



ANG

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Editorial

Strengthen the broad patriotic front against US imperialist intervention!

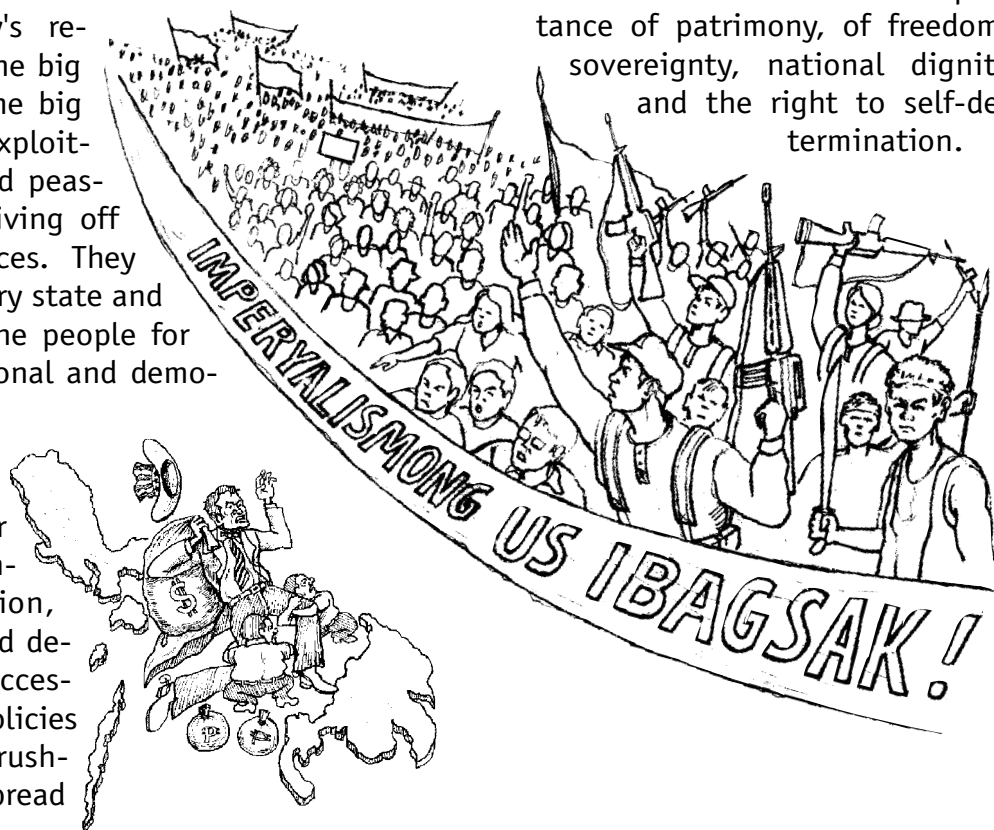
US imperialist intervention is intensifying in the Philippines under the puppet Aquino regime. Relentlessly interfering in the country's internal economic, political, military and cultural affairs, US imperialist overlords have been brazenly brandishing their military power to further consolidate more than a century of neocolonial domination in the country and push harder for policies that cater to foreign interests to the detriment of the people.

Since US imperialism's establishment of the Philippine neocolonial state in 1946, the Filipino people have been mired in chronic crisis due to the plunderous operations of foreign companies and their exaction of superprofits from the country's resources. They conspire with the big comprador bourgeoisie and the big landlords in oppressing and exploiting the masses of workers and peasants and in extracting and living off the country's natural resources. They have been using the reactionary state and fascist military to suppress the people for taking action to achieve national and democratic change.

For more than three decades, the Philippines has been bogged in ever deeper crisis due to the relentless implementation of liberalization, deregulation, privatization and denationalization policies by successive puppet regimes. These policies have led to an increasingly crushing debt burden, more widespread

unemployment, wage freezes and the destruction of productive forces. They have spurred massive landgrabbing to the detriment of food production, the plunder of the country's natural wealth and the degradation of the environment. The Filipino people are now suffering from hunger and poverty at levels unprecedented in the country's history.

Despite these policies' disastrous effects, US imperialism's reactionary puppets have the gall to further drive the Philippines into the abyss of neocolonialism. Their sinister goal is to further open the country's economy, deceiving the people with the illusion of a "world without borders" in order to banish from their minds the importance of patrimony, of freedom, sovereignty, national dignity and the right to self-determination.



This issue's highlights...

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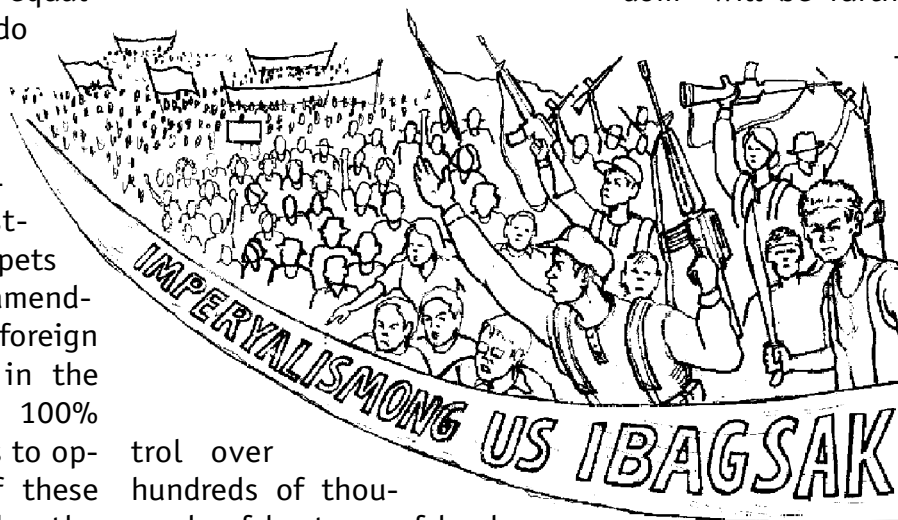
PAL workers fired, the fight goes on PAGE 11

Reactionary puppets and the Aquino regime's men have resurrected calls to amend the 1987 constitution to completely do away with provisions that support the national patrimony. To the Filipino people, this brings back memories of the 1946 campaign to adopt the Parity Amendments granting equal rights to Americans to do business, own land and exploit the country's resources.

In the name of "attracting foreign investments," reactionary puppets have been pushing for amendments that would allow foreign capitalists to buy land in the Philippines and permit 100% foreign-owned companies to operate in the country. If these measures push through, the problem of landlessness and the eviction of peasants from their farms will surely worsen. This will also surely spell the demise of small local businessmen who, for decades, have failed to recover from the dumping of imported goods and the influx of foreign capital.

For decades, reactionary economists have peddled the lie that attracting foreign investments is the solution to the country's economic problems. For several decades, successive

reactionary regimes have not stopped thinking about what incentives they could offer to foreign capitalists. They have depressed workers' wages, enforced widespread contractualization, suppressed unions, provided tax holidays and allowed 100% profit repatriation, con-



trol over hundreds of thousands of hectares of land and mountainous areas and the use of public funds in their investments.

