



EDITORIAL

Resist Duterte's anti-poor and anti-democratic Luzon lockdown

Duterte's order to lockdown Luzon against the spread of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid-19) is anti-poor and anti-democratic. It has resulted in widespread chaos, and extreme hardship and inconvenience to workers and ordinary people. Duterte has further enraged the people for imposing the restrictive and repressive lockdown.

More than 40,000 police personnel and soldiers have been deployed to implement the lockdown in and around the National Capital Region. This aims to confine people in their homes and subject transportation and all aspects of social life to police and military control. Checkpoints were mounted to intimidate people and prevent them from going to their workplaces. The lockdown has practically shut down commerce and local production. Millions cannot work and earn a living and supplies are limited.

Duterte's lockdown could result in widespread shortage and hunger. His makes empty promises to feed and dole out cash to those affected. The fund supposedly to be given as aid to workers is extremely too low. Even local governments admit that they do not have the capacity to feed those affected by the lockdown beyond several days.

Amid the Covid-19 epidemic, measures to strengthen public health infrastructures should have been made. Instead, Duterte im-

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NPA frustrates FMOs in ST

THE NEW PEOPLE'S Army (NPA) launched successive military actions against troopers of the Armed Forces of the Philippines conducting focused military operations (FMO) in Southern Tagalog this past week.

On March 15, an NPA unit attacked 18th Special Forces Company (SFC) troopers operating in Barangay Iraan, Rizal, Palawan. Five soldiers were killed while many others were wounded in a three-minute encounter. The offensive was a response to the reign of terror of 40 18th SFC troopers in the area.

On the next day, the NPA-Quezon harassed operating troopers of the 85th IB operating in Barangay San Vicente Kanluran, Catanauan. Two soldiers were killed while many others were wounded.

AB

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posed martial law under the guise of a lockdown in NCR and Luzon by the AFP and PNP. Duterte's lockdown violate the people's most basic civil rights including the right to travel and assembly. People are restricted from leaving their homes without passes or beyond curfew. Violators are threatened with arrest and imprisonment.

Military officials, not doctors or nurses, are in the frontline of Duterte's solution. Instead of putting up much needed testing centers in barangays, checkpoints were mounted everywhere. Funds are squandered on military and police vehicles and other equipment, while public hospitals and health workers lack much needed facilities and equipment to admit, test and treat patients possibly infected by Covid-19.

The lockdown imposition exposes Duterte's ill-preparedness to confront Covid-19 and other epidemics. Prior to the lockdown, Duterte underestimated the Covid-19 threat for two months. He did

not implement measures to stop the spread of the virus in the country. In fact, he allowed the entry of thousands of Chinese tourists and POGO workers from January to February, even amid the quick spread of Covid-19 in China and restrictions imposed by many countries on Chinese tourists.

Duterte's fascist lockdown conceals how he slashed the budget of the Department of health by ₱16.6 billion. He cut the budget for the Epidemiology and Surveillance Program, which focuses on the prevention and control of highly contagious diseases such as Covid-19, by half from ₱262.9 million in 2019 to ₱115.5 million. He instead increased the budget of the military and police, and for its corruption-ridden "intelligence" fund.

Because of lack of preparation and genuine care for the welfare and livelihood of the toiling masses, Duterte imposed the lockdown through coercion, using military and police forces. Duterte ignores the plight of millions of people who need to travel in order to work or find





employment, go to their destination, and others. This reflects Duterte's militaristic narrow-mindedness. He think that he can silence all people through his armed military and police forces.

The toiling masses are outrage at Duterte's lockdown. Although portrayed as a measure to counter Covid-19, the Filipino people clearly sees that what this brings to them is a heavy burden. To absence of measures to improve health facilities proves that Duterte is not facing the Covid-19 threat seriously.

The Filipino people must demand an end to Duterte's anti-poor and anti-democratic lockdown in NCR, Luzon at and other parts of the country. Just as how other countries have responded, the Covid-19 threat can be dealt with without having to curtail the people's basic rights to mobility, work and assembly. Doctors, nurses and health workers must be at the forefront of this endeavor and not soldiers and police forces.

