaten to outnumber the studentry very soon, have been at their wit's end trying to cope with the mass resistance of the entire community.

The tense atmosphere is every now and then enlivened by mass chantings and singing of revolutionary songs. The notoriously undesirable dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, a certain Major Domingo Salita, and his ubiquitous security force have

ary struggle against the US-Marcos dictatorship.

However hard it tries, the US-Marcos dictatorship can never count on the solid cooperation of the lumpen proletariat, a significant portion of which continues to be awakened by the national democratic cultural revolution to the realities of the decadent Philippine society.●

HOW DOGS ARE TRAINED

Don't be surprised if one of these days, Tatal announces the full-fledged support of the US-Marcos dictatorship by Congress.

Speaker Protempore Aldeguer is circulating a resolution which hails the "New Society" and expresses full support for its "do tanks". Almost all members of Congress have signed it.

For that matter, Gestalt psychologists can take some pointers from puppet chieftain Marcos.

Having made an example in the case of Senators Aquino and Diokno who are now imprisoned, puppet chieftain Marcos switched tactics and simply held the salaries of congressmen and cut their allowances. Furthermore, he slashed the budget of Congress by ₱30M and that of the Senate by ₱10M.

Whoever said something about money being the root of all evil must have known a lot of our political tutas.●



sternly proscribed this form of mass protest, to no avail.

At the dormitory dining halls and university canteens, meals are invariably spiced with coordinated mass clappings to the chant of the now-familiar "Marcos, Hitler, Diktador, Tuta".

This routine is sometimes varied by the

clangorous controlled banging of spoons and forks on aluminum trays.

Meanwhile, 22 progressive members of the UP faculty have joined the people's democratic forces rather than serve the fascist bureaucracy.

In an open letter addressed to the "garrison state university", the professors resolved to "...help bring about that day of liberation when we can in all conscience pledge our loyalty to the new national democratic order, the only 'new society' which will not collapse like a house of cards, bringing down with it the betrayers of the Filipino people, whose sham land reform and ominous silence on the disposition of our national wealth to imperialist interests, will one day bring them before a People's Tribunal in final judgment".

The brazen tactics of the Marcos troopers were again amply demonstrated some days ago when they arrested Prof. Victor Manarang in his physics classroom at the UP in the presence of his entire class.

At the Philippine College of Commerce, 40 progressive faculty members have expanded further the rapidly growing ranks of the revolutionary teachers' movement as they resigned en masse in open defiance of the US-Marcos dictatorship.

In their letter of resignation addressed to the undersecretary of education, Narciso Albarracin, last October 19, they emphasized their contempt for the dictatorship, thus:

"We cannot, in all conscience, continue to teach as hired propaganda agents whose express purpose is not to educate but to whitewash the brutal fascist coup of Ferdinand Marcos and his fellow conspirators against the Filipino people. We refuse to act as servile mouthpieces and indoctrination cells for a patently anti-human order whose very existence is predicated by mass arrests and torture of hundreds of our students and colleagues and by the utter falsification of everything that makes a genuinely educational act in the classroom possible."

At the Philippine Normal College and at the Philippine College of Arts and Trades, convocations on martial law under the auspices of the reactionary armed forces were effectively boycotted, forcing Armalite-wielding soldiers to herd the students and the faculty at gunpoint. ●

OFFICERS TO TRAIN IN INDONESIA

Starting December, several batches of young AFP officers will be sent to Indonesia to undergo training in counter-insurgency and martial law administration.

According to LIBERATION sources in the AFP, the US-Marcos dictatorship is preparing for a protracted military rule similar to that imposed by the US-Suharto clique on the Indonesian people.

It will be recalled that the US-Suharto military take-over in 1965 was marked by one of the bloodiest post-war massacres, resulting in the death of more than half a million Indonesians and the continued incarceration of hundreds of thousands of political dissenters.

To date, military officers now manning Indonesia's martial regime hold sway over the lives of that country's 100 million people. ●

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