Direct foreign investments in the Philippines grew almost thirtyfold from \$914 million in 1980 to \$24.9 billion in 2010. But there has been no development. Instead, the Philippine economy has further deteriorated. Manufacturing's share in the overall economy is down to its level in the 1950s. The country suffers from an unemployment rate that is not only unequalled

in its history but unresolvable even with the allout campaign to export migrant labor.

The new Parity Amendments being pushed will usher in a new era in Philippine neocolonial history—a time of unbridled foreign plunder under a puppet regime. Philippine "freedom" will be further devoid of


meaning. The puppet state will be reduced even more to being a mere administrator of foreign interests in the country, whose direction

and future will lie completely in the hands of foreign monopoly capitalists.

These moves by the reactionary state pose both a threat and a challenge to the Filipino people, especially the working class, the peasant masses, the urban petty bourgeoisie and the national bourgeoisie. They are the ones who bear the brunt of the oppressive and exploitative system. The added burdens wrought by the new Parity Amendments and the complete surrender of the country's economic sovereignty will weigh most heavily on their shoulders.

The Filipino people must thoroughly resist attempts to further condemn the Philippines to semicolonialism. The reactionary puppets' insistence on completely surrendering Philippine economic sovereignty must be confronted head-on by allout struggle to defend national freedom, democracy and the right to self-determination.

The entire people must rally around the banner of the patriotic front to effectively thwart plans by the reactionary pup-

 <p>Vol. XLII No. 19 October 7, 2011</p> <p>Ang Bayan is published in Pilipino, Bisaya, Iloko, Hiligaynon, Waray and English editions.</p> <p>It is available for downloading at the Philippine Revolution Web Central located at:</p> <p>www.philippinerevolution.org.</p> <p>Ang Bayan welcomes contributions in the form of articles and news. Readers are likewise enjoined to send in their comments and suggestions for the betterment of our publication. You can reach us by email at:</p> <p>angbayan@yahoo.com</p>	<h3>Contents</h3> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Editorial: Strengthen the patriotic front</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>US is behind renewed <i>cha-cha</i> drive</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NPA punishes 3 mining firms in Surigao</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Major mining disasters</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dole punished for landgrabbing</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ambush in Paquibato</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Offensives in Bicol</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NPA metes blows on AFP in ICR</td> <td style="text-align: right;">7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>US intervention confirmed</td> <td style="text-align: right;">8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nuclear arms in the Philippines</td> <td style="text-align: right;">9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Civilian killed in Ifugao</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"Poldet"</td> <td style="text-align: right;">11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The figth goes on in PAL</td> <td style="text-align: right;">11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Protest actions against the regime</td> <td style="text-align: right;">12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Protest in Wall Street</td> <td style="text-align: right;">13</td> </tr> </table> <p>Ang Bayan is published fortnightly by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines</p>	Editorial: Strengthen the patriotic front	1	US is behind renewed <i>cha-cha</i> drive	3	NPA punishes 3 mining firms in Surigao	4	Major mining disasters	5	Dole punished for landgrabbing	6	Ambush in Paquibato	6	Offensives in Bicol	7	NPA metes blows on AFP in ICR	7	US intervention confirmed	8	Nuclear arms in the Philippines	9	Civilian killed in Ifugao	10	"Poldet"	11	The figth goes on in PAL	11	Protest actions against the regime	12	Protest in Wall Street	13
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pets for the allout betrayal of the country and continuously advance the struggle for national freedom. We must propagate the patriotic spirit, especially among the youth and studentry. We must shatter the illusions of "globalization" and "development" being peddled by the imperialists and their puppets by propagating the patriotic study of the country's history.

The patriotic front must advance the policies of self-determination and resist foreign intervention in the country's internal affairs. It must demand the abrogation of all unequal military treaties and an end to the permanent presence of American troops in the Philippines. The patriotic forces must fight for an independent foreign policy based on mutual respect among nations and against intervention.

The patriotic front must advance nationalist or patriotic economic policies. It must fight for the junking of pro-imperialist laws such as the Oil Deregulation Law, the Foreign Investments Incentives Act, the Mining Act of 1995 and other laws that favor foreign capitalists and are contrary to the interests of local investors. It must fight for the abrogation of unequal economic treaties like the Japan-Philippines Economic Partnership Agreement, the Treaty of Amity with Japan and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, among others.

It must advance the principle of self-determination in economic policies and resist the dictates of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank. It must demand an end to the Philippines' debt reliance. It must push for land reform and national industrialization.

At the foundation of the country's patriotic front are the revolutionary and progressive forces. They must persevere in

US is behind renewed cha-cha drive

Leaders of the Senate and the Lower House declared during a Legislative Summit on September 29 that they would be pushing for amendments in the economic provisions of the 1987 constitution. This was only a month after US ambassador Harry Thomas Jr. said in a speech that the Philippine constitution must be amended to remove what he considers to be restrictive provisions that obstruct the easy entry of foreign investments in the Philippines.

The current cha-cha efforts are being led by Sen. Franklin Dri-lon, who in recent years held several consulta-



tions with US embassy officials in the Philippines on charter change.

Bayan Muna Rep. Teddy Casiño said that the new cha-cha means auctioning off the country's sovereignty to foreigners. The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (BAYAN) cited a bill filed by Rep. Loreto Campos of Misamis Occiden-

tal that completely does away with the remaining protective measures provided by the 1987 constitution to the country's economy. Among others, the bill calls for the removal of the 40% ceiling on foreign ownership in businesses and allows foreigners to control the management of companies with foreign-owned shares. It also expands the right of foreign investors to explore natural resources and allows foreigners to own industrial land, practice their profession, own media as well as colleges and universities and lease land for more than 50 years. **AB**

mobilizing the broad masses and in advancing the armed struggle for national and social liberation. Part of this effort are the antifeudal struggles in the countryside which include movements to protect the environment and the livelihoods of the peasant masses and the minority peoples against big comprador mining and logging.

Also part of this overall effort are urban struggles against heavier tax burdens,

monopoly pricing of petroleum products and reductions in social spending as well as mass struggles for higher wages and to defend the right to decent jobs.

In the face of the long-standing and deepening depression of the world capitalist system, US imperialism has been browbeating its semi-colonies like the Philippines in order to further exploit their natural resources and their cheap labor. **AB**



NPA punishes 3 Surigao mining firms

Guerrillas under the Pulang Diwata Command of the New People's Army (NPA) in Northeastern Mindanao Region (NEMR) punished the three biggest and most destructive mining companies in Surigao del Norte in the morning of October 3.

These are the Taganito High-Pressure Acid Leaching Plant (THPAL), the Taganito Mining Corporation (TMC) and the Platinum Group Metals Corporation (PGMC)—all of them based in Claver town and subsidiaries of Nickel Asia Corp. which is owned by Sumitomo Metal Corp. Ltd. of Japan.