It is only just for the Filipino people to assert the immediate realignment of funds squandered on the procurement of helicopters, fighter jets, bombs and other war matériel, and the budget allocated for so-called "intelligence" and debt servicing, to health. Public hospitals and other facilities must be immediately equipped to cope with Covid-19 cases, as well as public health facilities at the barangay level to be able to conduct mass testing. They must push for the free distribution of face masks, alcohol and other hygiene kits, as well as adequate access to electricity and clean water, especially in poor communities. They must demand for sanitation services, garbage collection and disinfection of public places. They must assert that the budget of universities and other agencies conducting scientific research to discover ways to test and produce medicines for Covid-19 be increased, and the local production

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of such medicines be supported. Workers must demand for emergency aid and free distribution of food. They must assert their right to assembly, even if some appropriate precautions need to be implemented to prevent the spread of the disease, to express the people's collective plight.

Simultaneously, the people must collectively take action to conduct necessary measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19. They must establish local health committees and collectively launch sanitation, cleaning and personal hygiene measures, and provide aid to health workers, among others. They must continuously strive to defend the democratic rights and welfare of the people during the lockdown.

In revolutionary territories, mass organizations and health committees of organs of political power must be mobilized to conduct information campaigns on Covid-19, and implement measures to prevent the spread of the virus in their communities. They must give special attention to the elderly who are most vulnerable to Covid-19. Promote the use of herbal medicines which can be used to fight the symptoms of Covid-19.

NPA units must work closely with local health committees in barrios. They must mobilize Red fighters to help in raising the awareness of the people about the disease and on what has to be collectively done by the people to face this. The NPA must continue to defend the people, especially amid the threat of using Covid-19 to impose fascist military rule, intimidate the people and suppress their rights.

The collective action of the people is key to addressing the current health crisis and not Duterte's fascist lockdown. AB

Luzon lockdown, a bane to the toiling masses

Workers and odd jobbers bear the heavy brunt of the month-long lockdown imposed by Rodrigo Duterte across Luzon on March 17. He prohibited all modes of public transportation and obliged workers to "stay at home," a measure that denied them their right to earn a living without providing sufficient compensation.

This restriction primarily affects drivers and operators, and workers as majority of them rely on public transport. This has immediately affected about three million workers who are employed in Metro Manila but live in nearby provinces.

Health workers who are obliged to go to work are most affected by this restriction as no public utility vehicles are available to ferry them to hospital and clinics. Even residents could not go to the market to buy basic necessities. Local government officials already admitted that they do not have sufficient resources and vehicles to address the needs of their respective constituents, especially those who have special needs such as the sick and elderly.

Due to the restrictions, many workers lose their daily incomes and layoffs are imminent. Many are already complaining that they could no longer feed their families, especially that most of them mainly rely on meager daily wages.

Band-aid measures

To defuse the people's anger, the regime plans to implement various band-aid measures including the distribution of minimal financial aid and creation of limited and temporary jobs.

The regime is bragging about its Covid-19 Adjustment Measures Program (CAMP) which will purportedly allocate a ₱1.3-billion aid to regular workers who could not work due to the lockdown. Each worker will purportedly be given ₱5,000 each (or ₱161 per day) as compensation.

The amount is extremely low and insufficient to make ends meet for af-

ected families in Luzon. If the overall budget were to be divided to the amount of the monthly aid, it would appear that only a maximum of 260,000 workers would be able to access the fund. The projected number of beneficiaries is less than one percent of the total 26 million workers in Luzon, and less than five percent of 5.8 million in Metro Manila.

On top of being meager, the amount of aid per worker also falls short by 73% of the estimated ₱597-budgetary requirement needed to satisfy the nutritional needs of a family. This estimate is based on the state's own nutritional standards in May 2019. The aforesaid amount is higher today due to inflation.

The regime also allocated ₱180 million for its Tulong Pangkabuhayan sa Displaced/Underprivileged Workers (TUPAD) program which will supposedly provide temporary employment to informal sector workers as health workers. The budget is extremely low as there are already millions of informal sector workers in Metro Manila alone. The budget is only sufficient to provide employment to not more than 16,000 workers.

The regime also plans to borrow millions of peso from from foreign financial institutions to fund its increasing spending in its effort to contain the spread of Covid-19 in the country. On March 13, the Asian Development Bank approved the regime's application for a \$3-million loan (₱150 million at an exchange rate of \$1=₱50). The regime also submitted an application to tap into the World Bank's \$12-billion fund for

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NA KAMI



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People demand medical, not military solution

Amid the restiveness and hardship brought about by Duterte's lockdown, national-democratic organizations made a clear call for action to address the people's needs in countering the threat of the Covid-19 epidemic. The list of urgent demands is also a criticism of Duterte's militarist solution to the crisis and a call to uphold the people's welfare.