This punitive measure, one of the biggest and most daring NPA operations in the history of people's war in the country, indicates a high level of planning and coordination.

It also shows the capability and determination of the revolutionary movement to implement the policies of the people's democratic government to protect the environment and natural resources and defend the rights of the Lumad, peasants and workers. Said National Democratic Front-NEMR spokesperson Ka Maria Malaya, because agencies of the US-Aquino regime conspire to allow plunderous mining companies to operate in the country, it is only the revolutionary movement that can protect the people.

Initial reports indicate that 200 pieces of big machinery were destroyed by the NPA, including dump trucks, excavators, tractors and seven barges owned by TMC. The NPA also destroyed the company's main office, accounting office and laboratory. Explosives were also detonated at the newly built Taganito Mining Port owned by TMC-THPAL, the smelting plant and a vertical tank used to store gasoline.

Up to 152 pieces of machinery were destroyed at the PGMC comprising bulldozers, pay loaders, cranes, compactors, graders, dump trucks, ten barges and six tugboats. PGMC is a sister company of TMC.

This is one of the biggest losses ever incurred by plunderous foreign companies in the country in the hands of the revolutionary movement.

The NPA confiscated a number of computers and items of military value such as combat boots, base radios and 25 VHF handheld radios. The Red fighters also seized 13 shotguns, ten short firearms, a number of M16 rifles and rounds of ammunition.

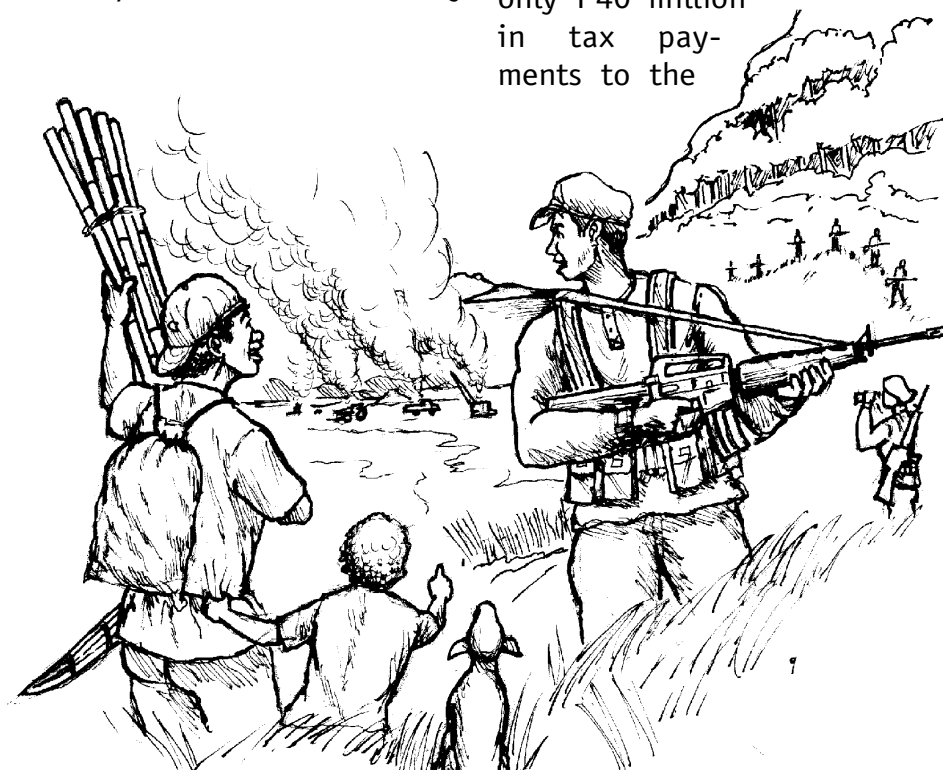
NDF-Mindanao spokesperson Jorge "Ka Oris" Madlos belied news reports that three security

guards were killed in the NPA attack, saying that not a single guard was hurt. In fact, the company-size security force did not resist. Most of the guards escaped, including the 20-strong "quick reaction force" that was armed with modern weapons.

While the punitive action was going on, the NPA gathered the firms' 300 workers in various places and explained the reason for punishing the three mining companies. They released three high-ranking TMC officials after five hours and warned them against continuing their company's evil practices.

Malaya cited the companies' violations of the policies of the people's democratic government.

TMC is responsible for the widespread destruction of marine life and mountain areas in Surigao del Norte in its 30 years of operation. It has also violated the rights of the Mamanwa Lumad to their ancestral lands and wrought havoc on the peasants' livelihoods. The company has trampled on the rights of its workers. It has also bribed corrupt bureaucrats into allowing only P40 million in tax payments to the





local government instead of P400 million.

PGMC has plundered millions of tons of nickel ore and sold this to imperialist countries like the US, Japan and Australia. Its operations have caused the complete denudation of the forests and mountains covered by the PGMC concession and the destruction of rivers and seas. Most of its workers are contractuels receiving lower than the standard wage.

The giant THPAL uses massive amounts of sulfuric acid which is highly toxic to humans and the environment. It is also a coal-fired plant and thus spews tons upon tons of toxic fumes. And it only processes low-grade nickel ore from various mines in the Caraga Re-

gion's four provinces. It exports all the high-grade nickel ore it extracts, benefiting other countries.

Meanwhile, the Communist Party of the Philippines assailed the Aquino government for shamelessly favoring the interests of foreign investors and ordering the beefing up of security forces to guard mining companies. NDF Negotiating Panel chair Ka Luis Jalandoni meanwhile said Aquino does not understand the basic issues behind the struggle of minorities, peasants and fisherfolk against the destructive operations of big mining companies. First, the extraction of mineral ore for export at extremely low prices kills whatever plans the country may have to industrialize. Second,

the national minorities are being deprived of their land and livelihoods and their culture massively destroyed. Third, the mines continue to pollute the environment and destroy agriculture and the people's other sources of livelihood.

Jalandoni pointed out that the rivers and streams in Claver have been completely polluted, aside from its coastal areas. This prompted the Tribal Coalition of Mindanao and its supporters to file a case with the Supreme Court on May 30 against the three mining companies punished by the NPA as well as Oriental Synergy Mining Corp., Shenzou Mining Group Corp. and Marcventures Mining Development Corp., all of them based in Claver. AB

Major mining disasters

April 6 and July 11, 2007. Toronto Ventures Inc. Siocon, Zamboanga del Norte. Heavy rains washed away the soil and destroyed the concrete walls of a dam used in mining copper and zinc. This contaminated the Canatuan and Siocon Rivers which were filled with silt three meters high.

October 11 and 31, 2005. Lafayette Mining Ltd. Rapu-rapu, Albay. Cyanide overflowed from the tailings pond after heavy rains, resulting in massive fishkills at the Ingay and Hollowstone Creeks. Binosawan River was contaminated with toxic levels of cyanide.

August 27 and September 11, 2002. Dizon Copper Silver Mines Inc. San Marcelino, Zambales. Strong rains destroyed the tailings dam, flooding lowlying areas. Mine tailings flowed towards Mapanuepe Lake and Sto. Tomas River. Affected residents were forced to evacuate.

December 2001. Maricalum Mining. Sipalay,

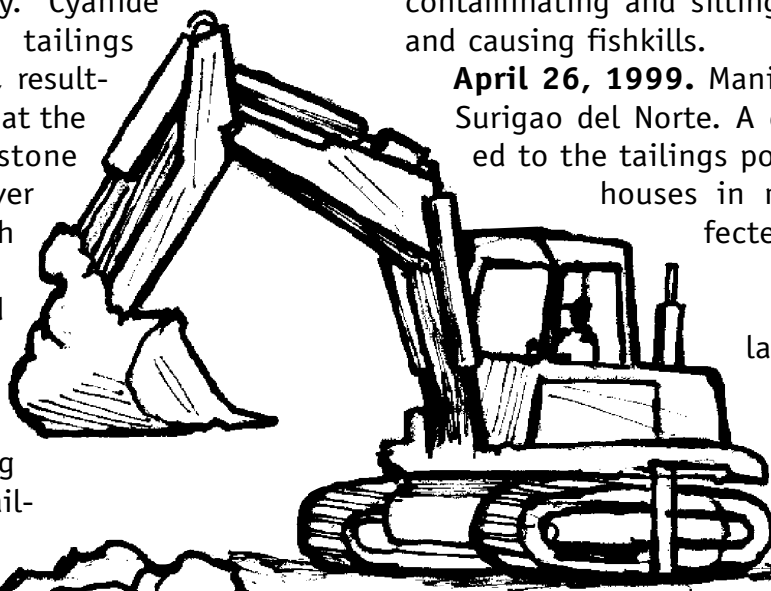
Negros Occidental. The cessation of mining operations caused the tailings pond to dry up, with winds blowing dust as far as five kilometers away. The number of people with lung ailments has since grown.

August 9, 1999. Atlas Consolidated Mining and Development Corp. Toledo City, Cebu. The mine released 5.7 million cubic meters of acid, contaminating and silting the Sapangdaku River and causing fishkills.

April 26, 1999. Manila Mining Corp. Placer, Surigao del Norte. A concrete pipe connected to the tailings pond gave in, burying 40 houses in mud. The mudslide affected 40 hectares, including 20 hectares of agricultural land.

November 6, 1997. Philex Mining Corp. Sibutad, Zamboanga del Norte. Mud and huge rocks flowed towards the tailings dam after heavy rains, causing flash floods that destroyed nearby houses and rice fields.

March 24, 1996. Marcopper Mining Corp.





Marinduque Island. A tunnel connected to the tailings pond was breached, causing 1.6 million cubic meters of mine tailings (equivalent to 300,000 dump trucks) to flow into the Boac and Mogpog Rivers and reach Calancan Bay. The heavy siltation caused the death of these rivers.

Up to 1,200 residents were forced to evacuate. Five towns were inundated. Since a cleanup of the Boac River was begun in 2000, sacks of silt have been piled by the riverside, filling up to 67,000 square meters. This is so far the biggest mining disaster in Philippine history.

September 2, 1995. Manila Mining Corp. Placer, Surigao del Norte. The tailings pond foundation gave way, killing five people and contaminating the seacoast.

December 6, 1993. Marcopper Mining Corp. Marinduque Island. The tailings pond walling broke, causing its contents to flow towards the Mogpog River. Two children died from the ensuing floods, which also killed farm animals. Agricultural lands were contaminated. Mogpog town and other communities downstream were inundated.

October 7, 1986. Lepanto Consolidated Mining Corp. Mankayan, Benguet. The tailings pond broke after being filled beyond its capacity. This polluted the Abra River, affecting nine towns along its path, including Cervantes, Ilocos Sur. Cervantes residents are deprived of an estimated 7.33 million kilos of rice annually because river pollution has resulted in the loss of irrigation water.

November 8, 1982. Maricalum Mining Corp. Sipalay, Negros Occidental. A breach in the tailings pond submerged agricultural lands in 1.5 meter-high floodwaters. The Tao-angan River became heavily silted. AB

NPA punishes Dole for landgrabbing

Guerrillas from Front 19 of the Northeastern Mindanao Region meted punishment on multinational Dole Philippines in the night of September 25.

The Red fighters destroyed two backhoes, four dump trucks, a warehouse and nursery and hacked all the banana trees in Dole's 20-hectare plantation in Anahaw Daan, Tago, Surigao del Sur.

In a statement, Ka Maria Malaya, the spokesperson of the National Democratic Front in the region explained that the objective of the punitive action was to drive out Dole

and did not have anything to do with the imposition of revolutionary taxes. She said that the economy does not derive any benefits from foreign-owned plantations and that the latter merely engage in landgrabbing.

Ka Maria also pointed out that when farming was still prevalent in the area, almost all members of farming families were productive and earning income. Since Dole seized their lands, however, usually only one member of each family became employed on a seasonal basis in exchange for low wages. AB

Ambush in Paquibato

Eight soldiers of the 69th IB were killed and an undetermined number of troops wounded when a team from the 1st Pulang Bagani Company of the New People's Army (NPA) ambushed them in Sitio Banban, Barangay Lumiad, Paquibato District, Davao City on September 19. The NPA used seven command-detonated explosives against the soldiers before opening fire.

To cover up their embarrassment at their huge losses in the field, the 10th Infantry Division (AFP Eastern Mindanao Command) resorted to boasting before the media that the military had confiscated several explosives from a big NPA camp that had been overrun. The military showed a number of undetonated explosives taken from the scene of battle along with other explosives that had been seized long before.

The 10th ID, however, was unable to conceal their casualties from the masses. Residents saw with their own eyes how the fallen soldiers were taken aboard two Huey helicopters that could seat ten people. One of the helicopters landed twice. After hauling away their casualties, the military conducted aerial bombing six times on the farmers' fields in Sitio Banban. That evening, the road leading to the 69th IB's headquarters in Barangay Dalisay, Panabo City was closed to traffic as the helicopters landed with the casualties. A funeral hearse came twice to pick up the soldiers' bodies. AB



NPA thwarts AFP offensives in Bicol

The New People's Army (NPA) in Bicol continues to confront and thwart the brutal military and civil-military operations of the 9th ID and the PNP.

Following are reports of tactical offensives in the Bicol region not previously published in *Ang Bayan*:

September 23. Three policemen were wounded when a squad of the Celso Minguez Command (NPA-Sorsogon) raided the PNP station in Barcelona town before midnight.