Their immediate demands include immediate free mass testing, provision of disinfectants, adequate supply of clean water and others. They also called for a massive information campaign about Covid-19 across the country.

There should be continuous and massive disinfection of communities, especially of the urban poor. They demanded the free distribution of food, vitamins and other medicines.

Demolition and eviction of the urban poor communities should be banned, according to the Kalipunan ng Damayang Mahihirap (Kadamay). The group criticized the demolition in Pasay City on March 12, on the day the lockdown was imposed in the National Capital Region. Around 300 families were evicted from the New Era Compound in Barangay 137, Zone 15, Protacio.

Workers and government employees must be given their wages and benefits in full. They must guard against mass layoffs, especially among the ranks of contractual government workers, under the pretext of a health crisis. They

should be compensated during the lockdown. Likewise, a clear plan that will ensure the welfare of migrant Filipinos should be put in place.

According to the Alliance of Health Workers, personal protective equipment for doctors, nurses and health workers in the frontline against Covid-19 must be ensured. They should be compensated with appropriate hazard pay.

Organizations issued the list of demands amid the regime's slow and inutile response to the health crisis. They pointed out that there are other proper and compassionate ways to respond to the crisis. This has been proven in other countries that did not impose fascist lockdowns, and instead heeded measures recommended by health workers and international health organizations.

For instance, Vietnam and South Korea conducted mass testing of patients, gave comprehensive support and aid to their peoples and ensured free medical care for all. In these countries, they assembled teams of health experts to supervise the response to the crisis.



Nexperia workers win demand for compensation

NEXPERIA PHILIPPINES INC., workers will receive their full salary for March 17-30 despite the suspension of operations in the company due to the regime's lockdown. This came after their union demanded that workers be compensated.

The union is currently demanding that workers be compensated until April 12, the period covered by the lockdown. It will also file a petition for an additional ₱5,000-financial assistance per worker at Department of Labor and Employment.

According to the Philippine Economic Zone Authority, at least 703 enterprises have temporarily suspended their operations due to the lockdown. This affects 86,549 workers. in Cavite alone.

Millions of workers to lose jobs due to Covid-19

IN THE WORST case scenario, approximately 25 million workers across the world will lose their jobs due to Covid-19. The estimate was based on a research of the International Labor Organization (ILO) on the global economic impact of the pandemic.

The ILO compared the current health crisis to the global financial crisis in 2008-2009 which resulted in 22 million job losses. The number of unemployed is also expected to increase. The Covid-19 pandemic is not only a global health crisis, but is also a major economic and employment crisis.

Approximately \$3.4-trillion worth of workers' income could be lost by the end of the year due to the said job losses. This will result in decreased consumption of goods and services, and the subsequent global economic decline.

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third world countries affected by the pandemic. These two institutions are notorious for exploiting disasters to accumulate profit by imposing usurious interest rates.

Artificial shortage

The lockdown, which is essentially a widescale socioeconomic blockade, immediately created an artificial shortage which further pushed up the prices of basic commodities.

Its impact is felt in Metro Manila as cargo trucks that deliver produce, such as vegetables, from provinces are stuck at checkpoints. This continues to happen despite Duterte's declaration that farmers and cargo truck drivers that deliver their products to urban centers are exempted from the lockdown. As a result, market prices of vegetables in Metro Manila have doubled.

NPA geared to Covid-19 response even without ceasefire

Even before the Duterte regime declared a ceasefire, the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) had already issued directives to all revolutionary forces to carry out a mass campaign to encourage collective action to respond comprehensively and extensively to the threat of a Covid-19 outbreak. Duterte issued the GRP's unilateral ceasefire declaration in the evening of March 18 and will lapse on April 15. The CPP and National Democratic Front of the Philippines negotiating panel questioned the real intent of Duterte's ceasefire declaration.

Prof. Jose Ma. Sison, senior consultant of the NDFP to the peace negotiations said that, Duterte's declaration is premature, if not insincere and fake. Additionally, it was issued after the regime imposed a total lockdown in Luzon to cover-up its inefficiencies in addressing the threat of the Covid-19 pandemic.

With or without a ceasefire, NPA Red fighters have already been directed to step up efforts to render social, economic, medical and public health services to the people. They are working closely with local health committees in barrios and communities.