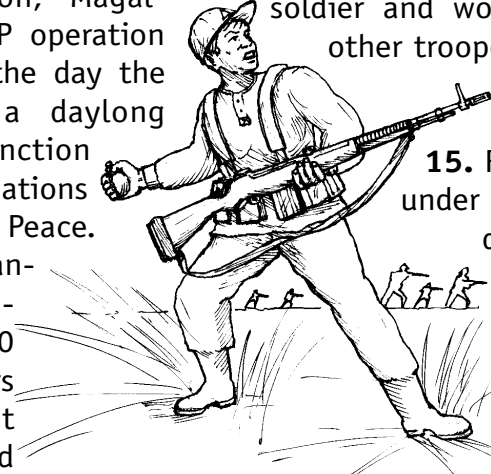
September 21. A soldier was killed and at least three others were wounded when the Celso Minguez Command thwarted offensive operations of the

93rd Division Reconnaissance Company and the 903rd Brigade in Barangay Bacalon, Magallanes town. The AFP operation was conducted on the day the military declared a daylong ceasefire in conjunction with the United Nations International Day of Peace.

At 8:30 a.m., another NPA squad ambushed a KM 450 truck full of soldiers from the 49th IB sent to reinforce the 93rd

DRC troops. The soldiers were hit with a command-detonated explosive when they reached Barangay Cadandanan in Bulan town. The explosive killed two soldiers, wounded six others and wrecked their vehicle.

September 17. An NPA platoon used a CDX on attacking 49th IB troops in Barangay Bogtong, Barcelona town, killing a soldier and wounding another trooper.



S e p t e m b e r 15. Red fighters under the Armando Catapia Command (NPA-Camarines Norte) ambushed

soldiers from the 92nd DRC in Barangay Malangkaw Basud, Labo. The soldiers had just come from a military operation and were on the way back to their camp when they were ambushed by the Red fighters. Six soldiers were wounded.

September 3. Red fighters of the Nerissa San Juan Command ambushed PNP troops in Barangay Mabini, Caramoran, Catanduanes, wounding P/Insp. Rene Bea, deputy chief of the Caramoran Municipal Police Station, and four other policemen.

Not a single Red fighter was killed or seriously wounded in these firefights. Said NDF-Bicol spokesperson Ka Greg Bañares, these show the NPA's determination to raise its level of military preparedness, discipline and capability, effective coordination and support among guerrilla fronts in the region's various provinces and the depth and breadth of mass support enjoyed by the people's army.

NPA metes blows on attacking enemy forces in ICR

Red fighters overcame enemy attacks in two guerrilla fronts in the Ilocos-Cordillera Region and inflicted several casualties on the AFP.

At least 20 soldiers were killed and eight others were wounded in gunbattles in Ilocos Sur and Ifugao in September.

In Cervantes, Ilocos Sur, 15 elements of the 50th IB were killed in a series of firefights on September 23, 24 and 26.

In the first gunbattle in Barangay Remedios in the morning of September 23, four soldiers were killed and six others were wounded. In Sitio Bulaga, Barangay Aluling, ten troopers were killed in the evening of September 24. And in Sitio Maupong, Barangay Concepcion, an undetermined number of military forces were wounded. Two Red fighters under the Alfredo Cesar Command were martyred.

The residents of Cervantes intensely hate the 50th IB which serves as the protector of Lepanto Consolidated Mining Inc. In the first half of 2010, the 50th IB set up its camp in Cervantes. But angry townsfolk expelled the battalion after soldiers raped and sexually molested some students of the Ilocos Sur Trade School.

Meanwhile, in Ifugao, five soldiers were killed and two others were wounded when a unit under the None del Rosario Command figured in an encounter with attacking military forces in Barangay Binablayan in Tinoc town on September 12. A civilian working in his swidden farm was killed when the soldiers opened fire.

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Wikileaks cables confirm US intervention in the Philippines

A maze of issues has been revealed by close to 1,800 secret reports and messages from US embassies worldwide which were among the confidential documents published by the online whistleblower *wikileaks.org*. The following are just a few of the significant issues covered and disclosed in these reports.

Permanent military presence. Confidential US embassy reports paid particular attention to ensuring the continued presence of US military forces in the Philippines. They specifically emphasized the conduct of “mercy missions” and livelihood projects as measures to gain the people's sympathy and acquiescence to American military presence.

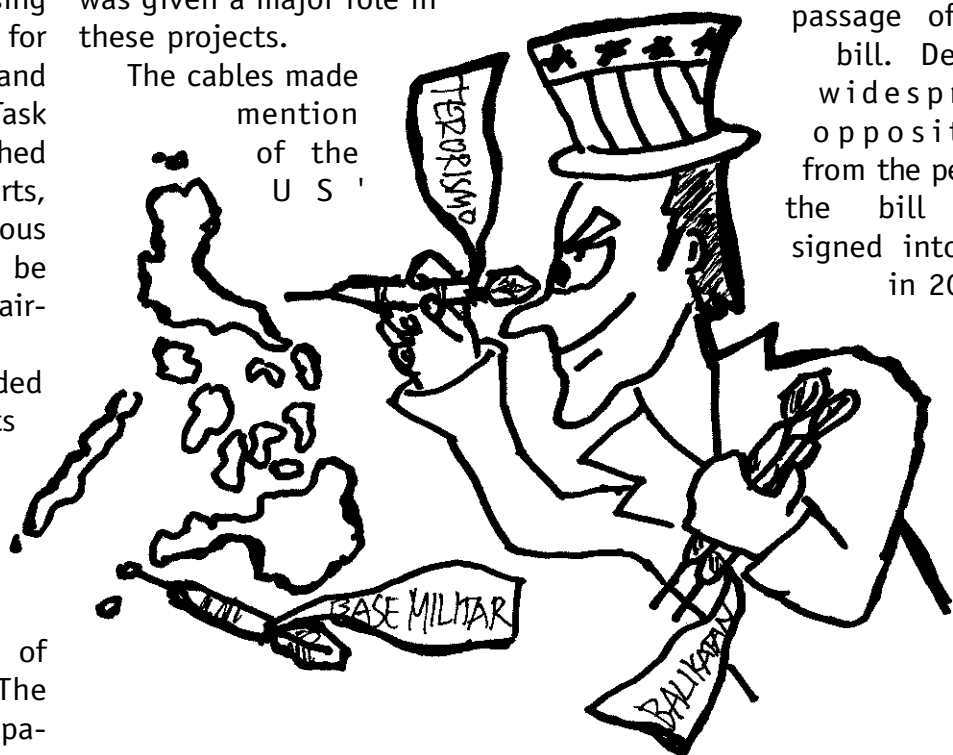
One of the things that the US emphasized was the building of infrastructure that would provide American troops and military equipment easy access to the country. In a US embassy report dated April 4, 2007, the US called the Philippines a “focal point” in its “war against terrorism.” It invoked threats from the Abu Sayyaf and Jemaah Islamiyah bandit groups to justify the “preparation” of infrastructure in Jolo and Tawi-tawi for the large-scale deployment of American troops in the future. Using personnel from the US Agency for International Development and the Joint Special Operations Task Force-Philippines, the US pushed for the improvement of airports, seaports and bridges in various islands so that these could be used by US military forces, aircraft and seacraft.

The improvements included the expansion of the airports in Jolo and Tawi-tawi. The US embassy in the Philippines requested \$6 million (P270 million based on an exchange rate of P45:\$1) for the extension of these airports' runways. The goal was to improve the capa-

bility of these airports to accommodate big aircraft such as the Boeing 737 and the C-130. Funds would also be provided for the construction of a bridge linking Tawi-tawi and the nearby island of Sanga-Sa-nga. The bridge, which will be needed for the rapid transport of local and American troops between these islands, will be worth \$3 million.

Aside from infrastructure, funds have also been allotted for the training of Filipino guards of seaports and airports in Zamboanga and Sulu. Special funds have also been provided to raise the capability of AFP forces stationed in Sulu. To make their presence in these islands palatable, the US poured in millions of dollars for socio-economic projects such as electrification and the construction of water systems and school buildings. The Joint Special Operations Task Force-Philippines was given a major role in these projects.

The cables made mention of the U S '



view of the Philippines as being a key component of its trade strategy in Asia. In a cable dated August 27, 2007, former US ambassador to the Philippines Kristie Kenny reported that the US was already highly capable of defending American interests in the Sulu and Sulawesi Seas, one of the key commercial routes in Asia. She attributed this to the continued influx of US funds to AFP forces deployed to these areas.

Interference in internal affairs. The cables also confirmed the US' domination of reactionary politics in the country. In a telegram dated October 2, 2005, the US ordered the quick passage of the Anti-Terror Bill after the bombing in Bali, Indonesia. There was strong public clamor against the bill because it was merely going to be used by the ruling clique to attack the people's civil rights and suppress its political enemies.

As expected, the US' puppets scrambled to obey their master's orders. Then Department of Interior and Local Government secretary Angelo Reyes immediately said that there was “clear and present danger” of a terrorist attack in the country. On the other hand, then Senate president Franklin Drilon obsequiously

assured the passage of the bill. Despite widespread opposition from the people, the bill was signed into law in 2005.

The US has been relentlessly intervening in the peace talks between the Government of the Philippines and the National Democratic Front of the Philippines. In a series of cables exchanged between the US embassies in the Philippines and The Netherlands, the US insisted that Jose Maria Sison, the NDFP chief political consultant in the peace talks must not be stricken off the list of terrorists. (See the *September 7, 2011 issue of Ang Bayan*). In 2009, the US strongly opposed the European Union's removal of Sison's name from the EU terrorist listing. The US even insinuated that Sison be deported to the Philippines even if there was a clear threat to his life and security. In February 2010, the US called the Norwegian ambassador to a secret meeting to ask for a briefing and demand anew that Sison's name be included in the terrorist list. Norway serves as the third-party facilitator in the peace talks.

US ambassadors to the Philippines have brazenly been issuing statements, summoning puppet local officials, asking for briefings and giving them directives. Looking at several cables tackling various internal affairs, one is struck by the ambassadors' highly apparent colonial arrogance and their low regard and contempt for their minions in the reactionary government.

Even more contemptible are the Philippine officials for kowtowing to US embassy directives. From former president Gloria Arroyo to the Senate president and House speaker to legislators and even police and military officers, these puppets, without exception, scrambled to follow the US' orders. They also consulted the US on almost every move made by the reactionary state—from confronting the revolutionary movement to plans for imposing martial law in 2005. AB

Elderly civilian killed in Ifugao

An elderly civilian was killed by rampaging military troops in Ifugao province. In the countryside of Ilocos Sur and Davao City, six civilians fell victim to illegal arrest. In the cities of Panay, mass leaders are being subjected to constant harassment. These are some of the more striking violations of human rights gathered by *Ang Bayan* since August.

September 29. Col. Lyn-don Paniza, 10th ID spokesperson, claimed that Datu Lorenzo Pendio, barangay captain of Salapawan, Paquibato District, Davao City

and Datu Marcelo Gumatao, both leaders of the Ata-Manobo tribe were abducted by the New People's Army. The alleged ab-

Elderly...continued on page 10

Hold the US accountable for keeping nuclear arms in the Philippines

The US must be held accountable for its long history of lying about stashing nuclear arms in the country.

In a confidential document written in 1969, US diplomat Robert McClintock reported to then US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger that care must be taken to prevent the leakage of information about US nuclear weapons being secretly held in the Philippines. McClintock said no other official of the puppet government knew about this except Ferdinand E. Marcos who was then running for his second term as the country's president. The nuclear weapons had been hidden in their bases in the Philippines since 1966 as part of their military strategy in Southeast Asia.

McClintock's report was in response to a then ongoing investigation by a US Senate committee headed by Sen. Stuart Symington on secret agreements entered into by the US government without the permission or approval of the Senate or Congress. McClintock urged Symington's committee to keep this information strictly confidential for fear that it would be leaked to the US public, and eventually, to the Philippines. He was concerned that Marcos' electoral campaign would be affected should it be made public that he knew about the presence of nuclear weapons on Philippine soil. McClintock's proposal had Kissinger's approval.

Other documents revealed that the US stationed more than 13,000 nuclear arms in various parts of the globe, including the Philippines, from 1950 to 1990. One particular memo specified Clark Air Base as a launching pad for nuclear strikes, should there be a military confrontation between China and the US.

The documents were made public after they lost their status of confidentiality. The US Freedom of Information Act states that all confidential documents must be made available to the public after 20 years. AB



'Elderly' from page 9

duction is now being invoked by the military and its minions to declare a pangayaw or tribal war against civilians suspected of supporting the revolutionary movement. Paniza also claimed that the two tribal leaders were CAFGU elements. In fact, Pendio and Gumatao are among the most vocal in opposing the setting up of military detachments in their areas. The two datos are temporarily staying with relatives because they are being harassed by the military.

September 27. Hope Hervilla who chairs the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan in Panay reported receiving threatening phone calls and text messages. This was after the military and police claimed that NPA sparrow units were in Iloilo City. Hervilla said the threats are meant to intimidate them and create conditions for more attacks against legal activists. She cited the death threats received by Bayan Muna-Aklan chair Fernando Baldomero before he was gunned down in July 2010.

September 24. Troops of the 50th IB desecrated the remains of Benny Boy "Ka Likot" Aguillar, a 23-year old Red fighter killed in a firefight in Sitio Bulaga, Barangay Aluling, Cervantes, Ilocos Sur. His skull was crushed, one of his eyes dangled out of its socket and his chest was bashed in because the soldiers riddled his body with bullets and repeatedly hit it with their rifle butts. The military even displayed his body before Cervantes residents the following day in order to terrorize them. The AFP also prevented relatives from looking for the remains of Delfin "Ka Dindo" Gul-

layan, another guerrilla killed in the firefight. It was five days before they were able to retrieve his decomposing body.

September 23-26. Five civilians were arbitrarily arrested by operating troops of the 50th IB and accused of being Red fighters. The victims are Matthew Sawey, Francis Tengngedan, Edward Galao, Kidsol Keeg and Hilario Bantio. Galao, Keeg and Bantio are still in military custody.