Whether Duterte's ceasefire order will supercede previous orders to mount all-out war to crush the NPA remains to be seen, said the CPP. Meanwhile, it advised all NPA units to remain on alert against AFP attacks and immediately report current combat operations within their respective areas. The CPP will issue a ceasefire declaration when there is sufficient basis for it.

According to recent reports, the AFP and PNP are conducting intense combat, surveillance and psywar operations in Abra, Mt. Province, Quezon, Mindoro, Masbate, Sorsogon, Camarines Sur, Capiz, Samar, Negros, Bukidnon, South Cotabato, Zamboanga and other provinces.

On March 18, the local NPA command reported that the 61st IB deployed an additional 15 regular and CAFGU troops at its detachment in Barangay Katipunan, Tapaz. The soldiers claimed that the reinforcement will remain in the area

until April 15 to purportedly contain the spread of Covid-19.

On March 19, the 31st IB conducted combat operations in several barangays of Barcelona and Bulusan in Sorsogon under the guise of "Community Support Program." Soldiers continue to conduct reconnaissance operations and compel barangay watchmen to serve as guides and "human shields."

Combat operations are also being conducted by the 403rd Brigade in Bukidnon. In particular, the NPA reported the presence of operating 8th IB and 1st Special Forces Battalion troopers in Barangay Busdi, Malaybalay City, and Mt. Kitanglad, respectively.

Widespread human rights violations also continue unabated. State forces arrested Lumad leader Gloria Tumalon in Lianga, Surigao del Sur on March 20 and civilian Camilo Bucoy in Zamboanga Sibugay on March 19.

Prior to the GRP's issuance of a unilateral ceasefire declaration, AFP and PNP elements went on a killing spree and perpetrated many cases of abuses.

On March 16, they killed Marlon Maldos in Tagbilaran City, Bohol. Maldos was the artistic director of the Bol-Anong Artista nga may Diwang Dagohoy (Bansiwag). Maldos directed performances that depict the struggle of poor peasants. Before the killing, he was repeatedly subjected to Red-tagging by 47th IB elements.

In Lanao del Sur, elements of the 4th ID, 2nd Mechanized In-



fantry Brigade arrested Teresita Naul, a member of Karapatan-Northern Mindanao, on March 15 at her house in the town of Lala. She was slapped with trumped up charges of kidnapping, illegal detention and arson.

Meanwhile, on February 27, eight T'bolis were detained by 27th IB elements in Lake Sebu, South Cotabato, and were coerced to admit that they are NPA members. Bayan-Socsksargen reported that military operations continue unabated in Blaan and T'boli. Lumad minorities are harassed and their homes are ransacked. Their ancestral lands have long been targeted by San Miguel Corporation for its carbon mining project.

In Davao de Oro, administrators of the Community Technical College of Southeastern Mindanao, a Lumad school in Maco, reported that the military summoned their students' parents and forced them to make their children leave the school.

In Cagayan Valley, the 17th IB have been occupying the communities at Sitio Lagom, Barangay Lipatan since February. The military put up checkpoints along major roads in the communities. They also imposed a curfew and obliged residents to ask for permission from the military for all their businesses. Residents reported that they are banned from going to their farms and the market unless permitted by the military. A farmer was also held at gunpoint while gathering corn for milling. Even pregnant women and the elderly who are bound to get their pension are barred by soldiers.

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Capitalist farming, deforestation cause new pandemics

Frequent outbreaks of diseases caused by the coronavirus and other zoonotic diseases are linked to capitalist landgrabbing, massive deforestation and mass food production of big agribusiness corporations. Under the neoliberal regime, these companies cause massive environmental degradation which adversely affect humans and animals.

According to biology and environmental experts, epidemics and pandemics should not be treated as periodic or isolated from each other. Extensive studies prove that capitalist food production, meat in particular, cause the transmission of infectious diseases from animals to humans. Forest destruction, on the other hand, result in the release of wild animals' pathogens previously isolated in forests. These pathogens are transmitted to domesticated animals and eventually to humans.

Among the epidemics that broke out in the last two decades are various types of flus which originated from swines and birds. There are also pathogens from wild animals such as the deadly coronavirus strains of SARS-Cov and MERS-Cov.