September 21. A coconut wine maker from Sitio Carbon, Barangay Lumiad, Paquibato District was illegally arrested. Gilbert Sibala, who is a nephew of a retired sergeant of the 69th IB was forced to sign a document stating that he was surrendering, with two soldiers standing by as witnesses. His picture was also taken after he was made to wear a camouflage uniform and carry a rifle. The soldiers then compelled the



police to file charges against Sibala, citing the photograph as "evidence."

September 21. Madia-as Ecological Movement chair Ma. Geobelyn Lopez received death threats through a letter signed by an "Alvin M. Salvador." The letter sender accused her of having links with the armed revolutionary movement and insinuated that she could suffer the same fate as Ma. Luisa Posadominado and Nilo Arado, two

mass leaders who were abducted in April 2007 and have not been surfaced to date. Lopez is leading a widespread campaign against destructive mining operations in Panay and Guimaras islands.

September 20. The MMDA Sidewalk Clearing Operations Group demolished the picket line of workers of Philbles, Inc. in Barangay Paso de Blas, Malinta, Valenzuela City. The workers were only given a 15-minute leeway before two trucks rammed the picket line. Most of the workers at the sugar sack factory are women. They have been on strike for close to a year and a half before their picket line was torn down without any orders from the DOLE or any other government agency.

September 20. Forty-eight year old Crisanto Fat, a political detainee at the Negros Provincial Jail since April 2009 died of a heart ailment. Fat led the Naghiliusa nga mga Mangunguma sa Barangay Quintin Remo when he was charged with illegal possession of firearms and explosives. This was a year after he was diagnosed with a heart disease. The Aquino regime ignored calls for Fat to be released on humanitarian grounds.

September 12. Soldiers conducting a military operation killed Ama Bahiwag Puguon, an elderly civilian from Ballococ, Liwon, Asipulo, Ifugao. Ama Bahiwag was in his swidden farm in Barangay Binablayan in the neighboring town of Tinoc when he was shot by soldiers who took position inside the houses of civilians. The troopers also destroyed the personal belongings of Bagnet residents Ina Elizabeth and Manong Jose such as plates, boxes containing clothes, and a guitar. They also stole the couple's ATM



card for 4Ps and Manong Jose's air gun and burned wooden slabs being stored in their house.

August-October. Forty-five families lost their homes in a violent demolition in Sitio Fatima, Barangay Don Bosco, Parañaque City on October 5.

Earlier, another violent demolition took place on Reparó Street, Barangay 161 in Baesa, Caloocan City on September 20. The residents fought back by throwing bottles and rocks at the demolition team. Two hundred houses were destroyed in the 6,200-square meter lot being claimed by a Simplicio Rivera. The police ignored pleas from

the residents to postpone the demolition while they waited for the result of their petition for a temporary restraining order.

On September 6, hundreds of houses along Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City were torn down to give way to the Aquino regime's National Center Eastside Development Project. Among the houses demolished was that of the late union leader and Anakpawis Rep. Crispin "Ka Bel" Beltran.

Meantime, up to 384 families lost their homes in San Pedro, Laguna on August 5. The houses were demolished to give way to the Philippine National Railways Southrail project. **AB**

PAL workers fired; the fight goes on



Amid the Philippine Airlines (PAL) workers' protest action and despite an appeal filed before the Supreme Court, Lucio Tan and the other big

capitalist owners of PAL went ahead with their plans of terminating regular workers at the check-in, cargo, catering and ramp sections on October 1 and hiring contractual workers from agencies also owned by Tan.

PAL workers, their families and supporters have been launching a series of protest actions for a week now. They launched a work stoppage on September 27 where they reported for work but did not perform their functions. The work stoppage caused major disruptions in the company's operations.

PAL's retaliation was swift and brutal. It used policemen and security guards to bodily remove the workers from their stations and bring them out of the airport. All the workers who joined the protest action were put on "forced leave" and eventually fired. Malacañang also threatened to file criminal charges against the protesting workers.

The PAL workers' struggle gained broad support. The Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) immediately expressed support. Garry Martinez of Migrante International also called on migrant Filipino workers to support the PAL workers by boycotting PAL

A cultural presentation by political detainees

A multi-media production entitled "Poldets: Panata sa Kalayaan ng mga Detenidong Pulitikal" was presented at the Lean Alejandro Hall (Vinzons Rooftop), University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City on September 30. The presentation featured artistic works by current and former political detainees like Ericson Acosta (poet, playwright and composer), Axel Pinpin (poet), Bonifacio Ilagan (script writer and director) and Jess Santiago (singer and poet).

Through visual art, political issues such as extrajudicial killings, forced disappearances, demolitions, militarization and other human rights violations in the country were tackled. The presentation highlighted the plight of political detainees and their ode to freedom. Ericson Acosta narrated the play from his prison cell in Samar.

Through a monologue, the experiences of former political prisoners were featured, particularly under martial law. For Judy Taguiwalo and Bonifacio Ilagan, art served as testimony of their experiences in prison and why they continue to struggle for the freedom of political prisoners and the country's liberation. Prison failed to stop their struggle. Instead, it became a means for them to maintain their involvement in the national democratic movement. Their art gushed forth from a prison that many thought would silence their revolutionary aspirations.

"Poldet" which was directed by Donna Dacuno was collectively presented by UP Alay Sining, KARATULA, Sinagbayan (Sining na Naglilingkod sa Bayan) and People's Chorale. **AB**

planes.

The CPP also assailed the violent dispersal of the PAL workers' protest action on September 27 and condemned Aquino for threatening to "punish" the PAL workers who joined the protest.

The Church People-Workers' Solidarity (CPWS) also expressed its support for the PAL workers' struggle. CPWS is a newly formed network of church people and workers' rights advocates.

The KMU called on the public to support the PAL workers' struggle, saying it was also the struggle of Filipino workers and the Filipino people. The KMU added that big capitalists like Lucio Tan have been using the current crisis to justify the termination of workers. **AB**

Aquino regime should brace for more protest actions

The US-Aquino regime will be facing more protest actions because it continues to ignore the people's grievances against the policies dictated by the International Monetary Fund and World Bank.

The CPP issued this declaration after a series of street protests in various parts of the country on September 19-23. The Party hailed the tens of thousands of people who joined march-rallies, pickets and other forms of protest against the Aquino government's antipeople and pro-imperialist policies of liberalization and privatization.

The first protests were launched by the militant

Pinagkaisang Samahan ng mga Tsuper at Operators Nationwide (PISTON) which held a transport strike that paralyzed 70% of public transport nationwide on September 19. This was followed by a series of protest actions by youth and students of state universities in different parts of the country that peaked on September 23.

More than 10,000 students, teachers, employees and administrators walked out of their classrooms and offices and marched in the streets to condemn the lack of government support for education.

In Metro Manila, 5,000 students from the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City and Padre Faura, Manila marched to

PALEA's yellow leadership

The Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) slammed the yellow leadership of the Philippine Airlines Employees' Association (PALEA) for making a series of wrong decisions that proved detrimental to the interests of PAL workers. The KMU said that PALEA president Gerry Rivera and secretary-general Bong Palad had long been betraying PAL's workers. Rivera and Palad are also officers of the reformist Partidong Manggagawa.

The KMU cited two instances when the PALEA leadership deliberately ignored the voices of its members who overwhelmingly favored a strike. In December 2010, up to 86% of the PALEA membership voted in favor of a strike. By February 2011, the strike vote was 95%. Instead of heeding its members' decision by gearing for a strike and leading them in this struggle, Rivera and Palad merely filed a case at the National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC) and appealed to Malacañang.

As expected, Malacañang favored the capitalists and the NLRC dismissed the unfair labor practice case filed by PALEA.

It was also Rivera and Palad who agreed in 1999 to a ten-year moratorium on a Collective Bargaining Agreement with PAL which froze workers' wages and benefits but allowed Lucio Tan to continue raking in huge profits.

The KMU called on the workers to repudiate PALEA's leadership and persevere in their struggle. Said KMU, with the support of the working class and the general public, it is the PAL workers' collective action that will prove decisive in the struggle against mass layoffs, the contractualization scheme and union busting. **AB**



Mendiola Bridge which is only a stone's throw away from Malacañang. They were joined by students from other public schools in Manila and Bulacan. The protest action featured "planking" (lying face down on the streets), cultural presentations and speeches.

Thousands also launched mass actions in the cities of Baguio, Angeles, Davao, Tacloban, Iloilo and Malolos; in Los Baños, Laguna; in Bicol; and in Bukidnon province. They assailed the

Aquino government's budget for 2012 which slashes allocations for education, health and other social services. This will force state universities and colleges as well as public hospitals to raise the necessary funds by collecting higher fees.

With the education sector to suffer an estimated P24 billion budget reduction, Kabataan Party Rep. Raymond Palatino has filed a bill calling for a P45.8 billion budgetary allocation for education. AB

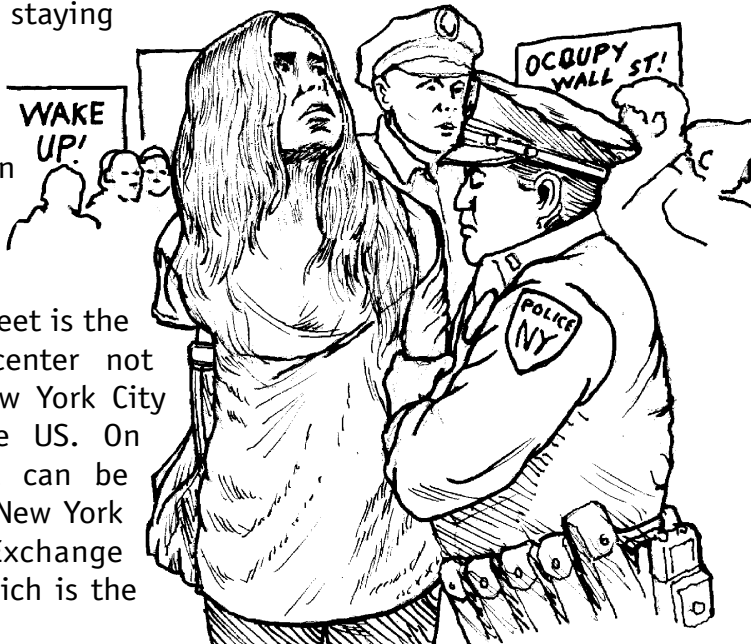
Wall Street protests spreading

A protest camp called "Occupy Wall Street" has been going on in New York City for three weeks now. Thousands of Americans are camping in parks and other places near Wall Street where they hold discussions, debates and programs to protest US government policies that favor big corporations and disregard the rights and interests of ordinary Americans.

The protest actions have advanced a broad array of social and economic issues. In particular, they have stressed opposition to government bailouts of banks and the housing mortgage crisis in the US. The protesters brought placards saying "Tax the rich" and "We want money for health care, not corporate welfare." The rallyists have been staying at Zuccoti and Liberty Parks, recreation areas near Wall Street.

Wall Street is the financial center not only of New York City but of the US. On this street can be found the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), which is the

biggest worldwide and is the hub of the biggest finance speculators in the US which include the big corporations that went bankrupt and were bailed out by Barack Obama's regime. The protesters have suffered several police dispersals but keep coming back.



ILPS calls for stop to military base construction on Jeju Island

International League of Peoples' Struggle chair Prof. Jose Ma. Sison called for an immediate stop to the construction of a US military base in Gangjeong, Jeju Island in South Korea. Sison said local residents are strongly opposed to the base because it will put them in harm's way should conflict erupt between the US and China. Jeju Island lies near North Korea and is a famous tourist area. Many of its residents voted against the construction of the military base.

The locals fear the repeat of a massacre that occurred in Jeju Island on April 3, 1948 where 80,000 civilians were killed because of militarization. The people's livelihood will also be destroyed because the US' weapons and other military equipment will damage the island's marine and other resources.

The Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) also warned against the exploitation of workers who will be employed by the base. It supports the struggle of the workers and people who have persevered in their struggle to stop the construction of the base despite the dispersals of their protest actions, arrests and intimidation. Construction work has been temporarily halted since June when residents and supporters blocked trucks bringing construction materials.

Both Sison and the KMU called on other countries to express their solidarity and support for the struggle of Jeju Island's residents in order to thwart any war of aggression the US may launch in the Asia-Pacific. AB

Eighty activists were arrested on September 24. Five activists were injured after being hit by pepper spray. Some 700 were arrested in Brooklyn, New York for protesting on related issues on October 1.

The mass actions on Wall Street have gained support from other organizations as well as movie stars and politicians.

Among the groups that have joined the protests are the Transport Workers Union of America, New York Union, Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA), Bagong Alyansang Makabayan and GABRIELA-USA and the International League of Peoples Struggle. On October 5, the 14 biggest unions in the US an-

nounced plans to join the protest camp.

Similar protest actions were also held in 52 US cities, among them San Francisco, Boston and Chicago. There are also plans to occupy stock markets and banks in the capital cities of Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, Finland and Japan. **AB**

Protests continue in Greece

Protest actions by workers and students in Greece have been going on unabated against a new round of austerity measures on social services planned by the government. The latest is a 20% reduction in the pensions given to those aged 55 years and older and a 40% cut for those aged 55 years and younger. Thirty thousand government employees will also be put on reserve status for 12 months (the equivalent of ter-

mination) and suffer a 40% cut in their salaries for a number of years. A property tax will also be imposed and collected through payments for electricity and other services.

Transport workers launched a daylong strike on September 22, causing bus, taxi and train operations in Athens to screech to a halt. Airport operations were also paralyzed for a number of hours when employees launched a work stoppage. Teachers

walked out of their classrooms while employees of financial offices and hospitals also protested.

Students and pensioners rallied at the parliament building in Athens. On September 29, actors and artists protested by tearing up their emergency tax notices.

On October 5, ship and air travel schedules were cancelled in a daylong strike that was also joined by hospital and government employees. **AB**