The strain of swine flu transmitted to humans originated from giant piggeries, dubbed as factory farms. In these farms, pigs are placed in confined spaces, subsistent on long-term use of antibiotics that weakens resistance, and bred to meet high global meat demand. The crowded condition is perfect to the emergence, mix and rapid transmission of microbes. Diseases are transferred from one factory farm to another due to the practice of selling live hogs and a fast transportation system.

An example of a pandemic caused by capitalist production is the swine flu or (H1N1)pdm09 outbreak in 2009. The pandemic started in a swine megafactory of US company Smithfield in Mexico. The company is notorious for violating environment regulations and

disregarding the health of residents in nearby communities. The company dumped swine wastes in large tracts of land near their factory in La Gloria. Around 60% of the residents here caught the flu, which rapidly spread from Mexico to the US. From April 2009 to April 2010, 61 million were infected, 274,000 hospitalized and 12,500 died in the US due to (H1N1)pdm09. This flu strain persists in the US up to the present.

Capitalist companies undertake largescale and accelerated swine production to produce the highest volume of meat with minimum production costs. Smithfield's megafactory in Mexico produce half a million hogs every year. The company supplies almost a quarter of the US' demand. It also exports processed meat to Europe.

Coronaviruses and other viruses from wild animals, on the other hand, are caused by unimpeded destruction of forests by big corporations to make way for their mining, logging and commercial plantation operations. This upset the ecological balance, limit wild animals' source of food and weaken their bodies and resistance to the pathogens they carry. They eventually excrete the said pathogens which are then transmitted to other animals, and eventually to humans. Companies clear even core forest areas, which release entrapped pathogens.

These are transmitted rapidly among humans who have no antibodies against the said pathogens.

An example of this is the repeated outbreak of the Ebola virus

disease which has been linked to widespread clearing of forests in Uganda, Congo and Guinea in Africa. In Borneo, massive deforestation to pave way for oil palm plantations has resulted in a higher incidence of dengue and malaria. Deforestation of Peru's Amazon has resulted in an increase of malaria cases, from 600 to 120,000, in nearby communities. The deforestation paved the way for the construction of roads and operation of cattle ranches in the area. An extensive study in 2017 revealed that the deforestation of Amazon is linked to the increase of malaria cases in 67 countries.

In general, more than half of new contagious diseases are caused by deforestation and largescale farming of agribusiness corporations. These corporations compete against each other in grabbing lands from peasants and national minorities in backward countries to expand their food production and increase their profits. This has harmed not only the populace of the said countries, but all peoples affected by new diseases and epidemics. AB

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Residents complained that they were already preparing for harvest but were prohibited by the military. They were rounded up by soldiers, and were threatened and accused of being NPA supporters. They were interrogated and coerced to "surrender their guns" and admit to being "NPA fighter." The 17th IB also occupied the houses, chapel, and elementary school in the area. Around this period, soldiers illegally arrested Fransing Solancho and another elderly person who has difficulty seeing and walking. AB

Ka Lori: The love of a mother Red fighter

Women Red fighters, especially mothers, are an inspire their fellow women to fight and liberate themselves. Ka Lori is one of them. She is a mother and a Red fighter in a unit of the New People's Army in Bicol.

Despite the pain of having to leave her children behind, she decided to join the people's army in 2018 at the age of 47. Most of her children are already grown-ups, although her youngest is just seven years old. They respected her decision to serve as a full-time member of the people's army. This was not new to them as their mother used to participate in community activities as a member of a local Party branch.

Her aspiration for a caring society for her children and grandchildren inspired

her to participate in the armed struggle.

"I saw that we can trust this (the Party). This is the government of the poor," she said.

Ka Lori hailed from the peasant class. She and her family made a living primarily from processing coconuts into copra. On average, she would earn P150 a day from unhusking coconut one thousand coconuts. Her wage is only half of what male copra farmworkers earn. The amount was way too low to feed her family and pay for other basic needs.

Struggling to make ends meet, she had to peddle vegetables and fish in nearby barrios. Loan payments are then deducted from her already meager income. She raised her children practically by herself as she and the father of her children fell out. Five of her children worked

in Manila although they were not of age yet. Ka Lori had been beset with worry and anxiety because of this.

Upon joining the people's army, she served as a supply officer

and was tasked to manage the kitchen. As a Red fighter for two years, she also performed many other tasks including the facilitation of educational discussions and meetings. She also consciously gives moral support to her comrades in the unit.

Ka Lori inspired her children to join the NPA as well. Months after she joined, her son Ka Tom followed. Ka Tom previously worked in Manila as a contractual construction worker. On the next year, her son Ka Ali also joined the armed movement. Ka Ali previously worked

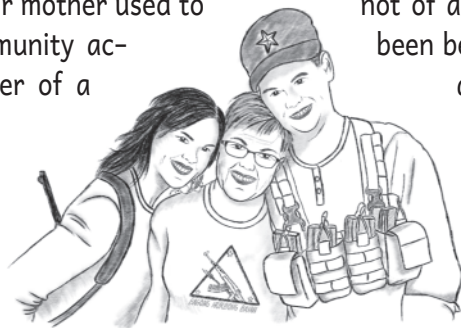
at a piggery in Pampanga. As a family, they are striving to struggle to overcome feudal family practices.

Ka Lori treats her children as comrades and respects their decisions. Although worried, she supports her children in performing various tasks assigned to them. These include military, training and mass work in distant areas.

More than family, they treat each other as comrades and partners in strengthening the people's army. The two are not exempt from their mother's criticism and vice versa. "Turn away from your old ways, gradually remold and follow the people army's policies," she always reminds her children. They care for each other in the same way they support other Red fighters. They call on their other family members to also join the NPA.

There are times when Ka Lori worry about her younger children. Although pining for them, she knows that they are taken cared of by Party members in their barrio.

The local Party branch supports her family and provides them with some financial aid to help them survive. The NPA unit where she belongs also prepares and facilitates her contact and visit to her family. "My endeavors are for you... for your future," Ka Lori tells her children. AB



International Women's Day commemoration

GABRIELA SPEARHEADED A protest action on March 8 in commemoration of the International Working Women's Day. Thousands of women and supporters converged at the Liwasang Bonifacio in Manila and marched to Mendiola. During the rally, the group questioned Duterte's sincerity in abrogating the Visiting Forces Agreement as military exercises by US and Philippine military continue in the country.

Similar protests were mounted in Laguna, Rizal, Bicol, Bacolod City, Iloilo, Roxas City and General Santos on the same day. Earlier, on March 4, members of the Sabokahan Unity of Lumad Women protested at the Freedom Park in Roxas Avenue, Davao City. AB

TUP students protest against repression

WEARING BLACK SHIRTS, 300 students of the Technological University of the Philippines protested on March 4 to oppose the implementation of repressive university policies. The mobilization was spearheaded by the TUP University Student Government.

Students criticized the university administration for repressing organizations and student activities. They complained about the lack of facilities and lambasted the administration from barring students from using available facilities, unequal distribution of equipment, and for cancelling students' field trip which they already paid for. AB

CPP leader Julius Giron, 2 others massacred in Baguio City

JOINT ELEMENTS OF the military and police massacred Julius Giron (Ka Nars), his doctor Ma. Lourdes Dineros Tangco, and their aide Arvie Alarcon Reyes on March 13 at 3 a.m. in Barangay Queen of Peace, Baguio City.

Claims made by the military and police that they were about to serve an arrest warrant and that the three "fought back" are outright lies. Ka Nars, 70, was suffering from the infirmities of old age and was under medical treatment.

Ka Nars was one of the stalwarts of the Party's Central Committee, its Political Bureau and Executive Committee. He played a key role in reconstituting the Party's leadership and conducting the Party's 2nd Congress in 2016. His is an exemplar of selfless service to the people. The entire revolutionary movement grieves his death. AB

Farmers demand stop to use of cancer-causing herbicide

RECENTLY, CAPIZ FARMERS demanded a stop to the use of Round Up Ready herbicide as they were able to prove that the soil and groundwater in their cornfields, and even the bodies of residents are already contaminated with glyphosate.

This was based on a research conducted by scientists in Barangay Guinbalian, Maayon, Capiz where the said herbicide and GM Corn produced by Monsanto have been used for ten years.

Samples of soil, groundwater, old and newly harvested corn, and the urine of three residents, all tested positive of glyphosate contamination. Glyphosate is a chemical that causes cancer. Farmers from the aforementioned barangay said that 16 residents have contracted cancer since they started planting hybrid corn. Many have also contracted kidney complications.

Glyphosate is a chemical component of herbicides such as Round Up and 70 other products that are used in palay, corn, sugarcane, oil palm, banana, pineapple and rubber plantations. AB